

**Michigan Angus Association  
Meeting of Board of Directors  
September 1, 2010  
MSU Turf Center, East Lansing, Michigan**

Present: Merle Boehmer, Bonnie Canfield, Heather Everett, Steve A. Fitzner, Ken Geuns, Dave Hawkins, David Lutchka, Chuck Preston, Cody Sankey, Kirk Sterzick, Nancy Thelen, Steve Thelen.

Also Present: Dan Everett, Judy Fitzner

President Chuck Preston called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. We welcomed Heather Everett as the West Michigan Angus Association representative.

Minutes: Dave Hawkins moved the minutes of the 6/13/10 board meeting be approved as printed. Ken Geuns seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Treasurer Bonnie Canfield reported that money would need to be transferred from the C.D. to the checking account in order to settle up all current bills. There is \$10,895.28 in the Certificate of Deposit. Merle Boehmer moved that \$5000 be transferred from the C.D. to the checking account. Steve Thelen seconded the motion and the motion passed.

American Angus Association Board Report: Scott Foster was not able to attend the meeting.

Committee and Other Reports:

AAA Annual Meeting/Delegates – Dave Lutchka, Scott Foster and Cody Sankey are Michigan's delegates. Dave is the chair. Monte Bordner is the alternate.

Annual Meeting and Banquet – Will be held on the second Sunday in March in Jackson. John and Jackie MacMaster will chair the banquet, with Merle and Janel's guidance.

Auxiliary – Sharon Vaassen, Auxiliary president was unable to attend.

Bull Test – Dave Hawkins reported that entries needed to be postmarked by September 1<sup>st</sup>. There were 65 bulls entered so far, with the majority being Angus. Monte Bordner was not able to attend the meeting but also shared via an email that Planks had installed eve trough and have torn all the fence out and are expanding the lots as a way to minimize the mud issue.

Beef Expo – Discussed under old business.

Fall Sale – Merle Boehmer reported there were 41 head - 7 cow/calf pairs, 14 bred, 7 prospect heifers and 6 steers currently consigned to the sale. The catalog was done by Ricka Boehmer and will be going to print this week. The printer will be mailing the catalogs also. The sale starts at 1 p.m. on October 2 and all board members are needed to help with the various responsibilities. Subway will be bringing in the lunch sandwiches. Dave Lutchka tossed out the idea for future years of adding crossbred steer calves to the fall sale. There would need to be guidelines established such as sired by a registered Angus bull, etc. The idea would need to be fully considered as we would be promoting two different types of sales.

Michigan Junior Angus Update – No report.

Newsletter – Suggested deadline for the December newsletter is November 15<sup>th</sup>. Nancy had an inquiry regarding prices for ads in the newsletter. In January, 2008 advertising rates for a one-time printing in the MAA newsletter for a camera-ready ad were approved as follows: ¼ page - \$25; ½ page - \$50; and full page - \$75. These rates were reaffirmed by the board. Several interested breeders have submitted the MI Angus Form which is on the website, asking to be added to our mailing list. Nancy will add them to the email newsletter mailing list.

Preview Show and Awards – Ken Geuns reported that 39 head of Angus were show in the Michigan Preview Show held at the Michigan Beef Showcase. The showcase is costly and MSU will be looking for additional funding. The 2011 show will be held the second weekend in June at MSU. We all need to encourage more breeders to participate.

Website – The committee will be talking to Rebecca regarding some suggestions for making some changes.

20:20 Vision – No update.

Old Business:

MAA Field Day – 150 people attended the August 21<sup>st</sup> field day held at Omega Farms. It was another outstanding program. Nancy will send a thank you to Clifford and his family and staff.

MCA Summer Round-Up – Earl Souva and Monte Bordner helped plan a very successful program.

Mentoring Program – Directors were asked to contact Chuck Preston if they know of any new members who may benefit from having a mentor.

Committees – Ken Geuns provided a draft list of possible committees for the association. A more detailed description of the committees is needed. Merle Boehmer and Nancy Thelen will provide input to Ken. Members who have indicated an interest in a particular committee in the past will also be considered for the various committees.

Discussion on Dealing with Sales – The treasurer needs to have direction on how much to deduct from the sales for commission for the association. In the past Beef Expo has been 1%. Dave Lutchka moved to take out a 1.5% commission for the Fall Sale. Steve Thelen seconded the motion and motion passed. Part of the concern and extra work is caused when cattle are not paid for – these are usually those who sell to friends or on order; or the money never comes through the association. Cody Sankey made a motion that after 30 days it will be the consignors responsibility to collect; and the association will take that commission out of any other lots they sell or if it is the only lot, will invoice the consignor and if they do not pay they will not be allowed to sell in any MAA sponsored event until the commission is paid. Dave Lutchka seconded the motion and it passed. Merle Boehmer moved that no papers will be transferred until the animal is paid for and we will charge a 1½% finance charge per month on any unpaid balance, and this charge will go out with the bill. Steve Fitzner seconded the motion and it passed.

Combining of Secretary and Treasurer Position Committee Report – Dave Lutchka reported that if the positions are combined we need to try to pay the person. We may also want to include the website as part of the responsibilities. Some of the responsibilities need to be adjusted. There will need to be an addition to the bylaws to allow the board to combine the positions. Discussion included ideas on how the dollars could be generated to support a joint position. These included charging \$75 dues, with \$50 going toward the position; charging \$15 per member as an annual activity fee so the \$25 annual dues and \$15 activity fee would mean a \$40 annual fee. Life members would also be assessed a \$15 activity fee. Life membership may be able to be offered again under this system. We would need to explain what the activity fee is used for and why it is important for the association, as well as what the member receives from it. Dave Lutchka will put together some options for the next meeting. Steve Fitzner suggested that we put out Michigan Angus Association brochures at stock yards around the state. Membership forms were given to interested members and Nancy Thelen will also send it out with the minutes.

By-laws – Dave Lutchka reported that he had received one question regarding the proposed bylaws – asking why board members will not be counted as part of the quorum if they are calling in and not attending in person. The answer is that we do not want everyone to call into the meeting. Dave also presented two more suggestions for bylaw changes:

- Under secretary/treasurer: The board of directors may combine the positions of secretary and treasurer. The resulting position could be held by a non member of the Michigan Angus Association. The combined position would not be a voting member of the Board of Directors. The secretary/treasurer would be a voting member of any committees to which they were appointed.
- Under resignation from the board: Resignation from the board may be accomplished in two ways.
  - o A letter of resignation sent to the president or secretary.
  - o Not attending three consecutive meetings shall constitute resignation from the board.

Dave Hawkins moved to present all of the suggested bylaw changes to the full membership at the annual meeting in March. Merle Boehmer seconded the motion and it passed. The proposed changes will be included in the association newsletter.

Helping Angus bull customers market their calves – Per Monte'e email there was no report on the Angus Source feeder calf pool. Steve Fitzner shared that feeders are looking for Angus calves that they can buy off the farm. Suggested this information could be compiled and put on our web site when there are groups of 5 or more head, etc. The state could be split up by regions or districts. Sara Snider from the American Angus Association Angus Source Program recently spoke at a meeting in northern Michigan. Chuck Preston will contact her.

#### New Business:

Block and Bridle Club Request – The MSU Block and Bridle Club sent a request for financial support of the National Block and Bridle Convention they were hosting at MSU in October. It was decided to not support this event due to our current financial situation.

Plans for the 2011-12 Directory – We briefly reviewed the request for proposal information from two years ago. There was a suggestion to consider a higher percentage to the editor for the new ads as they are harder to get, having color just on the covers, and getting a bid from Post Printing and strongly suggest using them. The ad prices will be set at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 8 at 7 p.m. at the MSU Turf Center if it is available.

Adjourn: There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thelen, Interim Secretary