

Heartland Highland Cattle Association Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 08, 2025

Called to order:8:31a.m.

Open Meeting:

A. Attendance

<i>Harold Ramey</i>	<i>Steve Stewart</i>
<i>Adam Michaud</i>	<i>Joyce Allender</i>
<i>Katherine Faulk</i>	<i>Jerry Hill</i>
<i>Becky Semmler</i>	<i>Chris Batz</i>
<i>JoEllen Ferguson</i>	<i>Mike Senglaub</i>
<i>Jennifer Sutton</i>	<i>Clint Deardorff</i>
<i>Jerry Thompson</i>	<i>Kevin Zerr</i>

Sue Dyke was in virtual presence due to NE snowstorm

B. Approved minutes of last meeting

a. Harold:Was everyone able to receive e-mail? Then a motion to approve Minutes of last meeting will be entertained; Kevin Zerr made the motion, 2nded by JoEllen.

C. Financial report- Becky Semmler

A report of all changes on the financials received from Jennifer-all income, expenses, checking account balance, Edward Jones/CD investments(please see handout) Everyone take a look at it, resolve questions.

a. Becky: Why were the 2 auctions-last spring and then fall so different when the number of animals was about the same?

Adam: Yes, the number was about the same, but spring option was higher. The spring auction we brought in 60k, only 30 k for fall; so 11k together, 98k both auctions. Even the prices weren't as high in fall, expenses were 4k more. Extra expenses were ads (approved)

Harold:Was Conner's medical expense part of that?

Jennifer:No, it didn't go on until 2025. Everything received so far has been paid.

Adam: The total auction sales went down somewhere around 200k.

Harold: A motion to accept this financial report. Joyce made the motion and Katherine 2nded it.

(Financial Committee is Becky Semmler

Jennifer Sutton

Jerry Hill -has 501c experience

Sue Dyke)

Old Business:

A. Committee Reports

a. Genetic Reports- Mike Senglaub/DNA committee

160 animals have been tested; 40 more are at the house processing. He has talked to the professor (Hannah) at North Dakota State; Mike may go out to NDState to meet their new hire and to understand more and to develop plans to attain more data. Mike thinks that members are finding out the value in this testing and data banking. The key is to find opportunities to attain the texting: field days, a trailer w/equipment.

A goal is to have a breed profile done and to incorporate it into the registry. Then on a relative basis we can use these genetic markers for what our goals are (longer body, shorter legs, etc.)

He's getting a lot of questions w/ regard to the neogen submissions; his presentation and slides this afternoon may clarify some things.

He clarifies: be careful in filling out info on submission forms whether or not you have an account.

b. Auction Report- Harold Ramey/Adam Michaud

Harold: in an e-mail there are about 100 females, 20 steers, 10 crossbreds consigned.

To distribute news of the sale, Adam posts the sale barn and auction info and shares the info then Harold takes it and shares it with everyone he knows/times the number of people who get to see it!

Is advertising thru Facebook a possibility? Clint does it for his advertising; no \$ numbers./So in April right before the auction/ we can choose the interest group or audience/40-65 year old women

Decided=\$1k, scroll the U.S./ JoEllen made the motion, Katherine 2nded.

Jennifer: who will be responsible for ad make-up?

Becky motioned to accept the auction report, and Katherine 2nded.

c. Registry report- Harold Ramey

We are over 3k registered animals-a big jump since our inception.

1. We received an e-mail yesterday re: registry on the infringement. Everyone got a written copy of that e-mail. We're going thru it ourselves because Becky will have to give her attorney a response by Monday.

Settlement terms:

Removal of all AHCA naming conventions, including farm names, letters, or numbers from the animal's name. The first of April onward, we'll have to abide by what is decided (number, name, tattoo). It appears that the attorneys both know it's a rather grey area.

They used the term "scraping", that we are scraping off info that's inherently theirs.

Has anyone looked at another registry -horse, dog, etc.-to see how registries work when double registering?

There is an issue of where this is originating: Denver which would be the association or Minneapolis which means, likely, an individual.

2. For Adam: would there be issues consistent with semen sold as well?

Bottom point: we care about our members and we're trying to help them.

*A motion was made that Becky send our response to the attorney with all that was discussed in our meeting. All were in favor.

New Business:

- A. What is office progress since purchasing it?
 - a. Jennifer: None, because "Gloria heard that you wanted to fire me".
Rumors need to be ferreted out and closed.
- B. Jennifer asked about her contract/ it's from the annual Gathering to the next annual Gathering-changing to January to the next January. The motion was made and carried.
 - a. Shall Joyce stay as secretary, tho she's no longer on the board? Yes- Katherine made a motion and Kevin 2nded it.
 - b. Shall Becky stay as the board treasurer as she was no longer on the board? Yes-Clint made the motion and Jerry 2nded it.
- C. Proposed Budget(See handout) Adam made a motion to accept the budget as proposed,JoEllen 2nded it.
- D. Shall we front \$500 for the financial program? Adam made a motion that we shall, Katherine 2nded it.

- E. Jennifer Whitney Owens letter re: ownership having been transferred (of bull with a positive chondro test) and she was not knowledgeable re: the test result. She had sold the bull, moved, and the paper trail wasn't transferred. Now we must stop accepting all progeny from that bull and let the registrar know as well.

Clint made a motion that the Registration Committee investigate further and then let us know what action needs to be taken. Strike the first/ it shall be the Pedigree Committee-Katherine 2nded.

- F. All reorganization should be at the annual Gathering. The board will select and elect to fill vacancies from the general membership. The motion was made, Becky 2nded it.

Steve: whatever committee is made with a foreman and at least 2 members, their report would be quarterly and decisions made by the board. All committees are inter dependent, knowing what each other is doing and that the work continues. Jennifer doesn't have a committee, but she and the registrar, Kathy Petersen, have their duties written in their contracts.

In this ACHA dispute, Kathy has had 144,000 extra tasks to straighten out. These not being in her permanent contract, she'll need extra finances to cover extra expenses.

- G. Jennifer: Does anyone have any ideas for a new computer program that will facilitate communication of her figures with the finance committee and the membership?

Becky states the qualities of Excel (\$40), Perkins free/Quick Book w/Ledger account(\$45mo.), Quicken account(\$10mo.) Discussion by all.

- H. Nominating Committee status quo

Finance Committee: board treasurer, office manager, and 2 members. Motion was made and carried.

Genetics & DNA Committee: JoEllen made the motion and Becky 2nded.

By-laws Committee: Katherine made a motion and Jerry 2nded.

*Note was made that it is better on a committee not to have an even number to avoid deadlock scenario.

Harold called for a motion that each committee has the Emeritus members, a board member, and 2 members from the membership. (the Emeritus members don't hold a vote). The annual Gathering is switch-off time. If a position-holder wants to stay another year, they will have the chance to be reinstated. Jerry made the motion/Clint 2nded it.

- I. Many questions are arising from our (antiquated) clumsy way of phone numbering and website systems. Our current designer has stated that many of the changes we'd like to see, he has already considered doing. Members should be listed alphabetically, by their last name and position held. Jennifer or Adam will check out the price and contact him. We can hopefully make these before the next board meeting. Motion was made and passed.

- J. Discussion re: a trailer for all meeting and merchandise needs. Clint will get a trailer and wrap. Katherine made a motion and JoEllen 2nded.

- K. Open discussion re: parliamentary procedure & by-laws. Article 5, section 1 directors=3 yr. Terms