

WABA's Annual Board Meeting

October 17, 2021

Location: The Windmill & Bar 51

Meeting Minutes Approved: November 3, 2021

Welcome: President Jacqui Duran welcomed guests at 7:08 PM, called the meeting to order and introduced WABA board members who were present at the meeting. Those not in attendance were verbally mentioned.

Previous Meeting Minutes: A copy of the September 14th meeting minutes were distributed to the attendees for review. There were no questions or changes. David Shockey made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. An attendee seconded the motion.

Treasure's Report: Renae Stentz reported \$6,153.50 in checking and \$8,799.92 in savings. This total reflected the bills through October 16, 2021. During this period, two event attendees asked how many active memberships WABA has. The answer was 39. The attendee asked how many were new. Renae said she would follow up on that information. An attendee asked how many junior members WABA has. Renae will circle back with this information once she checks the records. David Shockey made a motion to accept the Treasure's Report. An attendee seconded it.

Review of 2021 and WABA's Outreach Efforts:

President Jacqui Duran reported on the high-level recap of WABA's Board of Directors' outreach efforts this past year. In the spring of 2021, WABA's BOD organized, brought in guest speakers and offered FREE virtual presentations for all active WABA members to join, including a presentation on Grazing and Land Management by Gabe Brown, a presentation by David Shockey of Muddy Creek Ranch on cattle vaccinations and a presentation by Beth Robinette of LINC Foods.

WABA was/is a proud sponsor of belt buckles for the Kootenai Classic in the Aberdeen and Futurity divisions.

WABA was involved with Muddy Creek Ranch's Field Day in August. Two board members were directly involved with promoting WABA there and running a table/area.

Jacqui reported that the WABA Board of Directors had been discussing rotations and terms. This year, we have four board members coming off the board and four staying on. Tonight is the board nominations, with the term beginning January 2022 for a two-year duration. Attendees discussed have just one or two members come off the board.

Questions from Attendees:

An attendee felt like the Board should be more visible and be present in person. Board member Shockey explained that WABA is an un-paid volunteer board. The western region encompasses 10 states and it is not always feasible or practical for a board member to be physically present.

An attendee shared that she would like to see more people become involved. The Board echoed the

sentiment and discussed the outreach efforts of the no-cost educational presentations organized earlier in the year for members to join. It was also discussed that it is difficult to for membership to participate. Jacqui and David both talked about the many ways there have been calls to action/requests for members to serve on various committees, representing the WABA to the American Aberdeen Association.

An attendee asked for the names of those who have been on the board for the last eight years and desired those individuals to not have the ability to run again. ***Note: This is counterintuitive to the present Bi-Laws.

An attendee asked, "What is the WABA BOD doing? How are you helping? We members have a ton of ideas for juniors." Jacqui and David discussed that Shane Goss is the Junior Representative Darwin Engelkes is also an Advisor.

An attendee asked, "What can be done to pull the juniors together?" David explained that Field Day, held in August at Muddy Creek Ranch, was a great educational opportunity to bring people together, of all ages, to learn and have hands-on experiences. This same attendee then asked why WABA's BOD did not support the event financially. David explained Muddy Creek did not need financial sponsorship or dollars, rather needed representation from WABA's BOD, again, as stated above, two members attended, set-up a table and spoke to attendees about WABA and the breed.

An attendee asked, "Where is the money going?" ***Note: There is accounting for all WABA-related expenses.

BOD Nominations:

Jacqui mentioned again that members have until November 1st to submit nominations. Individuals must be at least 21 years of age. Nominees must be current members of WABA.

An attendee brought up communication concerns: Jacqui discussed the ways the WABA BOD communicates, which is through Facebook, emails and the official Western Aberdeen Association's website. An attendee suggested the board should send a text whenever a new email is sent so membership knows to check their email. Jacqui mentioned a text message would not be sent but sympathized that some individuals do not "do" or care for Facebook. Someone suggested flagging WABA's emails. David talked about the success of a call tree, years ago, in drumming up membership and involvement opportunities.

An attendee asked when is membership: Jacqui replied with January to January.

Jacqui mentioned the four following board members will be coming off in December: Jacqui Duran, Diane Lilleflore, Jerry Long and Holli McElwee.

Jacqui explained that Rick Dodd is running for the National Board and served on the WABA BOD, maybe nine or so years ago. David Shockey previously was on the National Board and currently on the Committee for Strategic Planning and Breeders Services.

International:

A member asked, "Where are things with Canada and Australia?" Jacqui replied she was not sure, and that Diane Lillefloren is on the Committee for International. She would be the person who would have more information.

Nominations:

Jacqui called for nominations. During the meeting, the following individuals were nominated, the nominations seconded. The nominees accepted the nomination(s). The 2022/2023 WABA Board nominees include Darla Fletcher Terri Harper, and Ellen Archer. WABA members have until November 1st to send in additional nominations to Holli McElwee. Additional information will be posted on the Western Aberdeen website.

Q&A:

An attendee felt like the local WABA BOD / Association should make more demands to the American Aberdeen Association. An example was provided regarding the suggestion that someone on a committee suggested a purebred could be classified as a full blood. *Note: The idea did not pass, but served as an example of how it just takes one idea and a second for things to change.*

Nationally, genetic testing is challenging. NEOGEN reports their hands are tied. Members complained about the long wait times and asked who they should talk to at nationals?

There was discussion about the AAA change that occurred, regarding the rule that one calf must be registered and annual dues paid to the AAA.

David received praise from an attendee for this program scores, denominators and herd.

An attendee felt like there needs to be a balance between the taste of meat and show animals. She suggested we pick one or another. That idea was quickly discussed, with membership and Board explaining that WABA serves both those members who have show animals and those who raise the animals for meat.

An attendee asked if the AAA had thought of creating a meat product, like jerky and some sort of label. David mentioned there is a 3rd party verification for Premium Aberdeen with age and source verification.

Door Prizes:

Rick Dodd was the winner of King Pin semen giveaway, Sue Dingan for Making Money, Tom Stentz FD Hamilton and Terri Harper for Rimrock.

Meeting Adjourned:

Two crowd attendees made a motion to adjourn the meeting and another seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM MST.