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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Bill Sauble calls meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairman Bill Sauble

Loren Patterson, Board Member

Vice Chair Bebo Lee

Molly Manzanares, Board Member

Casey Spradley, Board Member

Sybrand Vander Dussen, Board Member

Effie Walker, Board Member

Not Present:

Johnathan Peña, Secretary

Kevin Elfering, Board Member

Quorum Established

**NMLB STAFF PRESENT:**

P. Robert Alexander, Executive Director

Gary Mora, Area 3 Supervisor

Shawn Davis, Deputy Director

April Riggs, Area 2 Supervisor

Ralph Zimmerman, NM State Veterinarian

Troy Patterson, Area 4 Supervisor

Julie Gauman, IT

Barry Allen, Area 1 Supervisor

Andrew Silva, CFO

Inspector Benjamin Gonzales, District 26

Inspector Johnny Gilbert, District 2

**VISITORS:**

Timothy Johnson, Johnson Ranch

Peter St. Cyr, Open Access NM

Lee Johnson, Eugene Johnson & Sons

Patience O'Dowd, WHOA-Voters

Nancy Henry, Taxpayer

ED Edwards, NMRPI

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Board Member Walker moves to approve the agenda as presented. Board Member Spradley seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes from the December 5, 2018 Board Meeting presented. Board Member Patterson moves to approve the December 5, 2018 board meeting minutes as presented. Board Member Manzanares seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**RATIFICATION OF ESTRAYS:**

Estray # 163-26-00528 – Eugene Johnson and Sons

Area Supervisor Gary Mora and District 26 Inspector Benjamin Gonzales presented the facts of the case. Mr. Timothy Johnson addressed the Board. Inspectors are doing their job but they did not prove that the bull was stolen. Mr. Johnson has a purchase sheet, cancelled check and bill of sale. The bull was purchased in good faith.

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Chairman Sauble moves to make payment for the estray. Board Member Patterson seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Board Member Manzanaras - Abstains	Vice Chair Lee - Yes
Board Member Walker - Yes	Board Member Patterson - Yes
Board Member Spradley - Abstains	Board Member Vander Dussen - Yes

Motion to award monies for the estray 163-26-00528 passes.

Estray #s 148-2-01807 and 148-2-01808 – Libby Cattle Co., Inc.  
Area Supervisor April Riggs and District 26 Inspector Johnny Gilbert presented the facts of the case.  
Policy and statute were followed. Libby Cattle Co., Inc. did not address the Board.

Board Member Walker moves to not make payment for these estrays. Board Member Vander Dussen seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Board Member Manzanaras - Concur	Vice Chair Lee - Concur
Board Member Walker - Concur	Board Member Patterson - Concur
Board Member Casey Spradley - Concur	Board Member Vander Dussen - Concur

Motion to not award monies for the estrays 148-2-01807 and 148-2-01808 passes.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

2020 Budget and New Fiscal Strategy: Mr. Andrew Silva, Chief Financial Officer, presented information on the 2020 budget, 2 law enforcement positions at pay band 70 will be self-funded, fill Inspection of Public Records Act(IPRA)/Public Information Officer (PIO) position and fill as many other vacancies as possible. Fiscal strategy should be to use fund balance.

Fee Cap Approach: If we pursue the increase in fee caps we should try to educate about cash balance and how the cap increase will benefit the industry.

Horse Rescue Fund Committee and Disbursements: We have \$9593.72 in the Horse Rescue Fund. Chairman Sauble proposes the following as members of the Horse Rescue Fund Committee: Shawn Davis (NMLB Deputy Director), Andrew Silva (NMLB CFO), Susan Hemmerle (The Horse Shelter), Debbie Coburn (Four Corners Equine Rescue) and Laura Bonner (Animal Protection of New Mexico). Members will report back to the Board on disbursements in June. Deputy Director Davis was named chair of the committee.

Board Member Spradley moves to appoint the proposed individuals as the members of the Horse Rescue Committee. Board Member Walker seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

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Office Move: The 20 year lease on office space is up in February 2020. Agency has been discussing how to handle it. There is a building we can move into if we stay until February 2020 on Candelaria and the Freeway. Easy access and space for equipment. It is a state owned building so the agency is only required to pay maintenance fees. The issue is that we don't know what the current building owners are planning for the building the Board is in today.

State Auditor Report: Current State Auditor agreed to consider the NMLB responses during its investigations and also agreed that the process was different for each instance. Letters will be reissued by State Auditor and the NMLB will respond. To date, the NMLB has received and responded to letter number eight.

**STATE VETERINARIAN'S REPORT:**

Dr. Zimmerman, State Veterinarian, discussed federal funding issues, border management and compliance and disease control. Dr. Zimmerman stated that a great deal of our federally funded budget, benefit the NMLB in general. We received an extension on one of our grants this year. A considerable amount of time is consumed by the CFO, IT, and the State Veterinarian. Dr. Zimmerman wants to see an effort to build a budget for the Office of the State Veterinarian, with general budget or reserve funds, to help balance the share returned to the NMLB by the efforts of our veterinarians. The federal government's budget is shrinking. We have less veterinary staff than most states. Most states also have a grant specialist. Dr. Zimmerman also described a Viral Newcastle's disease trace from a quarantined zone in California. The owner self-reported. Follow up showed he had no other birds, and no immediate neighbors and no other poultry nearby. Dr. Zimmerman also informed the Board that there are currently 28 trich quarantines. We are waiting on a test from a herd of concern. The Trich Working Committee met in February and had a very productive meeting. They are working on fleshing out some changes and will present the proposal to the Board at the June meeting. Dr. Zimmerman sits on the Sandoval County Free Roaming Horse Advisory Committee. There has been issues with traceability and how lack of their participation might cause a shutdown at the port. Holding ground on getting everybody to follow the rules. We need to know where the cattle is going.

**IPRA COORDINATOR REPORT:**

Ms. Gauman presented. She has been acting as the IPRA point of contact for around 6 years and 3 months since Penny Sample left the agency. It has been a challenge with her IT duties. She has taken on CIO duties that include handling IT budget, vendors, refreshes and she manages technical guy Curt, who is awesome. Inspection of Public Records Act is highly ingrained in IT because that is where the majority of the records are stored. It will increase with access to computers and cell phones. It is becoming harder and harder to manage those and IT functions. Ms. Gauman thinks we need a person who can write and communicate and can also act as a Public Information Officer. Someone who can answer IPRA requests but Ms. Gauman will still be involved in requests. She is very familiar with what is happening in the field too. She would also like to see someone who has some paralegal experience to help the new General Counsel. A communications degree would be excellent. Julie can handle the process until then. Charging for IPRA: cannot charge for time or research time. Paper copies can

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charge \$0.50 per page. AG will not allow for charging for anything else. Cost of CD, case and postage is allowed. Stats were provided to the Board.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Deputy Director Shawn Davis reviewed statistics and list of investigations. All four area supervisors have worked to do more traffic stops. Northeast corner of the state has been very successful. Thanked the Area Supervisors for their leadership. Inspector Benjamin Gonzales got a conviction in a case.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 met with agency IT, CFO and Area Supervisors with Beef Council staff and discussed how the second dollar would be collected. We should start gathering the second dollar on July 1<sup>st</sup>. However, the Beef Council may have to develop a rule before we start gathering the dollar. Beef Council is working on that. Many issues still to address and we will continue to work through the issues. Discussed MOU between Beef check off to pay for some things we will need to collect that dollar. Meeting is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>. Stakeholders have been invited. Planning statewide meetings with inspectors in June to go over the procedures on how to gather it. Dina Chacon-Reitzel, NM Beef Council Executive Director, thanked the agency and the industry for working with them to figure out the check off. Opt out will be good for 3 years.

Deputy Director Davis also reported on one of our Law Enforcement Officer's assistance on a difficult roadside arrest. Inspector George Mendoza, District 20, saw an off-duty officer wrestling with a suspect who had a warrant out for his arrest. He pulled over and assisted the officer in the arrest. Our officers are out there day to day. It was right for him to stop and assist. Deputy Director Davis thanked Inspector Mendoza for helping his fellow police officer.

Chairman Sauble moved to take a short break while the next presenter arrives.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Alexander, Executive Director, thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to serve New Mexico and the rural communities the last 28 months. The focus has been to create change to prepare the agency, the public and the industry for the challenges the future may bring. Horse management has been a challenge. It is time to develop a horse management strategy. In that vein, the definition of public land is not clear in statute. We requested funding for a study of what public land is from the legislature. The agency contracted with Dr. Sam Smallidge from NMSU. Dr. Smallidge shared with the board what he has done to date with the mapping. Dr. Smallidge looked at the wild horse statute in a geographic context. First task was to map the lands of New Mexico and their ownership. Second task will identify lands specific to the statute. Third task looks at specific land tracks. Series One map was delivered to Mr. Alexander. It is the final draft. Livestock Board needs to look at it. This map highlights State public lands.

Mr. Alexander also reviewed statistics on equine taken up between 2016 and 2019.

MINUTES OF THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK  
BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019  
10:00 A.M.

AFRICAN AMERICAN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
EXPO NM GROUNDS  
310 SAN PEDRO DR. NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Nancy Henry, NMEROG – Commented on the situation at the State Auditor’s Office. Ms. Henry has copied board members on her rebuttal letters to the State Auditor’s Office. Ms. Henry stated there are ethical issues and a waste of taxpayers’ dollars and time.

Peter St Cyr – Attended because of the agenda item on IPRA. Is encouraged by what he has heard today. Relieved to hear that the agency is complying.

Patience O’Dowd – We need to start working together. We have different views and are coming from different places. Lawyers make it worse for them. Always offers to work together.

Mr. ED Edwards with NM Ranch Properties, Turner Ranches – asked for assistance and guidance in dealing with trespass cattle. Has been dealing with local livestock inspector. Animals coming off of a neighboring lease. Can’t find brands on them. They are tearing down fences and causing problems. Wants to do it properly. Deputy Director Davis accepted documents from Mr. Edwards and will scan and email to the Board with relevant statutes. Will come up with a plan for the June meeting.

**BOARD CONCERNS:**

No board concerns

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Board Member Walker moves to adjourn. Board Member Vander Dussen seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

APPROVAL:

*Bill Sauble*