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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION
January 26, 2019
Denver Renaissance Hotel, Denver, CO**

10 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Bison
11 Association was convened at 1:30 p.m. MDT, Friday, January 25th, 2019 in the Denver
12 Renaissance Hotel, Denver, CO, pursuant to previous action by the board and notification by
13 the Executive Director.

14 Present were:

15 Roy Liedtke	Dick Gehring
16 Tom Barthel	Robert Johnson
17 Kristopher Kelley	Brian Grubb
18 Boyd Meyer	Jeremy Allemann (arrived at 2:15 p.m.)
19 Mimi Hillenbrand	Gerald Parsons
20 Debbie Thieman	

21
22 Absent were Keith Yearout, Donnis Baggett, Alan Douglass, and Mike Faith (ex-
23 officio). Also attending were Dave Carter, Jim Matheson, and several NBA members. Roy
24 Liedtke presided, and Dave Carter served as recording secretary.

25 The chair introduced Eric Erlich of Renaissance Insurance to provide an update on the
26 Nationwide Insurance program. Mr. Erlich reported that Nationwide is developing a network of
27 Elite Agents who will focus on bison coverage.

28 Dick Gehring provided a report of the President. He commended the staff and the
29 Winter Conference Planning Committee for a great event.

30 Mr. Carter reviewed with the board the proposed 3-month 2019 budget. The draft budget
31 projects \$334,768 in revenue through March, compared with \$390,220 during the same period
32 last year. On the expense side, the budget projects \$316,039 for the first three months of 2019,
33 compared to actual expenses of \$334,262 during the same period last year. After adjustments

1 and designated reserves, the budget projects net results of \$12,034 through March, compared to
2 actual net results of \$58,327 during Q1 last year. Dick Gehring made a motion to approve the 3-
3 Month Budget as presented. Said motion was seconded by Tom Barthel, and carried.

4 Ken Klemm joined the meeting and provided a report of the Conservation Committee.
5 He reported that Glenn Plumb of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature has
6 joined the Conservation Committee.

7 Gerald Parsons provided a report of the North American Bison Registry. He said that Dr.
8 Connor Elliott had a good presentation this week, and the online registry is operating
9 functionally and looks good. Discussion was held. Gerald also mentioned that he made the
10 challenge to State/Regionals for fundraising for NABR, which resulted in the Oklahoma Bison
11 Association donating \$1,000 as well as the National Buffalo Museum donating \$1,000.

12 Jim Matheson reported that the Sate/Regional Committee met earlier in the day.

13 Boyd Meyer provided a report of the Gold Trophy Show and Sale Committee. He
14 reported that one bull may be scratched due to an injury.

15 Mimi Hillenbrand reported on the Science and Research Committee. South Dakota State
16 University is moving forward on developing a Center of Excellence. SDSU may also be able to
17 participate in some matching funding for research. The Bison Disease Field Guide has been
18 printed and is being distributed. Jim Matheson reported that Turner Endangered Fund may be
19 able to participate on some cost-share projects.

20 Dave Carter provided an update on the fundraising initiative being coordinated through
21 Front Range Source. Mr. Carter reported that Front Range Source facilitated a discussion with
22 the NBA Executive Committee and the National Buffalo Foundation on January 23rd. The NBA
23 and National Buffalo Foundation are looking at cooperating to hire a fundraising specialist.

24 Roy Liedtke provided a report on the blockchain program being developed with
25 Ledgerspace, L.L.C. Gerald Parsons noted that AllFlex requires that they deal directly with an
26 association. Discussion was held. It was important to those present that the tags be uniform
27 among the blockchain, NABR and GTSS. Discussion was also held on the importance of
28 coordinating with Canadian Identification procedures. Any contract from AllFlex will be
29 subject to Executive Committee approval.

Comment [SC1]: they who?

1 Dave Carter provided an update on the Farmers' Market Promotion Program grant. Mr.
2 Carter has initiated discussions with local bison producer/marketers in Seattle, Minneapolis/St.
3 Paul and New York City to help organize pop-up events promoting bison meat in those cities.

4 Jim Matheson provided a report on the Risk Management Agency grant activities. He is
5 developing the Request for Proposals to help develop the producer app for that grant. That RFP
6 will be issued shortly after winter conference.

7 Dick Gehring provided a report from the National Buffalo Foundation. He reported that
8 NBF is focusing on fundraising and strategic planning.

9 The Throlson Foundation did not meet in January due to a lack of quorum. Jim
10 Matheson reported that the foundation gave six \$2,000 scholarships.

11 A motion was made by Gerald Parsons to appoint Dick Gehring as the NBA
12 representative to National Buffalo Foundation. Said motion was seconded and carried.

13 A motion was made by Boyd Meyer to appoint Dick Gehring as the NBA representative
14 to the Throlson American Bison Foundation. Said motion was seconded and carried.

15 Tom Barthel moved to recommend Gerald Parsons for reappointment as the NBA
16 representative on the Canadian Bison Association Board of Directors.

17 Discussion was held regarding the recommended times for board meetings in 2019.
18 Without dissent, it was recommended that the board meetings be scheduled for March 21, May
19 16, July 9 or 10, September 19, November 21st.

20 Patrick Varney of Raymond James joined the meeting by phone to discuss potential
21 investment options for the National Bison Association. He noted that the association should be
22 able to invest in Certificates of Deposit at a more favorable rate than at Bank of the West. Mr.
23 Varney left the meeting. Mimi Hillenbrand made a motion to have the Executive Director move
24 CDs to an institution with higher interest returns as they mature; and that the CDs be invested
25 for a period not to exceed two years. Kristopher Kelly noted that the penalty for early
26 withdrawal may be minimal. Said motion was put to a vote, and carried.

27 Tom Barthel recommended that the NBA Board conduct a review of its investment
28 policies each January.

29 Discussion was held regarding the potential for litigation regarding the water buffalo
30 meat labeling issue.

Comment [SC2]: Is this what discussion was about?

1 There being no additional business to come before the board, and upon motion made
2 seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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5 Respectfully submitted,

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9 Tom Barthel, Secretary

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13 Dave Carter, Recording Secretary

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