

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY
24 OCTOBER 2018 AT 11.00AM AT 1A LISSUE WALK, LISBURN.**

Present:

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

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain

2018/10/1 Apologies

None.

2018/10/2 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.

2018/10/3 Minutes of Commission Meeting Held on 24 September 2018

The minutes of a meeting, held on 24 September 2018, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mrs O Chesney
Seconded: Mr P McElroy

2018/10/4 Matters Arising

- **Northern Ireland Future Agricultural Policy Framework: Stakeholder Engagement**

The Chief Executive advised that a draft response had been circulated to Board members for comment before it was submitted.

- **SIAL 2018 and Sustainable Beef Conference 2018**

Board members expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to attend these very interesting events and highlighted the value of LMC's involvement in international initiatives.

2018/10/5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on meetings / events he had attended since the last Board Meeting:

- **Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (IDFAT)**

The Chairman attended a dinner in Belfast hosted by Sighle Fitzgerald, First Secretary of IDFAT. This was a small gathering to discuss the issues in the red meat sector including red tractor, migrant labour and ammonia.

- **Genetics Meeting with Industry Representatives**

The Chairman and Chief Executive attended a meeting with a small number of industry representatives from the dairy, beef and sheep sectors. The group agreed that it was happy with the direction the genetics discussions were taking but no formal proposal has yet been made to the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation.

- **Quarterly Assurance Meeting with Sponsor Branch**

The Chairman and Chief Executive attended the quarterly assurance meeting in October 2018. No significant issues were raised.

- **Farm Safety Partnership Affiliate (FSPA)**

The Chairman attended a meeting of the FSPA at ABP Newry. The Health and Safety Executive presented a very useful update to the group.

- **Global Conference on Sustainable Beef 2018 (GRSB) – Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny**

The Chairman, Chief Executive and Mr J Lennon attended the conference. All found it to be very enlightening, hearing about the challenges around the globe from a lot of other countries perspectives.

- **Alltech ONE Ideas Forum – Dunboyne, Co. Meath**

The Chairman attended this event which highlighted the trends in agriculture. Good speakers and excellent panel discussions were a feature of the forum.

Action Point: The Board suggested that the next monthly Farming Life page include updates for LMC's stakeholders on these recent conferences and meetings.

2018/10/6 Chief Executive's Report

- *Withheld – commercially sensitive*
- **Red Tractor (RT)**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on a recent meeting held with RT Assurance representatives.

Action Point: The Board agreed that LMC should raise awareness amongst LMC stakeholders on the latest RT Assurance developments and develop an agreed narrative on the direction of travel of the FQA scheme.

- **Invest NI (INI)**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on a constructive meeting held with INI officials. A number of strategic matters were discussed which were of relevance to LMC and its work for the beef and lamb industry.

Action Point: The Board agreed that further meeting should be arranged between INI and a small group of stakeholders. The Chief Executive will arrange.

2018/10/7 *Withheld – commercially sensitive*

2018/10/8 Skills Audit of LMC Board

The Chief Executive circulated a draft template to Board members.

Action Point: The Board will consider the template for approval at the next Board meeting.

2018/10/9 Report from the ARAC Meeting held on 24 October 2018

The ARAC Chairman provided a verbal report to the Board.

Action Point: Draft minutes of the ARAC meeting on 24 October 2018 will be circulated at the next Board meeting.

The ARAC Chairman advised that he had attended an External Quality Assessment review of DAERA Internal Audit on 12 October 2018 which he felt had been a positive exercise.

2018/10/10 Risk Management / Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

2018/10/11 Quarterly Management Accounts for Qtr1

Noted.

2018/10/12 Quarterly Section Reports for Qtr2

All reports noted.

2018/10/13 Any Other Business

- *Withheld – commercially sensitive*

- **Farm Safety Partnership**

The Board congratulated Mr Harry Sinclair on his appointment as Chairman of the Farm Safety Partnership.

- **Beef Conference 2018 - Greenmount, 21 November 2018**

Action Point: Board members who wish to attend this event should advise the Chief Executive as soon as possible.

- **Schedule of Board Meetings for 2019**

Action Point: The Chief Executive will circulate a draft schedule of dates for Board meetings in 2019 at the next Board meeting.

2018/10/14 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 26 November 2018 at 10.00am at Lissue Walk.

The meeting ended at 12.15pm