

MINUTES
North Dakota Stockmen's Association
BRAND BOARD
9 a.m. CT • Monday, July 6, 2026
Video Conference Meeting

North Dakota Stockmen's Association (NDSA) Brand Board Chairman Joe Schettler called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Other Brand Board members present included Scott Katus, Justin Maddock and Riley Schriefer. Others present included Corey Bergrud, Julie Ellingson, Tim Erbele, Jason Leiseth, Randy Schmitt, Callum Schriefer and Corby Ward.

Agenda

Joe Schettler asked if there were any items to be added to the agenda, but there were no items.

Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the March 9, 2026, meeting. *1st Riley Schriefer, 2nd Scott Katus, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.*

Staff Reports

Brand recorder: Joan Zimmerman, brand recorder, was out sick, so there was no report.

Technology support director: Corey Bergrud, technology support director, reported on the progress of the permanent horse permit application, as well as the multi-computer market program, which is still being developed. Bergrud went on site to each of the auction market brand offices this spring to get the computer system up and running and to do a training. All but two of those markets are using the system.

Chief brand inspector: Corby Ward, chief brand inspector, noted that he, the deputy brand inspectors and Tyrel Clarys will be attending the International Livestock Identification Association Conference from July 19-23. As of June 30, inspections total 571,925 inspections, which is approximately 52,000 head behind last year, although a few auction market reports from June are not yet included in that total. The deputy inspectors will be giving reports at the Annual Brand Inspectors Meeting, although Nick Marolt has been doing truck checks on rigs headed across the border. Dane Clarys is continuing to staff the Hub City and Sisseton Livestock barns and is willing to do so under the same arrangements until a permanent replacement is found. A potential employee will be shadowing him later this month.

Claim 2026-21

The Brand Board reviewed a claim by Todd Anderson. *1st Riley Schriefer, 2nd Scott Katus, to pay Todd Anderson \$420.25 for feed and mileage for the claim. Motion carried.*

Convention Planning

The Brand Board discussed the upcoming North Dakota Stockmen's Association Annual Convention and its Brand and Theft Committee meeting. Ideas so far are staff reports and a presentation by the chief brand inspector about the steps to take to report livestock theft or

missing livestock. The agenda must be finalized by July 30. The Brand Board also discussed upcoming employee service awards to be given to Mark Kramer for 40 years, Hal Kramer for 35 years and Tanner Leibel for five years, as well as the Honorary Local Brand Inspector Award. *1st Scott Katus, 2nd Riley Schriefer, to recommend honoring Casey Gjermundson with the Honorary Local Brand Inspector Award at the 2026 convention. Motion carried.* Gjermundson is a 24-year inspector.

Financial Reports

The Brand Board reviewed the brand-related elements of the June 2026 profit-loss statement and balance sheet. Members discussed higher than expected computer-related expenses, mostly due to increased licensing fees and some out-sourced programming for the multi-barn application. Staff answered questions in relationship to available estray dollars and certificates of deposit, as well as brand inspection reserves.

Announcements

Joe Schettler reminded attendees of the Annual Brand Inspectors Meeting beginning at noon CT on July 7 and that the Beef Industry Military Appreciation Day would be July 21 in Minot. The Brand Board inquired if there had been any further conversation with the South Dakota Brand Board following the boards' special call. The South Dakota Brand Board had inquired about North Dakota's expense-paying policies for its deputy brand inspectors late last month.

Adjourn

1st Justin Maddock, 2nd Riley Schriefer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Julie Ellingson, Secretary

Randy Schmitt, President