

RAAA Board of Directors Meeting

January 13, 2007

Double Tree Hotel, Denver, Colorado

Board members and staff present

President Steve Andras called the meeting to order and started with a prayer. He then read the RAAA Mission Statement, Core Policies, and RAAA Board Code of Ethics. The meeting agenda was approved. The September 2006 minutes from the two meetings held in Kerrville, Texas during the RAAA convention were approved with two minor corrections. Dr. Hough went over the current financial statements. After a review and questions by some of the board, the report was approved as read.

President Andras asked the four new board members to give their impressions of the new board orientation that was held in early December, 2006 at the RAAA headquarters. Forest Dunning, Tommy Coley, Laurence Mendoza and Ryan Ludvigson were all impressed by the informative meetings and came away with an appreciation of the duties of each of the staff members. All four board members mentioned they thought it would be beneficial to our members to see a flow chart of the staff's duties and it could be included in the new member packets.

Rita McPhee, chair of the Registration Committee, asked that the report be given by Dr. Hough. After Dr. Hough went over all the statistical sheets and the developments to the website, he asked the board to consider the new wording on RR 10 - Section C 2a and RR 11 - Section C 3a. It was moved and approved to accept the new wording, which now reads: **RR-10 Section C 2a** - The proven sire and dam of any animal, for which application for registration is being made, must be registered with an Association that is a member of the World Angus Secretariat in good standing.

RR-11 Section C 3a - The proven sire and dam of any animal, for which application for registration is being made, must be registered with an Association that is a member of the World Angus Secretariat in good standing.

Ron Bolze, Commercial Marketing Director since October 2006, informed the board that he has been using the last few months to learn more about the breed and has been traveling. He attended the Strategic Planning meeting, the RAAA new board orientation meeting, several bull and feeder calf sales, and visited Cargill, Angus America and US Premium Beef. Greg Comstock reported that the big bull buyer list had increased by 12.3 percent, marking the third straight year of double digit increases. He added that Marcine Moldenhauer has accepted a position with the Cargill Procurement Department and her replacement hasn't been named as of this date. She will be speaking at the Brain Trust meeting. Meyer Natural Angus will be helping to support the RAAA Young Guns meeting this summer in Denton.

Ann Holsinger, ARA Magazine Editor reported that there would be a change in the billing procedures. Ads will be billed in the month the ad appears and not the month before it comes out in print.

Doug Fee the CEO from the Canadian Angus Association addressed the group and gave an update on what is happening in the Canadian association.

President Andras reported that the Voting Committee considering the absentee voting aspect has not had sufficient

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amount of time to delve into the issue of absentee and proxy voting. According to Edith Clarke Harper, chairperson, a report will be given at the Summer Board Meeting in Denton.

President Andras went over each of the 2007 Standing Committee Appointees and the board approved the list with the addition of Jim McLean to the Finance Committee.

Each of the board members received a copy of the booklet that was printed for the second entry nomination of Sal Forbes to the Saddle and Sirloin Club at the NAILE, Louisville, Ky. Their committee should be able to inform us of the award winner sometime in March, 2007.

Larry Keenan reported on the findings of the Breed Improvement Committee dealing with genetic trends for reproductive traits, carcass traits, and the results of preliminary analysis for ultrasound data from Embryo Transferred animals.

Dr. Joe Massey, IBBA, gave a presentation on the new computer data entry programs that his association programmer designed. He asked the board to consider buying into their program for our Association. President Andras stated the board would have to consider the issue and get back with Dr. Massey.

Dr. Hough reported that the NPLC - National Pedigreed Livestock Council convention will be held in Denton, Texas this May. He gave a brief review of the schedule for this meeting.

Terry Boyles, board member and JRA Committee chairman, gave his committee's recommendation on the suggestion to hold a Junior National Show in the summer. This show would not coincide with the JRA Roundup. The board discussed all aspects of this recommendation and looked to our Strategic Plan's Core Policies for direction. They agreed that the suggestion from the convention didn't align with our policies and would be a costly venture along with being a time constraint on the Junior and Senior associations.

Larry Keenan gave the Breed Improvement Committee's recommendation to add Carcass Weight EPDs into our Evaluation since we have been calculating it for over 10 years. A motion was made and failed. The topic of changing the name of the Calving Ease Total Maternal (CETM) was sent to the Breed Improvement Committee for their recommendation. Mr. Keenan informed the board that the association does not have a policy on genetic defects. He asked for a motion that would utilize legal counsel, genetic defect experts, and contact with a DNA lab to help make a genetic defect ruling. After a lengthy discussion, it was approved to send a ruling for genetic defects to the Executive Committee for review and recommendation.

Ryan Ludvigson suggested that the Junior Foundation be renamed and that the committee work on research and development projects and assisting with getting grants for RAAA association. The Junior Foundation Committee will be made aware of these suggestions.

Melvin Leland, chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee gave a brief summary of how this committee got started and why it meets annually each December. This committee is responsible for all of the guiding principles and policies established over the years for the association. Only minor changes were recommended and approved by the board.

The Summer Board Meeting will be held June 21, 22 and 23 in Denton, Texas.

With no other business before the board, President Andras called for adjournment. ■