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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION**  
**2 p.m. MT, September 21, 2023**  
**Via Microsoft Teams:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MDFhOTU4OWQtYTUzNC00OGE4LWJjZjktZDFmOGRjMWI4Y2Ri%40thred.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22562b6152-04a7-412d-bf2f-92c80ad632bc%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22643a93c4-e2c3-45da-b0e7-395a21b3c1b8%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MDFhOTU4OWQtYTUzNC00OGE4LWJjZjktZDFmOGRjMWI4Y2Ri%40thred.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22562b6152-04a7-412d-bf2f-92c80ad632bc%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22643a93c4-e2c3-45da-b0e7-395a21b3c1b8%22%7d)

Call to Order

Donnis Baggett called the meeting to order at 2:00pm MST.

Roll Call

Roll call conducted by Jim Matheson.

Members Present: Chad Kremer, Joe Graham, Mimi Hillenbrand, Robert Johnson, Stuart Schrag, Carie Starr, Liz Riffle, Adam Ulbricht

Members Absent: Ken Klemm, Mary Adams, Boyd Meyer, Moritz Espy, Campbell Burgess

Staff Present: Karen Conley, Jim Matheson, Lydia Whitman

Reports

President's report provided by Chad Kremer.

Minutes presented. Motion by Robert Johnson, second by Mimi Hillenbrand to approve the July 20, 2023, Board Minutes (Attachment A); July 20, 2023, Finance Committee Minutes (Attachment B). Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report (Attachment C) presented by Joe Graham and Jim Matheson.

Motion to approve July Financial made by Joe Graham, seconded by Adam Ulbricht. Motion passed unanimously.

NBA Membership App RFP presented (Attachment (D)). AgAdopt won the bid. Project will be funded using Climate Smart Grant, with NBA investing approximately \$30,000 of the total \$85,000 to complete the project.

Motion to approve the NBA Membership App development made by Robert Johnson, seconded by Carie Starr. Motion passed unanimously.

44 Membership report presented by Lydia Whitman and Jim Matheson. Year to date  
45 membership reviewed. (Attachment E)  
46  
47 Committee reports presented.  
48  
49 Legislative and regulatory update provided by Adam Ulbricht, committee chair. Committee  
50 met prior to September fly-in. Congressional and agency priorities provided to board  
51 (attachment H).  
52  
53 Gold Trophy Show and Sale update provided by Jim Matheson for Boyd Meyer, committee  
54 chair. Committee meeting August 8 meeting. Judges will be Dave Schroth and Trevor Gompf.  
55 Budget for judges was discussed. Offer up to \$750 for travel, plus conference registration  
56 and hotel room. Budget developed for handling crew, etc. to help keep expenses in check.  
57 Planning to open consignments in early October.  
58  
59 North American Bison Registry update provided by Jim Matheson. Connor Elliott has  
60 resigned as chair for personal reasons. NABR has not had a significant meeting since the last  
61 report. Chad notes that Gerald Parsons reached out to him to say he would chair the  
62 committee but has not yet responded to Chad's return call. Chad expressed concerns about  
63 interest in the NABR outside of those who are very passionate about it. He and Jim have  
64 talked about having the committee gauge interest from the membership and have them.  
65  
66 Science & Research committee update provided by Jim Matheson with chair Dr. Carter Kruse  
67 not present. Carter Kruse reached out the committee to ask for their concerns. No recent  
68 meeting.  
69  
70 Commercial Marketers committee update provided by Jim Matheson, with chair Dick  
71 Gehring absent.  
72  
73 Conservation committee updated by Jim Matheson with Ken Klemm, committee chair,  
74 absent. Most recent meeting was sparsely attended. Liz reported that property rights issue  
75 was discussed, and Ken was seeking input on how to approach that. Any changes to the Code  
76 of Ethics, Past President's Council Chair Gail Griffin, believes the board can make changes  
77 without membership approval.  
78  
79 State and Regional committee update provided by Lydia Whitman, with chair John Graves  
80 absent. Summit Nov 3 & 4 at CSP. All but two of the S/R will be represented. Bringing in SD  
81 Extension Community Vitality Team to lead the discussion. Will be paired with the CSP  
82 auction. S/R need insight on web engagement. That will be directly addressed with next  
83 week's NBA webinar.  
84  
85 Winter Conference committee update provided by Jim Matheson with chair Beverly  
86 Brown absent. Winter conference draft agenda provided (attachment F). NWSS will let us

87 utilize the sale barn on Friday afternoon. Planning for a catered lunch and speakers in the  
88 afternoon. ITBC will have their board meeting at the same time again this year.

89

90 Other Business

91 Strategic Plan Updated provided (attachment J)

92

93 Growth Fund Outreach Plan (Attachment G) presented by Jim Matheson. NBA 2023  
94 Outreach and Education Plan contains consumer and producer focused outreach tracks.  
95 been on the road promoting bison. Heritage Fire tours are going well and good outreach for  
96 NBA. International Chili Championships, Karen and Jim working. Formed a relationship with  
97 Damon Holter and working with him on these food contests. Partnering with Northstar Bison  
98 on this venture. Jim is trying to benefit and reward every contributing Growth Fund partner  
99 this year. Seems to be working and getting more interest. Chad noted that major  
100 contributors are very happy with this plan. Video podcast – will be delayed due to time  
101 constraints.

102

103 SDSU Grass is Greener Climate Smart Grant update provided by Jim Matheson and Karen  
104 Conley.

105

106 Program Manager Report provided by Lydia Whitman.

107

108 Communications Report provided by Karen Conley.

109

110 Legislative Report provided by Jim Matheson. Met with 9 government agencies and 17 house  
111 and 17 senate leaders. Donnis thanked everyone who made the trip on behalf of the NBA.

112

113 Adam Ulbricht shared about his trip to Japan on behalf of the Minnesota Dept. of Ag. He  
114 feels there is potential for bison meat in the Japanese market.

115

116 Executive Director Report presented by Jim Matheson.

117

118 ITBC update from Jim Matheson. Troy is going to try and bring the ITBC mobile slaughter unit  
119 to Denver for WC so people can see it. ITBC was at the D.C. meetings the first day, but not  
120 on the second due to other circumstances. Good to have them in attendance and  
121 collaborating with NBA.

122

123 Possible Strategic Planning session upon the change in leadership at president. Making good  
124 progress on the most recent one.

125

126 Regional director election – ballots out for Regions 2,4,6,and 8. Ace Ward for region 2;  
127 Region 6 – Ron Miskin, Dr. Charles Addington. Wrap up on September 30. Region 4 and 6 –  
128 Stuart and Liz running again for second term.

129

130 Update on interns by Lydia Whitman. Grace Kremer wrapped up her role helping with social  
131 media. Meredith is paused for the moment with her return to school. Lydia and Meredith  
132 hitting it hard with producer outreach in November. Attending farm shows. Meredith has  
133 done a lot of work on producer tools and resources.

134

135 Bison-specific roles – SDSU Brookings trying to fill the bison specialists role and Jim and Lydia  
136 involved in that process.

137

138 Adjournment

139

140 Next regular board meeting November 16, 2023 virtually.

141

142 Motion made by Adam Ulbricht, seconded by Carie Starr to adjourn the meeting. Motion  
143 passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:38pm.