

Note: These minutes are subject to approval at the 2025 American Aberdeen Association Annual Meeting

Minutes

American Aberdeen Association Annual Meeting

January 7, 2024

Embassy Suites, Denver Colorado

President Craig Walker called the meeting to order.

A prayer was offered by Darwin Engelkes.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the secretary's report was made by Darwin Engelkes, second by Rob Fanning. Motion carried.

The registry report was presented by Craig Walker. Registration fees at the nine month rate have been extended until July 1, 2024.

Doug Dodd asked why we need to do DNA on a fullblood steer in order to register him for show. Perhaps fullblood steers could be registered without DNA to save expense. The board thanked Doug for the idea and will consider it.

Colby Prince presented the American Aberdeen Junior Association report. He thanked the adult association for their support at the Junior Auction. The next Junior National Show has been scheduled for Boone, Iowa. The facility expense has been sponsored by Pine Hurst Farm, DDD Farms, Reinken Cattle Co., Steel Brook Farms, JB Cattle Co., H & L Aberdeen and W Diamond Livestock Co. He presented the financial report for the juniors. The juniors welcome suggestions for the 2025 Junior Nationals site.

He reported the heifer, ILC Kokomo, was donated by Idaho Livestock. It was a very successful fundraiser that generated \$9300 for the juniors.

Craig Anthony and Tom McKenny urged the juniors to reach out to AAA members if they need anything.

Darwin Engelkes presented the AAA financial report. The American Aberdeen Association is a 501C3 non profit association and it is good that we are in the black this year. The balance sheet was missing from the packet. Jan Effertz will get the balance sheet from Sherry Doubet and put it in the online financials. There was a question regarding the line item "junior expense" in the AAA profit and loss statement. After the meeting Jan Effertz asked Sherry Doubet. This item is income for the junior heifer and junior raffle that was paid to the AAA and later transferred to the juniors. The income for this category is in "registry income" and in the future should perhaps be itemized as "junior income" to show the offsetting income and expense.

There was no old business.

New business:

Craig Walker presented a proposed bylaw change. There are three proposed changes in the bylaws:

1. Will allow the association to elect board members by affirmation if there are only as many qualified nominees as there are open positions, thus saving the substantial expense of an election, about \$2000.
2. When there are no qualified nominees for an open board position, directs the board of directors to appoint a qualified active member to the board.
3. The outgoing president will serve as a non voting advisory member of the Board of Directors for one year to assist in continuity.

Craig Walker read the proposed changes aloud.

A motion to insert the word “qualified” into the new language, Article IV, section C, number 3, line 3:

“may appoint a qualified Active Member to an empty seat...”
was made by Neil Effertz, second by Janis Black. Motion carried.

The proposed bylaw changes and the added amendment are indicated in the bylaws attached to these minutes.

Craig Walker explained that the bylaw change cannot be voted on at this meeting. It can be voted on at the next AAA meeting and must pass by a 2/3 majority vote of the members who are present. The membership must be notified of the pending vote.

Janis Black asked about the change in the National Aberdeen Show rules that no longer require a semen test or pregnancy check. She thinks it is important that we promote animals that can breed. Rob Fanning reported the change was made because no other breeds require it , it added significant expense and many vets do not know how to safely fertility test Aberdeen bulls. He pointed out in the case of a national sale, fertility tests and/or pregnancy tests would be required.

Janis Black asked the board to look into having a national sale in conjunction with the National Show. Craig Walker reported the board considers it every year. Craig Anthony said some high-end buyers might want to buy at a live auction sale. Perhaps the membership could be polled to see if they wanted to participate. There was a discussion of an auction sale and expenses associated with it. There must be enough cattle consigned to the sale that sell for enough money keep sale expenses reasonable in terms of percentage of sale gross. There must also be high quality photos and videos to positively represent the sale cattle. The board will ask the membership about their interest in a National Sale and their ability to adequately support it.

New board members Jillane Pike and Jan Effertz were introduced.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Darwin Engelkes, seconded by Janice Black.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Effertz