

ARKANSAS BEEF COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

November 19, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Caleb Plyer, Michael Lee, Sharon "Kay" Casey, Jerry Christie, Samuel Cecil, Michael "Mike" McMillan and Robert Cambell

Chair Caleb Plyer called the meeting to order, he introduced Michael Lee and Mike McMillan as the newest members of the council and welcomed all the guests.

Sam Cecil moved to approve July 27, 2024; minutes as presented. Jerry Christie seconded.

Motion carried.

Jerry Christie gave an update on gave an update for the Federation of State Beef Council, provided insight of the upcoming meeting for new members on the nominating committee set for December 21, 2024.

Caleb Plyer provided an update on Cattlemen's beef board, he noted they have approved the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. He let the council know that he was nominated to be on the Executive Committee again for 2025.

Mr. Plyer inquired information about the US Meat Export Federation, he questioned if they have been notified that the council nomination of Chase Groves was no longer able to be nominated. Tillman Treat or Sam Cecil is going to contact the US Meat Export Federation to obtain information.

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Programs

Dr. Mike Looper provides an update on the Beef Quiz Bowl format; the format is changing to take the top 4 teams to the ACA Convention for the finals. They will still have the qualifier on February 21, 2024, at 9:00am in Fayetteville at the Animal Science Center.

Dr. Looper provided an update for Dr. Maggie Justice about the past trainings she has hosted, as well as upcoming meetings such as the 2025 KOMA Beef Conference at the U.S. Marshall Museum in Fort Smith on February 19, 2025.

Dr. Looper provides an update for Dr. Derico Setyabrata about his research and analysis of testing and quality.

Dr. Looper lets the Council know that they have just finished up the Arkansas Cattlemen's Leadership class.

Arkansas Cattlemen's Association

Mrs. Betty Garner gave an update on past and present activities, such as the CTE Conference they attended in July. She updated the Council about the county fairs they attended, and information provided for onlookers. Cattlemen did a classroom presentation at Bauxite High School and hosted a State Fair chili contest on October 17, 2024. Mrs. Garner updated the Council on upcoming presentations.

Arkansas Cattlemen's Association

Mrs. Michelle Bufkin Horton provided an update about this year's convention hosted back in May. She noted that pending approval next year's convention will be hosted in Hot Springs first part of August.

She noted that they are gearing up for the area conferences for the March meetings, dates are still pending, but she will provide dates once they are available.

Arkansas Beef in the Classroom

Mrs. Donette Spann gave an update on Beef in the classroom. She was able to award 150 teachers in the program this year.

Arkansas Farm Bureau

Mr. Jake Cartwright gave an update on the Beef Division meeting held in July. He updates the Council about his Freezer Beef Enterprise Budget program and the data he is collecting.

Mr. Cartwright lets the council know about the upcoming Farm Bureau convention in December.

Arkansas Tech University

Dr. Crystal Ahrens-Rouillier gave an update on the first meat science course, they have completed the first semester. She informed us of the upcoming classes she will provide for local communities.

Inoussa Zaki, Chief Fiscal Officer, presented the financial report ending October 31, 2024.
Attachment 1

Mr. Caleb Plyer asks Inoussa to update the Expenditures Summary to reflect the Beef Assessment line item to be changed from \$940,000 to \$850,000.
Attachment 2

Mr. Zaki presented the Council with the June 30, 2024, Legislative Audit.
Attachment 3

Sharon "Kay" Casey moved to approve the Legislative Audit; Robert Cambell seconded.

Motion Carried.

Beef Council Activities

Mr. Tillman Treat gave an update on the Best Burger contest, and the sponsorship of the Northwest Naturals and Arkansas Travelers.

Mr. Treat updated the Council about the new executive director's orientation that he attended back on October 23rd, and 24th.

Mr. Caleb Plyer informs the Council that they will need to nominate a new U.S. Meat Export Federation representative.

Chair Caleb Plyer appoints Michael "Mike" McMillan as the new U.S. Meat Export Federation representative for the remainder of the year.

Mrs. Mindy Sloan gave an update on past and future activities.

The council will schedule the next meeting tentatively for February 19, 2025, to be held at the 2025 KOMA Beef Conference at the U.S. Marshall Museum in Fort Smith.

Samuel Cecil moved to approve no further business; Robert Cambell seconded.

Meeting adjourned.


Caleb Plyer, Chairman