

Highlights of the Board of Directors Meeting June 2010

- 1. The Board of Directors met in Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 17, 18 and 20 in conjunction with the June 19 annual meeting.
- 2. Kirk Wildman of Sangudo, Alberta, was unanimously elected as President for the coming year.
- 3. David Bolduc of Stavely, Alberta, was elected President Elect for the coming year. John Donaldson moved into the Past President role.
- 4. The Board established two new recognition programs, one for order buyers and one for feedlot owners. These will be in addition to our current practice of recognizing an auction market each year. The idea is to publicly acknowledge some of those who help provide a boost to Angus programs and producers.
- 5. Two bylaw amendments were requested. The first would update our genetic defect policy to recognize the value of new genomic tools that can identify carriers and non-carriers. The second would allow the Board to hire a General Manager rather than a Chief Executive Officer in the future.
- 6. GenServe (SRC—our DNA lab) has reduced DNA fees for parentage and coat colour tests and the Board is passing on the reduced cost immediately. Parentage tests now cost \$30 each instead of \$33 and coat colour tests now cost \$33 instead of \$58.
- 7. Genetic defects and whether to register identified carriers was a major discussion point. The Board reiterated their earlier decisions on AM, OS and NH and added known carriers of Mannosidosis (MA). Effective January 1, 2011, progeny or grandprogeny of identified MA carriers will not be eligible for registration until tested free of the causative gene. In the case of grandparents, if the intervening parent is tested free the calf will not need to be tested.
- 8. Because the Canadian Angus Association policy is different than some other sister Associations, the Board has set a regulation that requires that any animal imported into our herdbook must have been eligible to be first registered under our rules.

- 9. The Breed Development Committee has been asked to research and make recommendations on the following suggestions for the next meeting:
 - Genetic defect test results must be submitted to the Association in a timely fashion and action taken against any member who knowingly withholds information on defects
 - Introduction of genetic defect spot tests
 - Whether or not to require all AI sires to be tested free of all genetic defects identified in its pedigree
- 10. Revised Breeder's Guarantee Guidelines have been approved. The revised set of guidelines will be distributed in our revised member handbook this fall.
- 11. The Board also amended and approved the Terms and Conditions of Sale and asked the staff to distribute the new ones to all sale managers and amend our member handbook so everyone would have a copy.
- 12. The Advertising Committee set priorities for the coming year. They include:
 - Promoting the breed's strength
 - Promoting the crossbreeding advantage
 - Equally promote Red and Black
 - Promote Angus feeder sales
 - Promote Canadian Angus Rancher Endorsed
 - Utilize the involvement of youth
- 13. Expansion and growth in tag sales is to remain a priority.
- 14. There was disappointment with the official publication and concern about it not meeting established objectives.
- 15. The Board Committees for the coming year are:
 - Succession Planning

Chair: Kirk Wildman

Members: David Bolduc, John Donaldson, Roger Hardy, Bob Switzer

Governance

Chair: Kevin Blair

Members: Kirk Wildman, David Bolduc, Cecilie Fleming

Finance

Chair: Roger Hardy

Members: Cecilie Fleming, Jim Colodey, John Donaldson

 Breed Development Chair: David Bolduc

Members: Laird Senft, Gary Latimer, Shane Castle

Commercial

Chair: Cecilie Fleming

Members: Lee Brown, Frank Strimbold, Lois McRae, Kevin Blair

Advertising and Promotion

Chair: Lois McRae

Members: Shane Castle, Tom McDonald, Gary Latimer

- 16. Future Board of Directors meeting dates:
 - October 25 & 26
 - February 23 & 24
- 17. Dr. Beever from Iowa State responded to several questions from the Board. He emphasized that all his research was initiated by requests from breeders to help identify ways to avoid multiple calf deaths in their herds. His major message was that although we have not seen many of these defects in Canada, if we don't pay attention and breed intelligently we will see more than we want within a few years.
- 18. Greg Comstock and Larry Keenan from the Red Angus Association of America also presented to the Board and explained the science behind crossbreed genetic evaluations and the benefits to be derived from a multi-breed evaluation with Simmental cattle.
- 19. At the annual general meeting, there were two resolutions from the floor presented:
 - The first, Be it resolved that the membership recommend to the Canadian Angus
 Association Board of Directors that the requirement of at least one registered Angus
 parent be maintained for eligibility to have an Angus tag. This resolution was passed by
 the members present and will be discussed at the next Board meeting.
 - The second, Be it resolved that the membership recommend to the Canadian Angus
 Association Board of Directors that the new Board review the current policy regarding
 not allowing registration for animals carrying genetic defects. This resolution was
 defeated by the members present.