

Michigan Angus Association Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2011
MSU Livestock Pavilion, East Lansing, Michigan

Present: Monte Bordner, Julie French, Dave Hawkins, Dave Lutchka, Lisa Bohlen, Chuck Preston, Clifford Simmons, Cody Sankey, Heather Everett, Kirk Sterzick, Merle Boehmer and Nancy Thelen. John MacMaster participated by phone.

President Monte Bordner called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes: The name of the auctioneer Ron Kries was corrected in the March 13, 2011 minutes and Clifford Simmons was also present at the April 1, 2011 meeting. Merle Boehmer moved to approve the minutes from both meetings as corrected. Motion seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Chuck Preston reported the checking account balance is \$3586.62 as of May 11, 2011. The Jr. Association and the Auxiliary still need to be paid their portion of the semen sale proceeds and Jason Buher is owed \$100 for ringman services at the Expo. Dave Lutchka made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Expo settlement. Motion seconded by Kirk Sterzick and passed. A budget will be developed after the books are audited. Lisa Bohlen will be getting the new signature cards for the bank and circulating them for the required signatures.

Scott Foster was not able to attend so there was no American Angus Association Report.

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting and Banquet – 96 persons attended the 2011 banquet held in Jackson. John MacMaster reported he has contacted the University Club regarding holding our banquet there on March 31, but he had not heard back from them yet.

Auxiliary – The Auxiliary will be sponsoring an awards application workshop for all junior members from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, June 11 at the Preview Show.

Bull Test – It was a record breaking sale with 46 bulls averaging \$2976. The committee was able to reduce expenses by \$5000 by reviewing mailing list and other things. They will video again and will investigate having video bidding available. The total feed cost will increase to \$525, which is a \$15 per quarter increase. Entries for the next test are due September 1st with delivery October 15 and the sale on March 17, 2012. A suggestion was made to consider cataloging more bulls and then re-testing those who don't pass the semen test.

Beef Expo – It was a very good sale, the program by Sara Snider from the American Angus Association and the reception went well and there were many positive comments. Thanks to Merle Boehmer, Jon Taylor, Chuck Preston and their committee for all of their efforts. Many thanks also to Chuck, Lisa, Merle and Janel for getting the consignor checks written and mailed so quickly following the sale. During the treasurer's report Chuck Preston had reviewed the Expo expenses of \$10,105.67. The association's 2% was \$1,836.00.

Commercial Relations/Angus Source - Monte Bordner has appointed a committee of Bob Zellmer, Gary Voogt, Ed Dawson, and Chuck Preston to work on this. Bob Zellmer is chairing it and is working on a letter to go to past bull buyers. Steve Fitzner had talked about having Jerry Cassady do a program for the North Country Cattleman's group focusing on source verification programs. Perhaps the MAA could sponsor the meal at the meeting, which could be held in August or September possibly in the Gaylord area. Chuck Preston shared there is a lot of opportunity for the commercial herds. The West Branch Calf Sale is willing to sell Angus Source verified calves. Julie French is also interested in working on the committee.

Directory – the Directory was in the final proofing stage. The directory dedication will be done at the Preview Show during the show. Chuck Preston moved to get some type plaque or frame to give to the honoree, with an approximate budget of \$50. Merle seconded the motion and it passed.. Heather Everett will work on a frame.

Fall Sale – Clifford Simmons, Merle Boehmer and Larry Cotton prepared a detailed report on the sale information, timelines and projected income and expenses. The budget is based on 60 lots averaging \$1800. Entries will be due July 1st. Photos and videos of the consignments can be taken in early July at Omega Farms. If consignors want to leave their cattle there the cost will be \$1 per head per day. They are also looking into having the real-time auction if they can be plugged into high speed internet. Consignment information will go in the next MAA newsletter.

Michigan Junior Angus Update – Rachel Reid provided a written report on the MJAA. They are getting ready for the 2011 National Junior Angus Show in Pennsylvania. The theme is “Let Freedom Ring”. The juniors will also be holding their annual meeting on Saturday, June 11 at 4 p.m. during the Preview Show weekend.

Newsletter – The next newsletter will go out in May. Deadline for articles to Nancy is May 14th.

Preview Show and Awards – Ken Geuns had requested help with check-in, ring people, and make-up ring. Volunteers were Chuck Preston, Steve Thelen and Julie French. Julie will also be typing up the class program for the show. There will be discussion at a later meeting on whether the open class segment of the Beef Showcase should be continued. Awards will be handled by the committee.

Website – Rebecca VanDenBerg provided a written report with the number of page loads and visitors since September, 2010. The top pages are the home page, events page, members page and links. There was a peak and all time high in March with 903 page loads, 434 unique visitors with 331 being first time visitors and 103 returning visitors. A refreshed design with more content will be launched before the end of May. Rebecca will notify the board when the new site is ready. It was suggested that all of our forms, as well as the juniors and auxiliary be on the web site. More articles would also create interest.

20:20 Vision – A workday on the 20:20 Vision will be scheduled in the future.

Old Business:

Committee to combine Secretary and Treasurer Position – Monte Bordner announced that he will be setting up a meeting with Rebecca VanDenBerg, Lisa Bohlen, Nancy Thelen and himself to discuss the responsibilities of the secretary and treasurer.

Audit Report – Dave Lutchka reported that it is extremely difficult to trace the checks to the deposits. He will be contacting Earl Boehmer for more information on the escheated dollars. Dave and Lisa will be meeting.

MCA Summer Round-Up – As a result of our donation, MAA will be receiving two registrations to the Summer Round-Up July 8 and 9, 2011. Merle Boehmer will use one and Julie French will use the other. Monte will order the booth from AAA and Merle and Julie will staff it.

New Business:

Field Day – Jim and Melissa Reichenbach will host the 2011 Michigan Angus Field Day at Sterling-Hunter on Saturday, September 17. Monte appointed a field day committee of Reichenbach's, Clifford Simmons, Troy Wilson, Kirk Sterzick, Kris Boehmer and Monte Bordner. The committee will come back to the board with projected expenses.

Electronic Billing/PayPal - A member had suggested that we do electronic billing. Separate invoices for dues, advertising, etc make it easier to track. Dave Lutchka also shared that we should be writing receipts for all dollars received. The cost to set up pay/pal or another system so payments can be made by credit card may cost 2% of the transaction. The board asked for more information on the costs before making any decisions.

Angus Foundation Golf Tournament Request – The association received a request for a donation towards the 2011 Foundation Golf Tournament at the National Jr. Angus Show. Julie French moved to donate \$100 to the Foundation. Motion seconded by Heather Everett and passed.

Funding for Spartan Livestock Open Golf Tournament – Cody Sankey asked for support for the Spartan Livestock Open Golf Tournament on June 24, 2011. This fundraiser helps fund the MSU livestock judging team. Chuck Preston moved to donate \$100. Motion seconded by Kirk Sterzick and passed.

Other New Business – Julie French offered to send a letter to the Expo buyers inviting them to join the association and she will also include information on the Angus Source Program. Julie also asked if there was interest in developing an association logo and there was. The possibility of selling Angus items at the shows was also mentioned.

Committee Assignments – President Bordner announced the following 2011-2012 committee appointments. Anyone wishing to serve on a different committee was asked to contact Monte after the meeting and this will be reflected in an updated list.

Bull Test – Monte Bordner, Bob Zellmer, John MacMaster and alternate Ed Dawson

Fall Sale – Clifford Simmons, Merle Boehmer, Janel Horrocks-Boehmer, Pete Sweeney, John MacMaster, Chuck Preston, Nancy Thelen, Monte Bordner

Futurity Show and Sale – Merle Boehmer, Jon Taylor, Kirk Sterzick, Steve A. Fitzner, Tim Ruggles

Commercial Opportunities – Bob Zellmer, Gary Voogt, Ed Dawson, Chuck Preston, Julie French

Preview Show – Julie French, Chuck Preston

Member Recruitment – Clifford Simmons, Steve A. Fitzner

Jr. Members – Jon Taylor, Tim Ruggles, Dale and Denise Klopfenstein

Annual Banquet – John MacMaster

Educational Articles – Ken Geuns, Cody Sankey, Dave Hawkins

Field Day – Jim and Melissa Reichenbach, Troy Wilson, Clifford Simmons, Kirk Sterzick, Kris Boehmer, Monte Bordner

Communications/Website – Rebecca VanDenBerg, Lisa Bohlen, Merle Boehmer, Rob Reid, Monte Bordner

Newsletter – Julie French, Nancy Thelen

Directory – Dave Hawkins, Dave Lutchka, Nancy Thelen

Advertising – Merle Boehmer, Steve Thelen, Lisa Bohlen, Monte Bordner

Policies & Procedures – Dave Lutchka, Dave Hawkins, Lisa Bohlen, Nancy Thelen, Chuck Preston, Rebecca VanDenBerg, Ken Geuns, Monte Bordner

Next Board Meeting – It was decided to hold a board meeting at the conclusion of the Preview Show. The next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12 following the Angus Show at approximately 1 p.m.

Adjourn: There being no other business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thelen, Secretary