

South Australian Sheep Advisory Group

Teleconference Meeting Summary

Tuesday 9th May 2006

NOTE: At the time of distribution, the Minister has not approved the outcomes listed in this document. Any misuse of information by individuals or associations will cause this service to be withdrawn.

The meeting commenced at 9:05 am.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed all members and guests to the meeting.

2. Attendance

<i>Andrew McTaggart (Chair)</i>	<i>Sheep Industry Representative</i>
<i>Janet Hall</i>	<i>Sheep Industry Representative</i>
<i>Geoff Power</i>	<i>Sheep Industry Representative</i>
<i>John Symons</i>	<i>Sheep Industry Representative</i>
<i>Ian Pfeiffer</i>	<i>SA Meat Sheep Societies Representative</i>
<i>Francis Andrews</i>	<i>SA Stud Merino Sheepbreeders' Association Representative</i>
<i>Greg Ingham</i>	<i>SAFF Sheep Industry Representative</i>
<i>Neil Buchanan</i>	<i>Ministerial Representative (PIRSA)</i>
<i>Trudi Goodwin</i>	<i>Executive Officer – Livestock Advisory Groups (PIRSA)</i>

Guests:

<i>Elena Petrenas</i>	<i>Manager, Livestock Advisory Groups (PIRSA)</i>
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3. Apologies

<i>Michael Pocock</i>	<i>Sheep Industry Representative</i>
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4. Business

Sheep Industry Fund Project Application – 2006/2007

South Australian Farmers Federation – Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) Training

The SA Farmers Federation (SAFF) has recently submitted a Sheep Industry Fund (SIF) project application, which involves reimbursement of monies to ILO sheep industry representatives who attend the June 2006 training days. Reimbursement is sought to pay for time, mileage and accommodation (application is attached for reference). SAFF has submitted other applications of the same nature to the Pig Industry Advisory Group (SA PIAG) and the Cattle Advisory Group (SA CAG).

SAFF has requested SASAG to consider their application out of session, given the next Industry Liaison Officer (ILO) training days are to be held on the 8th and 9th June 2006. This will enable any necessary promotional advertising to progress as soon as possible.

According to the SIF application, the aims of the project are to create an incentive to encourage more sheep producers to undertake ILO training. To this end, it would improve the industries ability to meet the following objectives for the SA Sheep Industry Strategy:

Growing the Value - Market Access

Supporting industry agencies and Government in seeking improved market access to export markets, and ensure South Australia is not disadvantaged in any trade negotiations.

Building Capacity - Natural advantages

Encourage practices to safeguard the disease-free status of the South Australian regions in the context of the national industry.

SAFF reinforces that maintaining South Australian and Australian biosecurity is essential to the profitability of the sheep industry. The National Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) scheme is a key system used by Australia to ensure continued market access and building on our natural advantages by promoting biosecurity practices to safe guard the health status of the national industry.

SASAG Discussion

Members questioned the responses from the SA PIAG and the SA CAG on this application and where they currently stand. They were advised that SA PIAG appears to be supporting the application and SA CAG has requested additional information and raised a suggestion for Animal Health Australia (AHA) to provide additional national funding for all ILO attendees. The SA CAG had also raised that the June 2006 workshops coincide directly with a Dairy Innovation Conference and the State Bull Sales.

Members were informed that AHA has committed to holding further training days in South Australia within various locations, over the next two years and beyond. Currently, Port Augusta and Murray Bridge have been suggested as suitable regions.

After consideration, the majority of SASAG members supported reimbursing successful attendees for mileage and accommodation. SAFF would be required to provide retrospective invoices, of which payment would be issued to SAFF. In principle, the majority also supported an incentive to match the AHA payment of \$120, which would be dependant on a consistent decision with the SA CAG and SA PIAG.

RECOMENDATION

SASAG supports the retrospective payment of costs incurred for mileage and accommodation for successful ILO 'sheep representative' attendees for the June 2006 workshops. An additional insensitive payment will only be supported if a consistent decision is made with the SA CAG and SA PIAG.

5. Other Business

5.1 SA Sheep Industry Fund Consultation Forum

Members were advised that A. McTaggart is seeking to hold a meeting with the Minister prior to the upcoming Sheep Industry Fund Consultation Forum (26 May 2006). The purpose of this meeting is to discuss SASAG issues, the Sheep Industry Fund and the development of the South Australian Sheep Industry. It is intended for the Chair of the Sheep Industry Development Board (Sheep IDB) to also be involved.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **Friday 26th May 2006** from 1:00pm – 4:00pm in the Hamilton Room, Royal District Nursing Service (RDNS), 31 Flemington St, Glenside.

Meeting closed at 10:17am