

**Michigan Angus Association
Meeting of Board of Directors
January 20, 2010
MSU Turf Center, East Lansing, Michigan**

Present: Merle Boehmer, Monte Bordner, Bonnie Canfield, Steve Fitzner, Ken Geuns, Pat Goheen, Chuck Preston, Chuck Reid, Tim Ruggles, Cody Sankey, Jonathan Taylor, Steve Thelen, Nancy Thelen,

Absent: Dave Hawkins, Dave Lutchka, John MacMaster, Amanda Powell

Also Present: Heather Brown

President Chuck Reid called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MINUTES: Chuck Preston made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/09/09 meeting as printed. Motion seconded by Bonnie Canfield and passed.

TREASURER REPORT (attached to official minutes): Monte Bordner moved to accept the treasurer's report as printed. Motion seconded by Steve Thelen and passed. The checking account balance is \$3,452.44 and the CD balance is \$10,558.26.

Bonnie had also prepared a profit and loss statement for January 1, 2009 through January 19, 2010. Bonnie will take care of getting new bank cards signed after the annual meeting and election.

There was discussion on the MSU Beef Endowment Fund and whether we had received a reminder this year for our pledge. It was reported that Kathy Hawkins will be finding out who donates and encouraging that reminders be sent out in mid-November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AAA Annual Meeting/Delegates – Steve Fitzner, Sr., Scott Foster and Dave Lutchka attended the meeting and represented the interests of Michigan breeders. Scott was elected to serve on the American Angus Association Board of Directors. It was suggested that Scott be invited to our board meetings and asked to contribute to our newsletter.

Annual Banquet – Banquet is scheduled for March 14, 2010, at the Gene Davis Banquet Hall in Jackson. Meetings will begin at 10 a.m. and we will use the same schedule as last year. We will have three break-out rooms for meetings of the MAA, Auxiliary and Junior associations. The meal prices will be the same as last year and children age 5 and under will be free. Merle shared that Dave Hawkins is willing to give a presentation on the "Centennial of Angus Cattle at MSU" and Merle will also ask Scott Foster to speak.

Merle will provide Nancy with the reservation form for publication in the newsletter and on the website. Board members are welcome to bring door prizes. Help is needed for set-up at 9 a.m. Thelen's and Taylor's volunteered and anyone else is welcome to help.

Auxiliary – Nancy Thelen reported they were getting ready for the annual meeting and three queen applications are being sent out.

Bull Test – Monte reported that there are 108 bulls in the Test. Sale is March 20. They are planning to have an educational meeting on the Friday evening before the sale at Shifter's in Alma and Monte will try to get someone from the AAA. This year the consignor's will have lanyard name tags so they can be recognized and they are also planning to have name tags for the buyers.

Monte will order the AAA booth for use at the annual meeting, the Bull Test sale and at Expo.

Beef Expo – Pat Goheen currently has 30 entries (16 bulls and 14 females) and knows of several more entries that are coming. Pat shared the ad from last year and said Dina was working on this year's ad. We will have an ad in the March Angus Journal also. Tim Ruggles will be helping Pat. The Auxiliary was asked to do donuts and coffee again. Amanda Powell is also available to help as needed at the Expo. Our sale will be in the arena and will be the first sale of the day. Pat announced that the Expo committee has reviewed all the address lists (Rebecca's list was reviewed). There was discussion on the need for the Expo committee to work with the auctioneer on keeping a set schedule so sales don't start late, and also to move the Expo to March on the years when it conflicts with Easter.

Pat shared that any breeders who have called about genetic defects have been told that if the animal is a potential carrier it must be tested. There was discussion on the two motions which were passed in 2009 concerning testing sale animals. Since the AAA has more information available this year, our policy needs to be updated. Monte Bordner made a motion and Steve Fitzner seconded that "All potential AM and NH carriers that are on the American Angus Association potential carrier report must be tested for all Michigan Angus Association sales at the cost of the consignor, and if it is a carrier it will not sell." Motion passed. This information will also be put in the newsletter, on the web site and in the consignor letter. It was suggested that the consignor letter be sent out before the end of February.

Fall Sale – There were some calls regarding the 2009 sale. The 2010 date at the Pavilion is reserved. We need to make sure we get enough numbers. Bill Sheridan is willing to meet with us or the sale committee sometime at a separate meeting. It was suggested that perhaps a sale committee for both of the association sales be put together, and maybe have alternate chairpersons.

Junior Update – Junior Representative Rachel Reid was unable to attend this meeting but Chuck shared that the juniors had been discussing hosting the Eastern Regional Junior Show at the Pavilion in 2011. It was announced that due to the TB situation, the state of Illinois will not allow cattle from Illinois to come to Michigan unless they are quarantined, and this makes hosting a successful show in Michigan impossible, so the idea will not be pursued.

Newsletter – Nancy announced a February 1 deadline for articles and information to be included in the February 2010 newsletter. All the December newsletters were sent out by U.S. mail and it was also posted on the web site. The total cost of the printing and mailing of the 120 newsletters was \$127 (with extra stamps left over). They were not mailed to any of the juniors whose family is not a member of MAA. Nancy will check with Pam on where the different databases are

located on the cd's. A line was added on the membership form to check if they wanted the newsletter by mail or email. Bonnie Canfield reported that most want it sent to them by U.S. mail. But several board members said they only read it if it is electronic, so they will receive notification that when the newsletter is posted on the web site.

Nominating - Dave Lutchka is chairing the nominating committee and Dave Hawkins is the other member of the committee. Directors whose terms are expiring are Pat Goheen, John MacMaster, Jonathan Taylor and Steve Thelen. The officers do not need to be directors. Chuck Reid asked if the board wanted to leave the term limits on. This will be referred to the by-laws committee.

State Fair – All of the records and most of the equipment has been removed and the grounds are closed. The facility has been shown to several who were interested in purchasing it.

Website – Monte Bordner reported for Rebecca VanDenBerg that the website is getting about 650 hits per month. Currently we have a \$450 annual charge from EDJE for hosting our website plus \$25 per year for the domain. Rebecca could now host our site plus continue to do unlimited updates for \$75 per month to save us money. Rebecca is also willing to put up more news and suggested we have a less stringent system now that we have some experience. Chuck Preston moved to have a one year trial to have Rebecca host our website and put up our information, contingent on us getting a refund on the fee already paid for 2010. Jonathan Taylor seconded and motion and it passed. It was requested that Rebecca let the association president and secretary know when information is added to the web site.

The secretary will send Rebecca the minutes as soon as possible following the meeting. She can't post the minutes until they are approved, but they will contain information she may want to put on the website. We need to know how she can help breeders with the ads and we would like to see something to remind us to check out the website.

20/20 Vision – We need to keep working on the suggestions. There will be a report on it at the annual meeting. Please email ideas to Nancy or Chuck.

The Boot Camp held at MSU in September is an example of an educational program. It was a good event and the presentations were very good. There were approximately 50 paid attendees and they were impressed. It was common for the group to say they would have liked more time in the meats lab.

OLD BUSINESS:

Field Day – Lawrence and Pam Bryson did a wonderful job hosting the August 2009 event. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed it. Many thanks to everyone who helped.

MAA History – Dave Lutchka is updating our history, please continue to send him any information you come across.

Preview Show – Ken Geuns shared a draft letter of proposed changes for the summer shows, scheduled for June 11-13, 2010. With no future funding from the MDA it is suggested that the Saturday show be dropped and the breed association shows continue to be held on Sunday. A

proposed schedule of activities was also shared and briefly discussed. The purpose of this weekend of shows was to provide the opportunity for breed associations to have a place to show. Ken will be in contact with the various breeds to get their input. Monte Bordner made a motion to support the proposed concept. Jonathan Taylor seconded and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget – Chuck and Bonnie will use the profit and loss statement information prepared by Bonnie to develop a budget. Merle asked to have the website broken down by the various costs incurred.

MCA Meeting and Ad – The MCA annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 23rd. Monte will have promotional materials there. Bonnie has received several new ads for the group ad in the Cattlemen’s magazine, as well as some who no longer want to be in the ad. Bonnie will contact the breeders who are currently in the ad to see if they want to continue, and will get the information to George Quackenbush at MCA.

Vacant Positions – Please contact the nominating committee for suggestions on filling the vacant positions.

Lee Sweet Memorial – A card from the association was sent to the family of Lee Sweet. There were no organizations designated for memorials. Monte Bordner moved to sponsor the Champion Bull Award at the 2010 Preview Show in memory of Lee Sweet. Motion seconded by Chuck Preston and passed.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Update on MSU Department Mergers – Several in attendance shared information on the restructuring of MSU Extension and the College of Agriculture. The Cattlemen’s Association has responded to Dr. Plaut regarding the merger changes. Anyone interested in more information was asked to contact Karen Plaut, Chair of the Animal Science Department.

By-laws – There was a question on the latest version of the by-laws. They are located on the website. They were last reviewed 3 to 4 years ago, so should be reviewed again in the future.

Next Board meeting will immediately follow the Annual Meeting on March 14, 2010.

ADJOURN: There being no other business to come before the Board, President Reid adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thelen, Interim Secretary