

MINUTES

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2015 AT 10.00AM AT LISSUE HOUSE

Present:

Mr G McGivern (Chairman)
Mrs O Chesney
Mr H Sinclair
Mr J Lennon
Mr P McElroy
Mr G Maguire

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain

2015/10/1 Apologies and Welcome

No apologies had been received.

The Board welcomed Mr G McGivern to his first meeting, as Chairman, of the LMC Board.

2015/10/2 Declaration of Interests Pertaining to Agenda Items for Discussion

The Board agreed that none of the agenda items required any Board Members to abstain from discussions.

2015/10/3 Minutes

The minutes of a meeting, held on 26th October 2015, were approved by the Commission, and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr P McElroy
Seconded: Mr H Sinclair

2015/10/4 Matters arising

(i) Board Member Training

The Members of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee had attended a training course organised by On Board Training.

(ii) Proposal for Year of Food and Drink 2016

The Chief Executive reported that the NIFDA Board had decided not to go ahead with the proposed event which had been discussed with LMC and the Institute for Global Food Security at QUB. The Board concurred with the NIFDA Board decision.

Action Point: The Board requested the Chief Executive, and Senior Management Team to develop some ideas for LMC promotional activities during the “meat month”, if possible to focus on the consumption of manufacturing beef (e.g. gourmet burgers).

(iii) Follow up from Anuga 2015

The Chief Executive advised that he still had to arrange a meeting with Invest NI.

The Board was keen to meet with Scottish Counterparts to discuss common issues.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will explore options with QMS and Scotland Food and Drink to arrange a meeting between the Board and other parties.

Withheld – Commercially Sensitive

2015/10/5 Chairman’s Report

The Chairman reported on meetings he had attended since his appointment to the Board on 7th November 2015.

- BVA NI Annual Dinner
- Mr P O’Rourke (outgoing LMC Chairman)
- Beef NI Expo and Pedigree Calf Fair
- Mrs C McMaster (DARD Sponsor Branch)
- Industry Delegation to EU Institutions, hosted by Diane Dodds MEP, in Brussels
- NIFDA Dinner

2015/10/6 Chief Executive’s Report

(i) Red Meat Industry Support Across Europe

The Board felt it would be useful for the NI red meat industry to gain an understanding of the financial support enjoyed by producers in other European countries in addition to CAP, such as tax incentives, national funding programmes etc.

(ii) Livestock Genetics

The Chief Executive advised that he had offered AgriSearch to use the planned LMC 2015/16 contribution to sheep research to assist with the project management of the next steps towards implementation of the AbacusBio recommendations on advancing livestock genetic improvement in Northern Ireland.

(iii) UK Nuffield Scholars Conference

All Board Members had indicated their intention to attend the conference, which was being sponsored by LMC.

(iv) Farm Safety Partnership

The Chief Executive proposed that LMC join the Farm Safety Partnership as an affiliate member.

Action Point: The Board approved the proposal.

(v) FQAS Funding

The Chief Executive advised that the FQAS Board had reviewed the six-monthly figures for FQAS, at a meeting held on 16th November 2015. The FQAS Board agreed to take its time to look at future funding options, and no changes were envisaged until April 2017.

(vi) Repair of Outbuildings

Action Point: The Chief Executive will seek a formal quotation for the repair to the outbuildings

(vii) Management Accounts for 6 months to September 2015

The Management accounts were noted by the Board.

2015/10/7 Discuss Arrangements for Review of LMC Strategic Plan, and Formulation of Business Plan

Action Point: The Board agreed that the review of the Strategic and Business Plans will be the main agenda items on the agenda for the Board Meeting on 2nd December 2015.

2015/10/8 Discussion of Priorities for Meeting with the DARD Board

Action Point: The Chairman will advise DARD that the LMC Board wish to postpone the meeting with the DARD Board until early in 2016.

2015/10/9 Discussion of Scheduling Meetings for 2016

Action Point: The Board agreed to meet on the 4th Monday of each month. A draft schedule will be circulated at the next Board Meeting.

2015/10/10 Risk Management/Health and Safety

Draft minutes of the recent Audit and Risk Assurance Committee had been circulated to Board Members

No issues were reported regarding health and safety.

2015/10/11 Any Other Business

None.

2015/10/12 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Board Meeting would be held at 10.00am on Wednesday 2nd December 2015 at the Ramada Hotel, Shaw's Bridge (Birch Suite).

The Meeting ended at 12.25pm