

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
American Simmental Association  
September 21, 2009 eMeeting  
October 30, 2009 Kansas City, MO**

Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm Mountain Time via Go to Meeting/teleconference.

Roll Call: Jim Skillestad, Gregg Bailey, Curtis Russell, John Harker, Tommy Brown, Bobby Willis, Mike Mallett, Beth Mercer, Bob Volk, Jessie Driggers, Bill McDonald, Kevin Thompson, Harold Williams, Roger Finke, Jim Butcher, Michael Stoltey

Staff: Jerry Lipsey, Steve McGuire, Paulette Cochenour, Linda Kesler, Wade Shafer, Marilyn Roth

Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin

1. Instructions and Approval of Agenda. Skillestad reviewed the board meeting agenda. Moved Stoltey, seconded Russell to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Official Call to the Annual Meeting. Moved Bailey, seconded Mallett to approve the Official Call to the Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes. Moved Stoltey, seconded Mercer to approve the Minutes of April 19-22, 2009 as written. Motion carried.

Moved Stoltey, seconded Harker to approve the Minutes of the July 28, 2009 teleconference as written. Motion carried.

4. Executive Vice President Report. Lipsey gave a presentation on staff interpretation and enforcement of Board policy concerning genetic defects, reinforcing how DNA technologies are changing lives. He informed the Board of staff recommendation to implement the use of an authorized MOU allowing for the issuance of registration certificates on animals previously with a “genetic hold” status. The MOU provides a 90 day grace period for compliance of all genetic testing requirements.

Lipsey also spoke of staff strategy and plans to pursue and implement a program to communicate and market SimGenetics.

5. Committee Reports and Resolutions.

5a) Activities & Events. Dr. John Harker presented Activities & Events resolutions.

### **Resolution #1:**

The following is a proposal for adding a percentage cow/calf show at the National and Regional Classic levels. There is also a request to have a separate class for the calves at side to show as well.

#### **Percentage cow calf.**

1. Both cow and calf must be at least 50%. If either is not a purebred then the pair is shown as a percentage.
2. The calf at side must be Bred and Owned.
3. Classes will be broken down by the year the cow was born. Ex: Group 1-cows born in 2006, Group 2-cows born in 2007, and so on.
4. Cow/Calf pairs may not be used for the Showmanship Competition.
5. Calf must be the cow's natural calf (no embryo transfers)
6. Both Cow and Calf must be registered with the American Simmental Association as a Simmental or percentage Simmental (SM not CS)

#### **Calf Class**

##### Amendments

1. The age of shown calves will be extended to prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> of present year.
2. If the calf is also shown as a cow/calf pair then it counts as two entries.

Activities and Events Committee agreed to meet again for further discussion prior to the National Meeting in Kansas City.

**5b) Breed Improvement Committee.** Brown reported on the Breed Improvement Committee's teleconference of September 10 and presented the Committee's resolution.

#### **Resolution #1.**

The Breed Improvement Committee proposes that ASA authorize Dr Wade Shafer to contract with Dr Clare Gill at Texas A&M to develop a DNA marker that would identify animals that carry the spotting gene. The maximum amount to be allocated to the project will be \$1000. ASA staff would be responsible for supplying Dr. Gill with DNA from 20 animals that are known to be homozygous for spotting gene, 20 animals known to be heterozygous for spotting gene and 20 animals known to be non-spotters.

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Reasons to consider:

There are still solid colored animals in the population of the Simmental breed that carry the spotting gene. When these animals are used in the commercial beef industry they produce spotted offspring that are discounted at the market when sold. These spotted animals continue to be a hindrance in marketing commercial Simmental and SimGenetic bulls. The main problem occurs when animals with the spotting gene are used in multi-generation SimGenetic breeding programs or when used on cattle that originate from breeds that also carry the spotting gene. The test will be beneficial in identifying herd bulls or bulls going to A I studs that are non-spotters.

**5c) Growth and Development Committee.** Driggers presented the Growth & Development Committee report from their August and September, 2009 teleconferences. There are no proposed resolutions from Growth and Development Committee.

**5d) Policies & Procedures Committee.** Bailey presented Policies & Procedures Committee report and resolutions.

**Resolution #1.**

Policies and Procedures committee recommends posting the following genetic defects disclaimer on the ASA website:

The genetic data, analysis and opinions contained in this report were reported to American Simmental Association (ASA) or obtained from third party sources. The ASA did not originate the data, perform the genetic testing or undertake the genetic analysis contained in this report and does not guarantee its accuracy. Data and/or information provided to the ASA may contain errors or be incomplete. The ASA provides this information “as is” and hereby specifically disclaims all representations and warranties, terms, conditions or undertakings, whether expressed or implied, written or oral, statutory or otherwise, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, with respect to the information contained in this report. In no event shall ASA be liable for any loss, inconvenience or damage, including, but not limited to, direct, special, punitive, incidental or consequential damages, arising from the use of the information contained in this report.

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Reasons to consider:

- Clearly states the limited liability of ASA information concerning DNA testing as reported by a third party.

**Resolution #2.**

Policies & Procedures committee recommends replacing the current disclaimer on paper registration certificates with the following updated disclaimer:

The animal described in this registration certificate has been entered in the ASA Herdbook under the rules and bylaws in effect at the time of registration and may be updated, corrected or cancelled as provided therein. The registration is based upon information provided to the ASA from outside sources and the ASA does not guarantee the genetic makeup, percentage, breeding, ownership or fitness of the animal for any purpose. The official record of any animal registered in the ASA’s Herdbook or entered into the ASA’s data base is the electronic record maintained by the ASA. For the most current information on an animal, contact the ASA or visit the ASA’s website: [www.simmental.org](http://www.simmental.org).

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Reasons to consider:

- Clearly states the ASA data base is the official data of registered animals
- Clearly defines that information on a registration certificate can vary from the most recent information contained in the ASA data base.

**5e) Simbrah Committee.** Mercer presented the Simbrah Committee report. There are no resolutions proposed by the Simbrah Committee.

**5f) Financial Reports.** Harker presented the Financial Reports. Both the FY budget and end-of-year reports were reviewed.

Activities & Events Committee and Finance Committee will each meet again for further discussion and decision making prior to the Annual Meeting.

Moved Bailey, seconded Volk to recess. Motion to recess carried.

Meeting will reconvene on Thursday, October 29, 2009 at the Annual Meeting in Kansas City.