

**Board of Trustees' Meeting
American Simmental Association
Bozeman, Montana
August 30, 2010**

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call: Gregg Bailey, Mike Mallett, John Harker, Bill McDonald, Beth Mercer, Tommy Brown, Jessie Driggers, Harold Williams, Kevin Thompson, Roger Finke, Calvin Drake, Bobby Willis, Jim Butcher, Robert Lanting, Susan Russell, Jim Skillestad

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

Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin

1. Approval of the Agenda. Moved McDonald, seconded Williams to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
2. Approval of the Minutes. Moved Harker, seconded Mallett, to approve the minutes of April 19, 2010. Motion carried.
3. Executive Vice President's Report. Dr. Lipsey gave a presentation chronologically depicting major Board decisions through the years that have influenced the direction and growth of the American Simmental Association.

Meeting recessed for Committee meetings.
Board reconvened at 1:17 p.m. No staff present.

Roll Call: Gregg Bailey, Mike Mallett, John Harker, Bill McDonald, Beth Mercer, Tommy Brown, Jessie Driggers, Harold Williams, Kevin Thompson, Roger Finke, Calvin Drake, Bobby Willis, Jim Butcher, Robert Lanting, Susan Russell, Jim Skillestad
Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin

4. Board and Golden Book Award Nominees. Mallett presented Board nominees and Golden Book Award nominees for discussion.

Staff joined the Board for Committee Reports and Resolutions.

Staff: Lipsey, Shafer, McGuire, Kesler, Cochenour, Roth.

5. Activities & Events Committee. Dr. Harker presented the Activities and Events Committee Resolutions.
 - Res. #1. Activities and Events Committee recommends that the ASA invite the Red Angus Association to participate in SimPlace 2012.

Points of Discussion:

Continued interaction with RAAA.

SimPlace 2012 will be a major event like no other hosted by RAAA.

- Res. #2. Activities and Events Committee recommends that the ASA sponsor a person to attend the NCBA's Young Cattleman's Convention in 2011.

Points of Discussion:

The approximate cost is \$2500.

\$1690 has been pledged by the Foundation to this program to date.

Applications would be submitted to A&E Committee by February 1, 2011.

Applicants would be responsible for any additional expenses.

6. Breed Improvement Committee. Brown presented the Breed Improvement Committee Report.

- Res. #1. Breed Improvement Committee recommends that ASA monitor Fawn Calf Syndrome (**C**ontractual **A**rachnodactyly) genetic defect through the TraitTrac system currently being used for the other licensed lethal genetic defects.
- Res. #2. Breed Improvement Committee recommends that ASA contract with Dr. Jon Beever to develop a commercial test to identify the "spotting gene" in Simmental cattle. Dr. Beever will fund the cost of the development of the test and U of IL will have the intellectual property of the test.

Points of Discussion:

Allows Dr. Beever to develop the test at no cost to ASA. ASA will accept the results of this test once it becomes commercially available.

- Res. #3. Breed Improvement Committee recommends that ASA inform PTP show personnel that taking and publishing weight, frame score, WDA (Weight Day of Age), and scrotal circumference at PTP shows is optional.

Point of Discussion:

These measurements are not being used by judges and don't affect breed improvement.

- Res. #4. Breed Improvement Committee recommends that EPDs be available on all animals (additionally steers) in the ASA database.

7. Growth & Development Committee. Driggers presented Growth & Development Committee Report. No resolutions were presented.

8. Policies & Procedures Committee. Mallett presented Policies & Procedures Committee Resolutions.

- Res. #1. Policies & Procedures Committee recommends to relax ASA's strict payment policy by allowing active members to process jobs regardless of their account balance as long as they do not have an over 60 day balance due.

Points of Discussion:

Most members are "good payers"; however, ASA's strict payment policy doesn't acknowledge "good payers". We require payment from every one with a total balance over \$50 to pay before a job can process.

Additionally, ASA has a flag in the system to identify problem payers & handle them separately.

This is a customer service issue.

- Res. #2. Policies & Procedures Committee recommends making the Cow Summary feature on ASA's website available to everyone.

Points of Discussion:

When the cow summary was initially added to the website the Board stated it should be available only to people who were logged on. The cow summary has been available about 2 years and is very popular & has not been controversial.

This change would allow web site users to view the cow summary report without first logging on.

9. Dr. Beever Interview. The Board and staff interacted via Skype with Dr. Jon Beever concerning Fawn Calf Syndrome (CA).

10. Bruce Holmquist Interview. Board and Staff interfaced with Bruce Holmquist, Executive Vice President of the Canadian Simmental Association, via Internet Skype.

11. Simbrah Committee. Mercer presented the Simbrah Committee report.

12. Executive Committee. Executive Committee recommends that ASA increase the Duplicate certificate fee to \$5.00.

13. Finance Committee. Harker presented the ASA Finance Committee Report.

14. Dr. Tess Report. Board and Staff interfaced with Dr. Mike Tess concerning Montana State University's and ASA's close business relationship and the Carcass Merit Program.

15. ASA Publication, Inc. Mallett presented the ASA Publication Financial Report.

Meeting recessed until Tuesday, August 31.

Meeting reconvened at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 31.

Roll Call: Bailey, Mallett, Harker, McDonald, Mercer, Brown, Driggers, Williams, Thompson, Finke, Drake, Willis, Butcher, Lanting, Russell, Skillestad

Staff: Lipsey, McGuire, Creason, Kesler, Shafer, Cochenour, Roth

Legal Counsel: Summerlin

16. Computer presentation. Sheldon Ross and Steve McGuire gave a visual presentation on ASA's website and its newly developed capabilities.

17. Selection of Board Nominees. Mallett presented Board nominees.

- Eastern Region. Jessie Driggers was re-elected Board nominee and Jimmy Holliman was elected as new nominee for the Eastern Region.
- North-Central Region. Kevin Thompson and Harold Williams were re-elected Board nominees for the North-Central Region.
- Western Region. By acclamation, Dale Miller was elected Board nominee for the Western Region.
- South Central Region. By ballot, M. Blake Nelson was elected Board nominee for the South Central Region.

18. Golden Book Award. Mallett presented Golden Book Award Nominees.

Moved Mercer, seconded Willis to accept Harrell Watts and Tom & Ruth Clark's nominations for Golden Book Awards for 2011. Motion carried.

19. Activities & Events.

- Resolution #1. Moved Harker, seconded Mallett that the ASA invite the Red Angus Association to participate in SimPlace 2012. Motion carried.
- Resolution #2. Moved Harker, seconded Drake that the ASA sponsor a person to attend the NCBA's Young Cattleman's Convention in 2011. Motion carried.

20. Breed Improvement.

- Resolution #1. Moved Brown, seconded Skillestad that ASA monitor Fawn Calf Syndrome (**C**ontractual **A**rachnodactyly) genetic defect through the TraitTrac system currently being used for the other licensed lethal genetic defects. Motion carried unanimously.

- Resolution #2. Moved Brown, seconded Skillestad that ASA contract with Dr. Jon Beever to develop a commercial test to identify the "spotting gene" in Simmental cattle. Dr. Beever will fund the cost of the development of the test and U of IL will have the intellectual property of the test. Motion carried.
- Resolution #3. Moved Brown, seconded Willis that ASA inform PTP show personnel that taking and publishing weight, frame score, WDA (Weight Day of Age), and scrotal circumference at PTP shows is optional. Motion carried.
- Resolution #4. Moved Brown, seconded Butcher that EPDs are to be available on all animals (additionally steers) in the ASA database. Motion carried.

21. Policies & Procedures.

- Resolution #1. Moved Mallett, seconded Butcher to relax ASA's strict payment policy by allowing active members to process jobs regardless of their account balance as long as they do not have an over 60 day balance due.

Moved Mercer, seconded Lanting to amend the original motion and acknowledge that membership must cast their vote at the Annual Meeting in January before the main motion would take effect, as it involves a change in ASA Rule #5. Motion to amend carried. Motion to accept the main motion with amendment carried.

- Resolution #2. Moved Mallett, seconded Russell that ASA make the Cow Summary feature on ASA's website available to everyone. Motion carried.

22. Executive Committee.

Moved Harker, seconded Mallett that ASA raise the duplicate fee to \$5.00. Motion carried.

23. Breed Improvement Directive.

Moved Brown, seconded Mercer that directive be given to ASA staff to investigate the possibility of documenting heat tolerant cattle with a "HT" or similar designation, allowing breeders' use in advertising. Staff will report back to the Board at ASA's Annual Meeting in January 2011. Motion carried.

Moved Butcher, seconded Thompson to adjourn. Motion carried.