

The North Dakota Simmental Association board of directors met April 12, 2012 at Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, ND. Board members in attendance were: Doug Bichler, Luke Keller, Chris Nicholson, Bob Gannaway, Kevin Elliott, J R Aufforth, and Patrick Thorson. Bob Grant, Sec/treas was also in attendance.

Agenda was approved with additions.

Bob read the January 24, 2012 board minutes. Motion Luke, second by Kevin to accept as amended. Carried.

Bob presented the financial report. Bank balance as of 4/11/2012--\$9,824.16. CD balance--\$8,921.70. Cash box --\$95. Board reviewed and discussed the cash flow sheets that were passed out. Motion J R, second Patrick to accept the report. Carried.

ND / SD Simmental magazine report. Checking account has \$9,188.51 balance. Accounts receivable balance gets pretty drawn out at times. The magazine committee has met by conference call and discussed candidates for the editor position. They will probably make a decision in the near future. Motion Kevin Elliott, second by J R Aufforth to accept the report. Carried.

Chris Nicholson will put out the summer newsletter. Board visited about items to include such as the State Fair schedule, ND Simmental picnic info, nomination for State Sale info, ASA producers meeting in August at NDSU, etc. Mailing date of late June.

Doug gave the ND Jr Association report. Jr Classic regional will be at Huron. Request from Ohio to help fund the National Classic. Motion Elliot, second Gannaway to forward request to the Jrs. Carried.

Annual meeting discussion: Location will be Kist Livestock in Mandan. We will work with them on details which will be announced later. Meal can be served by us or Kist. Discussion on movement of the lines for director districts. Consensus to leave as presently drawn. We will hold a photo contest again this year with prizes, etc as before. Chris will help Kim. Awards – Bring names for votes at next meeting. Motion Bob Gannaway, second by Pat Thorson to continue with Promoter of the year Award. Carried.

Showcase / Classic Sale discussion. The sale will be held at Kist. The sale committee is working the details out with Kist Livestock.

Board discussed feeder calf sales. Some of the items discussed – more locations, spread out dates, advertising, push for more Simmental influenced cattle, producer options, etc. Decided to leave as is.

Futurity: Will be held at the ND State Fair. The time, location, rules and new placing awards will be printed in the summer newsletter. Pay out in savings bonds as follows: 1st-\$1,200; 2nd-\$1,000; 3rd-\$800; 4th-\$600; 5th-\$400.

Bob handed out the cost share data that has been sent in to ASA. We will receive the full \$3,500 allocated. Membership postcards were mailed and response has been pretty good.

Bob asked the board if he could discontinue the memorials to the Jr Association. This has been hard to be informed and handle on fair basis. Board agreed.

Secretary search – Bob has written an outline of the secretary's duties / responsibilities according to the by-laws and what some of the board expectations are. Motion by Bob Gannaway, second by Patrick Thorson to offer the job to Kim Meyers to start with the September board meeting through December 31, 2013. Salary offered will be \$2,500 plus \$500 for the 2012 training. Carried.

Gannaway and Thorson will take care of the State Fair picnic. Motion by Pat, second by Luke for the North Dakota Simmental Association to participate in the Beef Industry Military Appreciation Day sponsored by the North Dakota Stockmen's Association with \$250. Simmental Association members can volunteer to help with set up and serving the meal on Tuesday July 24, 2012 from 11:00 to 1:00. Carried.

The Stockmen's Association is working on an alternative bill to the HSUS petition initiative that would be voted on in November. The Simmental Association should work to discourage signing the petition and encouraging a no vote if it comes to a vote.

Luke gave an update on some of the ASA's activities. Motion by Luke, second by Chris to help sponsor a Simmental booth at the Wyoming Cattlemen's Convention & Trade Show. Booth will be manned by Will Townsend. Bob will send copies of North Dakota Simmental directories. Carried. Ranches may sponsor with \$50.

Bob Gannaway commented that the North Dakota Stockmen's Association will no longer come and support The Western Star, etc at Williston after this year.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday September 25, 2012 – 10:30 am – Ramkota room 3130

Submitted – Bob Grant