

**MINUTES
GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE BEEF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 13, 2023**

The Executive Committee meeting of the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef was called to order at 3:05 p.m. Central U.S. / Canada time.

Members Present: Ian McConnel, Justin Sherrard, Lucas McKelvie, Jeannette Ferran Astorga

Staff/Other Present: Ruaraidh Petre, Josefina Eisele, Scott Stuart, Julie James

Opening Remarks/Executive Committee Report

A verbal affirmation of adherence to the GRSB Anti-Trust Policy was received from those on the call.

McConnel advised of his departure from Tyson Foods; however, he would like to carry out his term as GRSB President. The Executive Committee agreed.

It was reported a 404 Error Message was received when opening the Tactics Worksheet and GRSB will troubleshoot.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by McConnel and seconded by Sherrard that the minutes of the May 9, 2023 GRSB Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

Sherrard reviewed the May 31, 2023 Financial Report reflecting YTD \$615,817 in revenues and \$336,014 in expenses for a net surplus of \$279,802. Sherrard stated the expenses are in line with budget and the revenues are down about \$100K, primarily due to lost and truant membership renewals. Petre gave brief explanations for each lost membership where known.

It was moved by Sherrard and seconded by McCann that the May 31, 2022 Financial Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Communicators Summit / Board Meeting, San Diego, Oct. 2-4

Stuart reviewed the meetings costs for Executive Committee approval of recommended registration fees as follows:

- Optional Tour: \$175 early bird / \$195
- Communicators Summit: \$445 early bird / \$495
- Roundtable/Working Groups and Board of Directors Meeting: \$245 early bird / \$295

Stuart stated that the Food and Beverage expenses for the meetings are considerably higher than average and include a 33.75% service fees and tax. In accordance with Executive Committee recommendations, GRSB will explore further costs reductions, i.e., a lite Comms reception in lieu of dinner or move the dinner off-site to a nearby restaurant at less cost.

It is noted to ensure the agenda is 'beef' and 'communications' focused. McCann suggested Julie Anna Potts (NAMI) as a speaker, and promoting attendance from various State Beef Councils.

Annual Plan / Tactics Worksheet

Petre reported feedback from the National Roundtables (NRTs) that many lack knowledge and understanding of the Tactics Worksheet link. McConnel will spend a few minutes on each Board of Directors call to highlight specific areas of the worksheet to help with familiarity for the roundtables, and also reiterate members must be logged in the website in order to view.

McConnel reported on a recent call with Monica Hadarits (CRSB) and Roz Davis (ERBS) regarding the engagement and unity of the National Roundtables. The NRTs are developing a guidance document explaining the roles and expectations within the NRTs. Two specific actions from the call are:

1. NRT will invite Working Group (WG) leads to present on the NRT calls, or have a Roundtable Sponsor on the WG calls. This would help with inclusion and engagement of the NRTs in advance of the various scenarios where member vote is needed.
2. GRSB will aim to send the meeting binders on the Friday afternoon before the scheduled Board meeting as it would be helpful to receive the meeting binders sooner to allow more time to review.

Petre added the 1:1 NRT calls earlier in the year were very beneficial and it is planned to have them every six months. GRSB will start scheduling to also include the WG leads.

Executive Director Report

Draft Fundraising Needs

Petre reviewed the draft *GRSB Sustainable Beef Roadmap Fund* document. Once minor tweaks are made, the document will be shared with the NRTs and WG leads prior to presenting on the next Board call for discussion. There will be a few variations of the document and a cover letter suiting different approaches based on target audiences (members, non-members, grants, etc.). Board members will be consulted to help identify recipients and the best approach for projects and funding. The initial Carbon Scoping project will cost \$80K and is in the Strategic Plan. The 2023 Budget includes \$100K earmarked for projects; therefore, it was agreed to proceed. More funding will be needed for Phases 2 & 3. Breedr and Rabobank expressed interest to support.

Hillary Fenrich

It was reported that Hillary Fenrich has accepted an employment position with McDonald's on their Global Impact Team under Pete Garbutt. Fenrich will continue her current consultant role supporting GRSB's Nature Positive Production (NPP) work until early July, and hopes to continue working with the NPP working group as her new role and schedule permit.

Emerging Ag / CoP28

Petre reported having the first meeting with Emerging Ag. Their limited scope of monthly calls including notes and guidance will continue; however, if budget permits, it would be beneficial to have them provide additional assistance with the various discussion opportunities at CoP, particularly, since there is increasing prominence of agriculture in the CoP negotiations.

Eisele reported on a call with Meridian Institute who has offered funding assistance to help

farmers attend CoP in Dubai.

Social Impact Goal

Petre reported the drafting group has completed the Principles and Criteria on People and Community, and will start drafting the goal. Once the goal is completed, both the Principles and Criteria and the Social Goal will be circulated to the full membership for review and feedback. This should be completed within the next few months.

2024 Global Conference for Sustainable Beef

Petre reported the dates need to be finalized. GRSB has been waiting to hear back from the Sheraton on availability for either: Sept 23-27 or Sept 30-Oct 4.

An update on the Paraguayan Roundtable's position of the Global Goals was requested. Petre reported that GRSB (Lowe, McCan, Petre) had a call with Alfred Fast and Hugo Sanchez to talk through the goals and the various approaches of some of the other NRTs. The outcome seemed positive as it was apparent that most of the actions and activities of the Paraguayan Roundtable may already align with the Climate Goals and overall, they are moving in a much more positive direction in relation to all three goals and are now as well aligned as most of the other roundtables.

FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation, Rome, Sept 23-27

Petre reported there are two opportunities for GRSB/NRTs to participate: (1) have an information display (proposal being submitted this week), and (2) have a side event (proposal is due end of June). This would be coordinated with the NRTs for representation and to profile the work of GRSB and the NRTs.

EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) Annual Meeting, France, Aug 26 – Sept 1

Petre reported GRSB has submitted an abstract and will be presenting at the event.

Regional Report

Monitoring and Reporting

Eisele reported that together with Fenrich, have had several calls conferring with the Climate Working Group with the purpose to help ensure alignment of what the working groups will ask of the NRTs to report and if they will report data and activities on a national or roundtable level. The NPP suggested slight modifications to the reporting template to offer more guidance for the NRTs, specific to the NPP goal. Alignments will be a challenge as there will be various ways of reporting across the NRTs. NRT feedback on the reporting template is currently still open.

Webinar, EU Deforestation Regulation – Pathways to Compliance for the Cattle Industry, June 27, 2-3:30 pm Central US/Canada.

Eisele reported that the NPP working group is organizing the next webinar highlighting the new EU Regulations on Deforestation and the responses from different countries. Panelist will include representatives from Zandbergen, Solidaridad, ABEIC, Brazil and Argentina. There has been discussion with Cotance (Importer representatives of Leather in Europe) as they want to work on standards and/or guidance on minimum requirements for traceability of leather and have invited Eisele and Fenrich to be part of that working group. GRSB is well-positioned and

interested in playing a role in helping to define the standards and practices and would like the support of the EU Commission. It was suggested to invite the EU Commission to the webinar or a working group meeting. Eisele and Ferrich also identified an opportunity with AL Invest located in Europe and offered to help them with writing a proposal.

Administrative Report

New Member

New member consideration was presented for *Food for Development*.

It was moved by McConnel and supported by McCan to approve *Food for Development* as a new GRSB member. *Motion carried.*

Other Business

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be on July 11, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30p.m. Central US / Canada.