

Minutes

American Aberdeen Association Board of Directors Meeting

September 19, 2023

Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Darwin Engelkes, Allen Sieverkropp, Rob Fanning, Farabee McCarthy, Craig Walker.

Others Present: Tonya Perez

Craig Walker called the meeting to order.

Craig Walker said he sent the financials to the board. He also said Sherry Doubet sent a list of members and bull and heifer buyers to help estimate the number of newsletters.

Tonya Perez reported on the proposed newsletter. She proposed sending it out twice per year. Tonya will ask Sherry for the list of commercial breeders. She will estimate costs.

Todd Bohlmeyer will be attending the Ozark Farm Fest with live animals next week. Brad and Julie Tummons are bringing live cattle.

The board discussed extending the moratorium on over age registrations until July 2024. This has already been approved. They also discussed promoting getting cows caught up on their calf registrations for the dam of merit program.

Darwin Engelkes moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, April 25, July 18 minutes as written, second by Allen Sieverkropp. Motion carried.

Allen Sieverkropp gave the treasurer's report. We only have about \$25,000 income this year, registrations are down. Darwin Engelkes commented that we are coming up on the time of year when many breeders register their spring calves.

Allen Sieverkropp moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Darwin Engelkes. Motion carried.

Craig Walker reported on the National Show coming up in Denver. The board discussed special awards. They will discuss further via text.

The board discussed nominations for the board. If there are only two seats available and only two nominations, do we need to have an election? There was discussion that to be an active member you have to transfer or register one head in the calendar year and you have to be an active member and nominated by an active member to run for the board. Everything must be defensible by the North Dakota Century Code.

There was discussion of committees and participation by members.

The dates for the National show: begin arriving January 3, in place January 6. Sunday January 7, 9 AM, open bull show followed by the junior show. Females will show Monday January 8 at 9 AM. Judges will be Shawn Varner for the open show, junior show judge will be Jordan Vandermolen.

Rob Fanning reported there were 50 head entered in the open show and 28 in the junior show in Kansas City. These are the biggest numbers in 4 years which is very positive especially since Brad and Julie Tummons won't be there.

Rick Dodd reported to Darwin Engelkes that everything is set up at the Embassy Suites for the National Show and meeting. There will be a table set up if we want to do a tutorial on the new online registration system. The board agreed it would be a good idea.

The board expressed concern over the Junior Association financial condition. Darwin Engelkes said the balance sheet as of September 21, 2023 shows the juniors had \$2896. There is a negative \$5441 net income, but they still have a positive balance in their checking and savings accounts at this time. The juniors are well aware they need to do everything they can to raise some money. The juniors are selling tickets for the heifer. Courtney Walker, Shea Esser and Shane Goss are the adult leaders for the juniors. They are encouraging the juniors to speak to the adult members about their fundraising. Darwin Engelkes has been the board liaison for six years and he hopes to step back next year. The heart of every association is their junior program.

Allen Sieverkropp talked about cattle being registered without AI certificates. Sherry said it has been corrected in the new online system. Someone was able to register a calf out of Allen's bull without purchasing an AI certificate. Sherry said it was a flaw in the system and it has been corrected. He recommended that breeders who sell semen should be aware and keep their eye on their sire's registrations.

Rob Fanning said it is a glitch in the program. It can be corrected. We will need to contact Sherry. Sometimes it's better to fix the program quietly. It takes a while to get all the kinks out.

Craig Walker discussed the country of origin restrictions for registration, to prevent the Australian association (the heritage group) registering cattle through the Canadian association. There are three different groups in Australia, due to disagreements among the members. This has occurred in other US breed associations. ALCA will not sign the reciprocal agreement and they will not accept our cattle in their herdbook without special designation. We cannot access their DNA records.

There is now a US breeder that wants to import semen from a bull registered with the heritage group and wants to register his calves in the US herdbook. We can't verify the parentage of the bull. It is vital to maintain the purity of our fullblood cattle in the US herdbook. It sets us apart from other breeds. The board agreed the owner of the bull in Australia needs to prove his parentage and follow our protocol for registration just as

our US breeders must do. He must be registered in our herdbook. It must be US exportable to prevent them from sending semen to Canada and slipping it across the border. We must defend our herdbook. They must follow our rules. They need to sign a reciprocal agreement.

Craig Walker will report back to the US breeder.

Darwin Engelkes moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Allen Sierverkropp. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Effertz