

**Michigan Angus Association Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2013 at the MSU Judging Pavilion, East Lansing, Michigan**

Present: Merle Boehmer, Ken Geuns, Lisa Bohlen, Chuck Preston, Clifford Simmons, Kevin Beckington, Bob Zellmer, Kirk Sterzick, Dan Vaassen, Ed Dawson, Steve Fitzner and Nancy Thelen.

President Merle Boehmer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The agenda was approved with the addition of the MCA ad.

Minutes: Chuck Preston moved to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2013 meeting. Motion seconded by Ed Dawson and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Bohlen reviewed the treasurer's report and reported the checking account balance of \$29,983.59 and the CD balance of \$5,965.60 for a total of \$35,949.19. Dan Vaassen moved to accept the treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Bob Zellmer and passed. Lisa shared that all of the fall sale expenses were in and sale expenses were 11.6%.

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

Other Reports

Annual Banquet and Meeting Exploration – Dan Vaassen moved to have our annual meeting and banquet at Gene Davis & Sons in Jackson on Sunday, March 9 and to follow the same schedule as we have in the past. Motion seconded by Ed Dawson and passed.

Bull Test – The test is full and there are about 60 Angus bulls. All are off to a good start. There will be a new ad run in the Farmer's Advance.

Beef Expo – Ken Geuns shared which recommendations of the Michigan Beef Expo Think Tank were approved. These included: no Supreme Champions; all breeds will be shown in one ring; the shows will begin with a breed with large numbers and strong audience support; musical background will be added for the show, possibly with a master of ceremonies; and there will be a speaker function after the show in the exhibit area at the Pavilion. Two recommendations were also tabled – the idea of having an industry-wide Beef Expo Banquet and having all breed sales in one sale ring. Ken also shared that “no show” lots cost \$100 per head. Ken proposed increasing our entry fee to \$100 to cover the expenses incurred by each lot regardless if they show or are no shows. Chuck Preston moved to increase the Beef Expo entry fee for Angus cattle to \$100 per head. Motion seconded by Dan Vaassen and passed. Dan also moved to have Michigan Angus Association provide premiums of \$200 each for the Grand Champion Bull and Female and \$100 each for the two Reserve Champions. Kirk Sterzick seconded the motion and it passed. There was general discussion on things that could be done to make the sale more successful, including promoting the bulls, continuously educating potential buyers, and being sure to have complete EPD information.

Commercial Opportunities – Several board members took literature and posters, etc. to the fall feeder calf sales around the state – Clare, Gaylord, Battle Creek and West Branch. Only had one producer the West Branch sale enrolled in the Angus Source program. The 100 copies of the black calving book with the Michigan Angus Association logo should arrive soon and Bob will take care of getting them sent out to past buyers.

Fall Sale – There was discussion on several areas of the sale which was soft in some places. The sale barns appreciated having the sale catalogs but it would be good to get them there sooner. Need to get more juniors there or possibly consider limiting the number of heifer calves. Will be discussing more at a future work session.

Newsletter – Nancy Thelen needs the newsletter articles and information by November 25th.

Communications/Website – Nancy reviewed the google analytics.

20:20 Vision – A planning session was scheduled for Saturday, February 8 in conjunction with our next board meeting.

Old Business:

- Saddle and Sirloin Club Portrait – It was reported that the following breed associations are interested in helping to host a reception for Dr. Hawkins and an MSU portrait unveiling on December 8 at the Pavilion - Michigan Chianina Association (\$100), Michigan Maine Association (\$100) and Michigan Polled Hereford Association (\$200-\$300). Several MAA members volunteered to help with the reception.
- Exempt Status – Lisa Bohlen has started to work on gathering the information for the necessary forms which need to be completed. She will let others know when she is ready for assistance
- Conference call meetings – Steve Thelen was not able to attend the meeting, but submitted the following proposed by-law change:

Add to Article V: Section 5. *Conference Telephone*. A member of the Board or committee designated by the Board may participate in a *board of directors or committee* meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participating in a meeting pursuant to this method constitutes presence in person at the meeting. This section applies to all meetings except the annual meeting. ~~Members participating in this manner will not be counted towards the quorum.~~ *Board of Director Meetings may also be held by this method and must follow Article V, Section 3.*

(Note – Article V, Section 3 reads: Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or at the request of a majority of the Board of Directors.)

Motion made, seconded and passed that this by-law change be accepted to be voted on at the annual meeting.

- Michigan Angus Association Centennial – The committee will be meeting before the next board meeting. There will also be an article in the newsletter requesting ideas. It was suggested that we consider having old photos or historical items brought to activities.
- Michigan Cattleman's Magazine Ad – The proposed format of the revised ad was shared with the board. Chuck Preston moved to accept the proposed format. Kevin Beckington seconded the motion and it passed. Ken Geuns moved to charge \$75 for the 1 inch ad and \$150 for a 2 inch ad. Motion seconded by Steve Fitzner and passed.

New Business:

- President Merle Boehmer will be appointing the nominating committee.
- On behalf of Monte Bordner, Bob Zellmer asked if the association was interested in donating to the South Dakota storm disaster fund. No interest from the association but board members were encouraged to consider individual donations.

Next Board Meeting – The next board meeting and working session will be held on Saturday, February 8th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at MSU. Chuck Preston moved to have the association provide the lunch on February 8th. Motion seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thelen, Secretary