

Minutes

American Aberdeen Association Board of Directors

December 10, 2024

Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Darwin Engelkes, Rob Fanning, Jan Effertz, Allen Sieverkropp, Jillane Pike, F.D. McCarthy, Rick Dodd.

Others Present: Becky Miller

President Darwin Engelkes called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM CT.

Darwin Engelkes shared a text he received today praising the accomplishments of the board this year.

Allen Sieverkropp made a motion to approve the minutes of the October and November meetings, second by Rob Fanning. The motion passed unanimously.

Becky Miller of the National Beef Center for Excellence updated progress in the transition to our new office. Their programmers have been introduced to the ABRI programmers who will assist in transferring the database. She will let us know when they are ready to do a hard transfer of the phone number and email address. They are trying to keep the same phone number that we've been using in Colorado and Wyoming. They will have materials and training available to our members when we are ready to make the transfer to their system. Sherry just learned today that the ABRI programmer will be unavailable until December 18.

Darwin Engelkes opened a discussion of storage of DNA samples after 13 months when Neogen wants to get rid of them. The board voted earlier to discard the TCU samples because they need cold storage. Becky Miller said they will be able to store dry DNA samples in their facility at no charge. The storage area is not fireproof.

Rob Fanning made a motion to store dry DNA samples at the Beef Center, second by Rick Dodd. Motion carried unanimously.

Darwin Engelkes has been in touch with Neogen. Our contract with them will not change for next year except the cost of the TSU applicator is going up, they will let us know what the price will be. He will let them know to send dry samples to the Beef Center.

Darwin Engelkes reported that Sherry Doubet is mailing checks to Becky Miller today so they can open bank accounts on our behalf. It is also necessary to change the authorized signer from Sherry Doubet to Rebecca Miller on our CD's at Green Belt Trust.

A motion to change the authorized signer on the CD accounts at Green Belt Trust from Sherry Doubet to Becky Miller was made by Allen Sieverkropp, second by Jan Effertz. Motion passed unanimously.

Darwin Engelkes reported that he had a discussion with Tonya Perez last week. She indicated she thought it would be in the best interest of the AAA to have registration services and social media services under one roof. She would still be interested in helping us with design of advertising and promotional pieces as needed. Jillane Pike will help Becky Miller and her staff with social media ideas.

Jan Effertz made a motion to recognize Tonya Perez and her service to the AAA, second by Rick Dodd. Motion carried unanimously.

Rob Fanning reported on the National Show. We have 145 entries in the open show (up 20 – 30 head) and 75 in the Junior show, also up. We will check in cattle Saturday afternoon. FD McCarthy, Rick Dodd and Jan Effertz will help check in cattle and Courtney Walker said 2 juniors will be available to help with check in.

The juniors will be serving chile and chili on Saturday in the yards at noon.

Rick Dodd reported the Embassy Suites is out of rooms. The Embassy Suites will need a count for banquet tickets by early January. Sherry will send an eblast asking breeders to buy their tickets before January 1, Jan Effertz will write a draft of the eblast and send it to Sherry.

Rob Fanning said Sherry Doubet will prepare the show program for the 2025 National Show and then send the platform she uses to do the show programs to Becky Miller so she can do it in the future.

There was discussion of the AAA website and all board members indicated they want Shelley Dodd to continue managing the website. This is good with Becky Miller, they do not manage websites in house.

Darwin Engelkes reported he had spoken with Courtney Walker and the juniors will be in charge of the record keeping for the junior auction this year.

Although Sherry Doubet has not completed the financials yet, she reported to Darwin Engelkes that year to date through October registrations and transfers and memberships are up. She will have the numbers for the annual meeting. She will try to have financials ready for the annual meeting but with three associations to manage and so close to the end of the year, she may not be able to complete them in time.

Jillane Pike shared her thoughts on the direction of the AAA and asked the board to brainstorm about where we fit and what is our niche. We have momentum now.

Jan Effertz presented two new variations of the Dam of Merit and Sire of Merit logos. It would be good to use one consistently and one that is understandable by the breeders.

Jillane Pike made a motion to approve the new logo, seconded by FD McCarthy. Motion passed unanimously.

Sherry Doubet has asked that December 23 be the last day DNA is sent to the Wyoming office. After January 1, DNA can be sent to the new office, according to Becky Miller. Jan Effertz will assist with eblast, website and social media to let breeders know about the December 23 cutoff.

Jillane Pike made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Allen Sieverkropp.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Effertz