

**Board of Trustees' Meeting
American Simmental Association
April 25-27, 2013
Bozeman, Montana**

Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Chairman Driggers called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Roll Call: Jessie Driggers, Jim Butcher, Dale Miller, Jimmy Holliman, Bob Lanting, Bill McDonald, Calvin Drake, Harold Williams, Blake Nelson, Susan Russell, Kevin Thompson, Brian DeFreese, Jon Willis, Tim Smith, Scott Cowger. Roger Finke not in attendance.

Staff: Wade Shafer, Linda Kesler, Steve McGuire, Paulette Cochenour, Ed Creason, Luke Keller, Hannah Wine, Will Townsend, Lauren Hyde, Marilyn Roth

Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin

1. Instructions and Approval of Agenda. Moved Drake, seconded Nelson to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried.

2. Minutes. Moved McDonald, seconded Russell to approve the minutes of January 18, 2013. Motion carried.

Moved Holliman, seconded Willis to go into Executive Session. Motion carried.

Moved Butcher, seconded Willis to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried.

3. Staff/Trustee Presentations.

- Bill McDonald presented an example to ASA staff and Board of, what he feels, a more efficient method for sorting and managing one's herd online. ASA's IT staff will pursue developing similar technology for our members.
- Steve McGuire presented several different statistical graphs of ASA processing numbers for Board review.
- Linda Kesler gave a presentation on ASA financials and investments.

Board meeting recessed for Committee meetings.

Friday, April 26, 2013

Chairman Driggers called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Driggers, Butcher, Miller, Holliman, Lanting, McDonald, Drake, Williams, Nelson, Russell, Thompson, DeFreese, Willis, Smith, Cowger

Staff: Shafer, Kesler, McGuire, Cochenour, Hyde, Creason, Keller, Wine, Townsend, Roth

Legal Counsel: Summerlin

3. Staff Presentations (continued)

- **Feeder Calf Marketing.** Will Townsend gave an informative presentation on the tools and science of marketing feeder calves.

Committee Reports and Resolutions. All resolutions moved and seconded by each committee prior to Board presentation.

4. Finance Committee. Holliman presented Finance Committee's report.

- **Resolution #1.** That ASA staff may charge, after properly notifying owner, an additional \$25.00 per sample for DNA sent to GeneSeek without ASA paperwork with test instructions.
Points of Discussion:
 - An incentive for repeat offenders to stop sending DNA to the lab without proper paperwork, causing delays in testing.
 - Staff would notify a breeder in writing the first time they fail to send in DNA without paperwork. This written notification will inform them that the next time DNA is sent without the proper paperwork, they will be billed an extra \$25.00 per sample.
 - If a breeder has hair cards, ASA can quickly fax or email the paperwork, in most cases same day as the request.

5. Executive Committee. Summerlin presented ASA Foundation Bylaws to Board.

6. Growth & Development Committee. Miller presented Growth & Development Committee's report and resolutions.

- **Resolution #1:** To approve funding to subsidize (cost share) 50K testing on certain identifying bulls. Staff will identify bulls with set criteria (to be determined, accuracy and number of progeny). \$10,000 limit with completion of project by November 1, 2013.
Points of Discussion:
 - Add valuable information for the genetic evaluation.
 - Will encourage more breeders to get their clean-up bulls done.
 - Growth & Development Committee reduced their promotion budget line by \$10,000 to support this project.

7. Breed Improvement Committee. Dr. Drake presented Breed Improvement Committee report and resolutions.

- **Resolution #1.** That ASA offer a genetic evaluation option that services commercial herds and includes herd management program.

Points of Discussion:

- Allows ASA to obtain larger amounts of data, more particularly, carcass data
 - Builds a network with the commercial industry
 - Would further establish ASA as the hub for genetic evaluation
 - Would help provide members' customers with marketing opportunities
 - Provides customers with the tools to make better genetic progress
 - Expanded data will result in access to high-accuracy EPDs for ASA members
- **Resolution #2.** That ASA drop the requirement to do genetic testing on suspect sires that do not have any registered progeny.

Points of Discussion:

- We will continue to require testing on suspect sires that do have registered progeny.
- Producers will not be burdened with the testing cost and procedure until progeny are registered.
- Does not diminish our genetic defect security.

- **Resolution #3.** That ASA drop adjusted weights and ratios from registration papers.

Points of Discussion:

- Putting adjusted weights on registration papers contradicts our claim to be science based.
- Members and commercial producers receive a mixed message when we support the use of EPDs while still putting an emphasis on weights.
- We need to put our money where our mouth is and focus on science to maximize our success and the success of our customers.
- As leaders of the Association, actions like this show ASA membership, the industry, and ASA staff that we are willing to lead the industry toward true genetic improvement.

- **Resolution #4.** That ASA allocate \$60,000 to expand the Carcass Merit Program and the Commercial Evaluation Program.

8. **Activities and Events Committee.** Russell presented Activities and Events Committee resolutions.

- **Resolution #1:** That on PTP show programs and PTP show judge's sheets, the date the data (EPDs, Indexes) was pulled will be published.

Point of discussion:

- This will help avoid confusion if a breeder checks online and different EPDs are displayed.

- **Resolution #2:** LEAVE the following phrases on the PTP rules:

Res 2.a: Any bull fifteen months of age or older must have veterinary proof of a semen test and/or breeding soundness exam and must be proven as a satisfactory potential breeder.

Res 2.b: Any female eighteen months of age or older must be: A)certified pregnant by a licensed non-owner veterinarian: or B)have certification that she has been used in embryo transfer.

AND ADD IN:

Res 2.c: *Documentation on the above must be provided before an animal is eligible to show.*

Point of discussion:

- Fertility is a fundamental benchmark. We don't want a champion selected that can't fulfill basic requirement for real-world cattle industry.
- **Resolution #3:** That ASA adopt the attached* "*Major PTP Show Hosting Responsibilities,*" as outlined, with notification given immediately to the 4 host states and be implemented with judge selection for the American Royal 2014 Show.

Points of discussion:

- No policy, rule, or guideline is currently in place. A written and uniform guideline would benefit all judges and help alleviate problems stemming from selection of judges not on the list, as has been done in the past.
- Written policy would set limits on how frequently the same judge can officiate the next major show, and places the final selection responsibility on ASA's Activities and Events Committee.
- **Resolution #4:** That ASA accept and approve the AJSA Board's submission of the following 3 motions:
 - Res. 4.a: That the top 3 nominees for intermediate age division showmanship judge for the 2013 AJSA National Classic.
 - Res. 4.b: That the 2015 North Central Regional be held June 17-20 in Austin, MN, and hosted by the Minnesota Simmental Association.
 - Res. 4.c: That AJSA trustees who have secured a semen or embryo donation for this year's Pinnacle Auction at the national Classic will have their entry fee for the Summit waived, making travel their only expense for the event.
- **Resolution #5:** That an additional \$3,000 be added to the line item approved last year for travel by the designated AJSA Junior Board representatives helping with the 4 major shows.

Point of Discussion:

- ASA has allocated \$12,000 annually for 4 Juniors to travel to NWSS, 4 to the National Show and 2 to travel to the other major shows that year, as approved and outlined originally in April 2012. The total spent was \$12,000 but with cost increases, we request another \$3,000 earmarked for this purpose and the same criteria, now bringing the total for this purpose to \$15,000.

9. Policies and Procedures Committee. Holliman presented Policies and Procedures Committee report.

- **Resolution #1:** To remove pedigree information, EPD and Index information from the registration certificates of animals that have been suspended and include the term "Suspended" on the certificate.

Point of Discussion:

- Identifies and reinforces the status of suspended animals when viewed online.

10. Simbrah Committee. Nelson presented the Simbrah Committee report. There were no resolutions.

11. Building and Grounds Committee. Lanting presented Building and Grounds Committee report. There were no resolutions.

12. Vanguard presentation. Darryl Taylor, Vanguard representative, was invited to speak to the Board and provide information concerning Vanguard's low fund costs and incentives. He answered questions, offered advice, and explained opportunities for ASA's financial investing.

13. ASA Publications, Inc. Report. Butcher presented ASA Publications, Inc. financial report.

Saturday, April 27, 2013. Motions presented for voting.

Chairman Driggers called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call: Driggers, Butcher, Miller, Holliman, Lanting, McDonald, Drake, Williams, Nelson, Russell, Thompson, DeFreese, Willis, Smith, Cowger

Staff: Shafer, Kesler, McGuire, Cochenour, Hyde, Creason, Keller, Wine, Townsend, Roth

Legal Counsel: Summerlin

14. Finance Committee.

- Moved Cowger, seconded Drake to approve the FY2014 Budget. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #1.** To allow ASA staff to charge an additional \$25.00 per sample for DNA sent to GeneSeek without paperwork. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #2.** Moved Thompson, seconded Butcher to transfer ASA's financial investments from Edward Jones to Vanguard. Motion passed.

15. Executive Committee.

- Moved to adopt Foundation By-laws. Motion passed.

16. Breed Improvement Committee.

- **Resolution #1.** That ASA offer a genetic evaluation option that services commercial herds and includes herd management program. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #2.** That ASA drop the requirement to do genetic testing on suspect sires that do not have any registered progeny. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #3.** Drop adjusted weights and ratios from registration papers. Moved DeFreese, seconded Cowger to table this motion. Motion to table passed.

- **Resolution #4.** That ASA allocate \$60,000 to expand the Carcass Merit Program and the Commercial Evaluation Program. Motion passed.

17. Activities and Events Committee.

- **Resolution #1.** That on PTP show programs and PTP show judge's sheets, the date that the data (EPDs, Indexes) was pulled will be published. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #2.** LEAVE the following phrases on the PTP rules:
 Res 2.a: Any bull fifteen months of age or older must have veterinary proof of a semen test and/or breeding soundness exam and must be proven as a satisfactory potential breeder.
 Res 2.b: Any female eighteen months of age or older must be: A)certified pregnant by a licensed non-owner veterinarian: or B)have certification that she has been used in embryo transfer.
 AND ADD IN:
 Res 2.c: *Documentation on the above must be provided before an animal is eligible to show.*
 Motion passed.
- **Resolution #3.** That ASA adopt the attached* "*Major PTP Show Hosting Responsibilities,*" as outlined, with notification given immediately to the 4 host states and be implemented with judge selection for the American Royal 2014 Show. Motion passed.
- **Resolution #4.** That ASA accept and approve the AJSA Board's submission of the following:
 Res. 4.a: That the top 3 nominees for intermediate age division showmanship judge for the 2013 AJSA National Classic.
 Res. 4.b: That the 2015 North Central Regional be held June 17-20 in Austin, MN, and will be hosted by the Minnesota Simmental Association.
 Res. 4.c: That AJSA trustees who have secured a semen or embryo donation for this year's Pinnacle Auction at the national Classic will have their entry fee for the Summit waived, making travel their only expense for the event.
 Motion passed.
- **Resolution #5.** An additional \$3,000 is to be added to the line item approved last year for travel by the designated AJSA Junior Board representatives helping with the 4 major shows. Motion passed.

19. Policies and Procedures Committee.

- **Resolution #1.** To remove pedigree information, EPD and Index information from the registration certificates of animals that have been suspended and include the term "Suspended" on the certificate. Motion passed.

20. Growth and Development Committee.

- **Resolution #1:** To approve funding to subsidize (cost share) 50K testing on certain identifying bulls. Staff will identify bulls with set criteria (to be determined, accuracy and number of progeny). \$10,000 limit with completion of project by November 1, 2013. Motion passed.

21. Announcements.

Board reviewed agenda for the ASA/RAAA meeting to be held in Lewistown, Montana on September 8-11, 2013.

Moved Cowger, seconded Miller to go into Executive Session. Motion passed.

Moved Cowger, seconded Holliman to come out of Executive Session. Motion passed.

22. Adjourn. Moved Cowger, seconded Smith to adjourn. Motion passed.