

RAAA Board Meeting Minutes

Red Angus Board of Directors Meeting June 8-10, 2006 Denton, Texas

Attendees: Board Members and RAAA Staff

Thursday, June 8

President Wedel began the RAAA board meeting at 8:05 am and asked Dr. Bob Hough to start the meeting with a prayer. The RAAA Mission Statement and the Core Policies were read and the agenda was approved for the meeting. The board minutes from the January 14, 2006 were approved. President Wedel reported that the Executive Committee approved \$10,000 funding for the "Young Guns" Conference. Dr. Hough informed the group that the Joint Venture - "Genetic Performance Solutions" concept has been taken over by the consortium.

The board approved allowing the Executive Secretary to open a line of credit with the association's bank for Red Angus expenses, if needed. This would allow the RAAA to access money from the line of credit without cashing in any RAAA CDs. The Executive Committee would approve any funds accessed.

Dr. Hough informed the board that Kay Hurley was out on sick leave, Angelia Brooks was taking time off for grandma maternity leave and Judy Edwards, Lucy Meyers and Ann Holsinger are celebrating 10 years of employment with RAAA.

The May, 2006 Accounts Receivable sheets were passed out. Steve Andras, chairman of the RAAA Financial Committee went over the financial investments of the association. The board scrutinized the 2005-06 RAAA Income and Expense Financial Projections, with Dr. Hough and the department heads answering questions.

Dr. Hough and Larry Keenan reported on the Breed Improvement

Committee projects that are in the works. They answered questions and assured the group that the prototype Multi Breed EPD model will be completed soon.

Ann Holsinger, editor of the ARA, reported on this year's projections. No increases in costs were expected or planned. The magazine will be poly bagged with a DVD in the July-August issue for one of our members.

Dawn Bernhard was called at her home in Iowa to give her JRA report. This included the activities the JRA board participated in at YBIC, the upcoming 2006 JRA Roundup in Minnesota and the Canadian Junior meeting that will be held in Nova Scotia this summer. Mrs. Bernhard also talked about the 2006 convention activities and traveling female project the JRA board has planned.

Kenda Ponder gave an update on the registration department's activities for the last five months, and reviewed monthly spreadsheets and fiscal year total statistics. She then presented updates on the RAAA website. The last topic dealt with RR26-8e - the rule on blood typing the parents of all embryo transplanted animals. After a lengthy discussion, the board took no action.

Kip Lewis discussed the completed, current and upcoming computer projects, along with information on the server migration. He gave an overview on the costs and implementation time table the new projects will need before fruition. The upgrading will take around 5-8 months and then processing speed will be increased.

Ben Spitzer gave a report on the activities and meetings he has attended as part of the Show and Sale Committee. He passed out page RR 34 from the Breeders Guide showing the new rules as stated in the new printing of the Breeders Guide. He gave a brief report on the schedule for the

upcoming 2007 Red Angus National Show that will be held at the NWSS in January. Kelli Brown addressed the topic of the RAAA staff working the pen shows; the board will discuss this again in September.

The Marketing Department reported on the changes that will be taking place with the FCCP PVP with the USDA ARC 1001A changes.

Friday June 9

Ben Spitzer informed the group about the number of press releases and e-newsletters sent out, and the feature articles placed in other publications. He went over the press calendar for the next year. He mentioned he was working on the following items: member communications letters, revamping of newsletters, Coop Advertising and Angus Plus. A certificate similar to Angus Plus, but for Red Brangus animals was shown to the board. Ben introduced the idea of broadcasting a Red Angus advertising spot on RFD-TV.

Kevin LeMaster was called at his Iowa office to participate in the National Advertising report, reviewing this year's advertising and what is being planned for the next fiscal year. There is an abundant supply of RAAA Marketing posters that are being well received by our members.

The names of the JRA, Lorenzen and Sonstegard scholarship winners were read to the board by Betty Grimshaw. The Scholarship committee consisted of Tyler Sonstegard, Will Andras, Alaina Burt, Leonard Wood, Tracey Koester and Laura Whitley.

Kelli Brown and Betty Grimshaw reported on the schedule and details of the upcoming 2006 Convention to be held in Kerrville, Texas this September. The Southwestern Red Angus breeders will be hosting the affair. During the second day of the convention, there will be an elite female sale

"History in the Making Sale".

President Wedel asked the office to invite all director candidates to the September board meeting and make sure their bios are placed in the upcoming issue of the ARA.

Blake Angell and Greg Comstock informed the board that with the approval of the Executive Committee and funding approved by the board in January, the first annual "Young Guns" Conference will be held in Denton, Texas on July 25 and 26. This activity is in accordance with Core Strategy 5, # 2.

Discussion ensued on whether or not to keep the State Presidents' Breakfast at the annual convention due to low attendance this past year. The board hoped that the new Communications Director would revamp the breakfast and stimulate participation.

The board approved Dr. Hough's request for monetary assis-

tance with co-hosting the National Pedigree Livestock Council convention in May 2007 to be held in Fort Worth at the Doral hotel. The co-host is the American Paint Horse Association.

The major portion of the afternoon was spent going through the budget line items for both income and expenses for 2006-07 along with capital investments.

At the end of Friday afternoon, the board went into Executive Session.

Saturday, June 10

The meeting was resumed at 8:05 by President Wedel. The capital investment list was scrutinized. The Board asked if leasing or buying computer hardware outright would be the best deal. After investigation, Kip Lewis noted that the interest on leasing the equipment would be too costly. The board decided to purchase the equipment

outright.

The board approved the purchase of the complete list of capital investments

The board approved the continuation of Dr. Hough's employment contract for an additional two years.

The board again took up budget Line 59 proposal to add \$15,000 to the budget line item for the televised Farm Program that would be co-subsidized by Cargill Animal Health.

The board approved the fiscal budget for 2006-07.

President Wedel complimented the staff on a good agenda and presentations in their appropriate departments.

Dr. Hough stated that the RAAA was going to resubmit Sal Forbes' name in nomination for the Saddle and Sirloin Club Portrait Award at the 2007 NAILE.

The meeting was adjourned. ■