

Michigan Angus Association Board of Directors Meeting
September 6, 2011 at Anthony Hall, MSU
East Lansing, Michigan

Present: Monte Bordner, Dave Hawkins, Lisa Bohlen, Chuck Preston, Clifford Simmons, Cody Sankey, Steve Thelen, Kirk Sterzick, Merle Boehmer, Nancy Thelen, Ken Geuns and Jonathon Taylor. John MacMaster participated in the meeting by conference call.

President Monte Bordner called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Chuck Preston moved to approve the agenda, motion seconded by Dave Hawkins and passed.

Minutes: Chuck Preston moved to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2011 meeting, Clifford Simmons seconded the motion and it passed.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Lisa Bohlen reported the checking account balance is \$6981.43 and the CD balance is \$5941.02 for a total of \$12,922.45. The CD was renewed to 12/01/2011. Steve Thelen moved to accept the treasurer's report. Motion seconded and passed. Lisa also reported that the integration of the membership and buyer database has been completed, there is still one directory ad payment that has not been paid, online banking is now available, membership dues can now be paid online, and a cash flow statement is available. She will be working on loading the financial history into Quicken, balancing it with the checking account and establishing a budget.

American Angus Association Report: Scott Foster was attending the National Angus Tour. Contact him if you have any questions.

Committee and Other Reports

Annual Banquet – John MacMaster reported that the University Club has us scheduled for March 30th at approximately 6 p.m. for the social hour and dinner at 7 p.m. He is estimating 120 people. Prices have not been determined.

Auxiliary – No report.

Bull Test – Monte Bordner reported that 128 bulls had been nominated and only 108 will be accepted. There were 68 Angus bulls and several new consignors. Dave Hawkins will send the list of new consignors to Nancy Thelen.

Beef Expo – Merle Boehmer reported that we will have the entry nomination form in late November, or we can use our own.

Commercial Opportunities - The North Country Beef Producers had asked MAA (Monte Bordner and Bob Zellmer) to come up and talk about the Angus Source Program. Chuck Preston shared that one producer with 100 cows has signed up for the program. The crossbred enrollment fee is now \$50. Sara Snider has resigned from the AAA Angus Source Program to return to Michigan.

Directory – Directories have been mailed to all Michigan Angus Association members and the directory advertisers.

Fall Sale – Clifford Simmons and Merle Boehmer reported that the sale catalog was on the American Angus Association and the Michigan Angus Association web sites. The catalog is at the printer's and should be mailed out in a few days. Each consignor will receive several copies of the sale catalog and they are encouraged to send those out to prospective buyers. If you need more catalogs mailed out, please send your request and the mailing address to Merle. There are 61 lots with just under 80 head of cattle. People have been stopping by Omega Farm to look at cattle that are on site and the facilities are being prepared. Clifford is working on having the fast internet installed. The association will be handling the clerking. Each consignor/family needs to help with hospitality or some part of the sale sometime during the day. Clifford will be contacting the AAA for handout materials, Nancy Thelen had brought along posters which had been sent to her from AAA.

Field Day – With the upcoming Sterling Hunter Dispersal sale, the field day has been changed to an educational program at the fall sale. Special thanks to Julie French for arranging for a program on the MSU "Local Beef" research project and "Meat Your Dinner" featuring beef value cuts, a cutting demonstration and taste testing. Julie provided a written summary of the program, as well as a copy of the promotional flyer. Pre-registrations are strongly encouraged.

Junior Members – No report.

Newsletter – The next newsletter will go out in December. Deadline for articles is tentatively November 30th.

Preview Show – The Preview Show will be discussed at the work session in January.

Communications/Website – The Website Google Analytics Report from June 8 to August 31 was emailed to everyone. All board members will be receiving these reports on the first of each month. Be sure to check out the web site – there have been many great changes and additions. Electronic membership and PayPal is now available on the web site.

20:20 Vision - A working session was scheduled for Saturday, January 7 starting at 10 a.m. The current plan will be sent out so everyone can review it and then our priorities for the future will be discussed at the work session. The executive board will need to meet and develop a plan for the work session.

Old Business:

Association Logo – Julie French has started working on three designs. The potential new logo could be unveiled at the fall sale if desired. The board did not feel it was necessary to have a new logo by October 1st.

Audit Report – No report. It was requested that this be completed as soon as possible.

New Business:

Reimbursement for Committees – There was a request to pay expenses incurred by a committee member who talked about the Angus Source Program at the North Country Beef Producers

meeting in Atlanta. Following discussion, Ken Geuns moved to reimburse for gas only. Motion seconded by Chuck Preston and passed. Dave Hawkins moved to also pay any printing costs, motion seconded and passed. This topic area will be further discussed at the work session in January.

Notifying Members of Breeders Looking for Cattle – In the past the web site has generated requests from breeders looking for cattle and the secretary may also receive calls from breeders or members who need a bull, etc. When possible an email has been sent out to members to share this information and the board felt it was fine to continue to do this when appropriate. It was also discussed that some associations have classified ad space on their web sites where for a nominal fee the members can post if they have cattle for sale. Non-members would pay more. Chuck Preston made a motion that the MAA allow classified ads on our web site. Ken Geuns seconded the motion and it passed. It was suggested that the classified ads be on a separate dedicated page and a possible price was \$10 for 2 weeks and then the ad would be pulled. Rebecca VanDenBerg will be asked to work out the details, including the length of the ads.

Budget for Field Day – Chuck Preston made a motion to allocate \$200 for expenses for the educational program which will be held on the afternoon of our fall sale. Steve Thelen seconded the motion and it passed.

Next Board Meeting & Adjournment – The next board meeting will be held on Monday, November 7 beginning at 7 p.m. The executive committee will also meet after the board meeting. Ken Geuns will help to locate a room on campus. There being no other business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thelen, Secretary