

**Board of Trustees' Meeting
American Simmental Association
September 9, 2013
Bozeman, MT**

Chairman Jessie Driggers called meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Roll Call: Jessie Driggers, Jimmy Holliman, Brian DeFreese, Bill McDonald, Kevin Thompson, Harold Williams, Calvin Drake, Blake Nelson, Scott Cowger, Jon Willis, Tim Smith, Dale Miller, Jim Butcher, Bob Lanting, Susan Russell. Roger Finke not in attendance.

Staff: Wade Shafer, Steve McGuire, Paulette Cochenour, Jackie Atkins, Hannah Wine, Luke Keller, Will Townsend, Bill Zimmerman, Leoma Wells, Linda Kesler

Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin on call (teleconference).

Instructions and Approval of Agenda. Moved Harold Williams, seconded Tim Smith to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes. Moved Scott Cowger, seconded Jon Willis to approve the minutes of April 25 – 27, 2013 as presented. Motion carried. Moved Susan Russell, seconded Harold Williams to approve the executive session minutes of April 27, 2013 as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report. Financial report given by Jimmy Holliman. Moved Blake Nelson, seconded Scott Cowger to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Investment Report. Vanguard investment report given by Jimmy Holliman.

ASA Publication Report. Report given by Jim Butcher.

Items discussed.

- All publications had increase in total sales.
- *SimTalk's* circulation is 50,000+.
- *Sire Source* has gone on-line for continued promotion of bulls throughout the year; with hard-copy scheduled release in February.
- Offering sale packages for \$2,500 was successful and will continue to offer them this fiscal year.
- Nancy Chesterfield has taken over the lead for national sales with advertising support from Rebecca Price.
- ASA Field Representative model has been launched.

Activities & Events Committee. Susan Russell presented the Activities & Events report and presented resolutions.

Items covered.

- PTP Judges.
- AJSA Summer Highlights, Annual Meeting, 2014 Classic t-shirts and Trustee age-out clarification.
- PTP Stamping papers
- Process for Handling Show Complaints.
- Upcoming Events

Resolution #1. Establish an AJSA annual meeting. AJSA Board of Trustees proposed; A&E accepts and presents: The American Junior Simmental Association establishes an annual meeting of its membership to take place each summer at the AJSA National Classic.

Points of Discussion:

While AJSA regional meetings and trustee elections are all currently held at the Classic, there is no official Association membership meeting. This would allow a formal meeting at a set time to discuss current happenings and review policies within the Association.

The Classic is the largest gathering of AJSA membership throughout the year, with about 375 youth from 27 states participating in the 2013 event.

Motion carried.

Activities & Events Committee continued.

Resolution #2. Approve Selling Sponsorship shirts for 2014 Classic Daily Events and Showmanship. AJSA Board of Trustees proposed; A&E accepts & presents: Approve selling sponsorships for 2014 Classic daily event shirts and showmanship shirts, excluding show day shirts; and therefore, be a key component to assist in the budget to effectively fund the 2014 AJSA Classic to be held in Louisville, KY.

Points of Discussion:

2014 Classic host state Illinois Simmental Assoc. is trying to get this fund-raising lot in a sale catalog now.

In 2012, there was an official AJSA show shirt but there was confusion on what bidders received on other shirt sponsorships offered by OH. In 2013, there was an official AJSA show day shirt, plus in working with NE, there were sponsored shirts specifically worn on 2 other days.

The current rules state that AJSA members are required to wear the official AJSA-provided show shirt. It is part of registrations fees. A&E wants to keep the show shirt unchanged. ASA sells extra show-day shirts. It's not only the additional \$1,500 revenue but more importantly, it is the marketing benefit since kids wear the shirt at other functions and thus promotes Simmental/AJSA.

Pro:

It would help host state raise funds.

Con:

1. Past confusion has created hard feelings. We need to be consistent. AJSA & this committee will be looking on long-range rules, but they are not in place at present.
2. No farm signs are allowed in the stalls to promote an individual ranch at the AJSA Classic, but t-shirts would promote high-bidder option(s) on sponsored shirts. However, as amended, these sponsored shirts would be on NON-cattle show day.

Motion carried.

Resolution #3. Stamping Registration Papers for PTP Shows. Beginning at the 2013 American Royal, show registration papers would begin being stamped and signed with a specially designed PTP seal of tattoo verification and signed by an ASA director immediately following an accurate reading of the represented animal's tattoo and the pull of a hair sample to be kept on file at the American Simmental Association. Once an animal's papers are stamped, said animal is eligible for paper-only check-in at all PTP shows that recognize paper-only check-in.

Paper-only check-in will require that exhibitors bring their stamped registration papers to cattle check-in, but cattle may stay in the stalls, as they will not need their tattoos checked. Any reissuance or change of ownership will require the animal, with its new papers, to be re-processed.

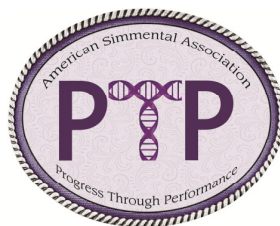
To ensure authenticity of those entries checked-in by stamped registration papers, five head will be selected at random following the close of check-in at each event and their tattoos will be checked in the stalls by an ASA director. The ASA reserves the right to check tattoos and/or pull hair samples on any animals with stamped registration papers.

Points of Discussion:

At the 2012-2013 major ASA PTP shows (American Royal, North American International Livestock Expo, National Western Stock Show, and Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo) ASA staff and host state volunteers checked 1,343 tattoos. Approximately 437 head of the 1,343 head entered for the year were entered at two or more major PTP events, the tattoos on these cattle were checked each time they attended another show. This resolution is an effort to make major PTP cattle check-in processing a more exhibitor friendly, timely, and animal-safety conscious routine.

The PTP stamp will be recognized at check-in for all major PTP shows and AJSA classics. Minor PTP shows may use their own discretion for their check-in processes.

Papers will only be stamped at the following events: AJSA Regional and National Classics, American Royal, North American International Livestock Expo, National Western Stock Show, Fort Worth Stock Show.



Motion carried.

Resolution #4. Formal Complaint Protocol Proposal. Susan Russell presented proposal.

American Simmental Association Formal Complaint Protocol Proposal

With this new procedure we aim to resolve complaints in a formal and procedural manner to develop the professionalism of animal authenticity and misrepresentation related complaints.

Proposed Protocol:

The American Simmental Association (ASA) accepts formal complaints filed by ASA members for investigation that pertains to animals on record with ASA. ASA complaint resolution does not stray beyond the boundaries of the ASA bylaws, thus ASA does not hold the power to remove any honors, premium money, scholarships, etc.

In the event that a non-member (i.e. show, show management staff, sale staff, test station manager, etc.) is in need of verification of authenticity of an animal on record with ASA, this is to remain full responsibility and liability of the non-member. ASA strongly recommends the non-member utilizing current means of genetic testing, for example parental validation and breed composition testing. ASA is willing to advise non-member parties on the scientific tools available to monitor animal authenticity and misrepresentation.

Proposed Complaint Filing and Resolution Procedure:

Complaints must be submitted in writing or via electronic mail to the Executive Vice President. The party filing an investigative complaint with the ASA is required to submit a retainer of \$100 in the form of a check or credit card payment. Complaints must detail the full name and contact information of the member filing the complaint and that of the member against which the complaint is being filed, date of complaint, animals to be investigated and reason for concern/question. Complaints will be made public; ASA will notify all parties involved.

ASA will handle the investigation per established procedures and upon the conclusion of the investigation all parties will be notified of the findings. If, after investigation of the complaint, it is found to have no merit, the party that filed the complaint will forfeit the \$100 retainer. In the event that the complaint is found to be true, the party that filed the complaint will be returned the \$100 retainer and all costs and fees of investigation to rectify the complaint will be full responsibility of the offending member.

Gene Summerlin joined by teleconference for discussion on this proposed resolution.

Moved Scott Cowger seconded Jimmy Holliman to table this resolution. Motion carried.

Directive: Send ASA Formal Complaint Protocol Proposal to the Policy & Procedures Committee to review the existing Rules & Bylaws handling complaints and consider a rule change to address this issue.

Policy & Procedures Committee. Electronic Voting Report given by Gene Summerlin and Steve McGuire.

- Plans to publish an article in *the Register* explaining the process and reasoning (using talking point that Dr. Lipsey used when he went to the Montana legislature).
- See attachment A. Draft ByLaws for Electronic Voting.

Resolution # 1 – Bylaw Change to Allow Electronic Voting.

Move ASA propose to the membership a change to the Association's Bylaws, as presented by Gene Summerlin, to allow for electronic voting for trustee elections, amendments to the Rules and Bylaws and notification of the annual meeting or a special membership meeting.

Points of Discussion:

1. This change gives members another way to vote. The option to vote by mail and vote on the floor where appropriate is still available.
2. The Bylaw change allows for electronic voting. Procedures and details still need to be developed by the Board and staff.
3. Each Member will have to elect to vote electronically.
4. Electronic voting cannot occur until after the membership has approved this Bylaw change.
5. Bylaws must pass by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members voting.

Motion carried.

Breed Improvement Committee. Report given by Calvin Drake.

Directive: for ASA staff to develop and implement a general health program for ASA members.

Points of discussion:

Feedlot personnel consider health issues a problem.

Motion carried.

Developmental Duplication (DD). Presentation by Jackie Atkins.

- New genetic defect has been identified.
- Inheritance of DD appears to be more complicated than originally thought.
- Dr. Beever continues to examine DNA and its complications.
- It is becoming increasingly clear that all animals are carriers of defective genes.

Items discussed:

- Release to the membership that we are monitoring the situation, there are more questions than answers.
- The Board will make a decision when enough definitive information is available.
- This is a different non-lethal situation. As of today, there is not enough evidence to require Membership to test.
- A test is available to use at your own discretion.
- Consider publishing a list of all animals tested and the results.

Directive: Moved Jim Butcher, seconded Bill McDonald for Staff to publish a list of DD tested animals and their results.

Motion carried.

Growth & Development Committee. Report given by Dale Miller.

Items discussed:

- National Advertising.
- Dr. Lipsey selected by BEEF magazine as one of the 50 most influential people in the beef industry in the last 50 years.
- ASA Field Representative program.
- State Association Cost Share and Check-off programs.

Simbrah Committee. Report given by Blake Nelson.

Selection of Board Nominees for Trustee Elections.

Eastern Region. Select two candidates.

By ballot, Jimmy Holliman and Rodney Hilley were selected.

North Central. Select two candidates.

By ballot, Erika Kenner and Ralph Brooks were selected.

South Central. Select one candidate.

By acclamation, Blake Nelson selected

West. Select one candidate.

By acclamation, Dale Miller selected.

Moved Scott Cowger, seconded Susan Russell to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

Golden Book Awards. Presented by Jessie Driggers.

By acclamation, Michael Dikeman, Hounsell Farms and Eberspacher Enterprises to receive ASA's Golden Book awards.

Building and Property Update. Presentation by Wade Shafer.

Recess until 2:00 p.m., September 10, 2013.

Board of Trustees' Meeting
American Simmental Association
September 10, 2013
Bozeman, MT

Meeting reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Jessie Driggers, Jimmy Holliman, Brian DeFreese, Bill McDonald, Calvin Drake, Blake Nelson, Scott Cowger, Jon Willis, Tim Smith, Bob Lanting, Susan Russell, Kevin Thompson, Jim Butcher, Dale Miller. Harold Williams and Roger Finke not in attendance.

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New Property Purchase. Moved Bill McDonald, seconded Jon Willis to give Staff the authority to proceed with the purchase of land on Campbell Rd with proper research, due diligence and working through any restrictions. Staff is to keep the Executive Committee up to date on the progress. Motion carried.

Adjourn. Moved Bill McDonald, seconded Bob Lanting to adjourn. Motion carried.