

# **ABBA Board of Director Meeting**

**May 7, 2021**

**Texas A&M University Hotel and Conference Center**

**College Station, TX**

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Craig Fontenot, President  
Larry Barthle, Vice- President  
Pasquale Swaner, Secretary/ Treasurer

**STAFF:** Joe W. Mask, PhD, Executive Vice President  
Morgan Thomas, Director of Communications/ Youth

## **DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

William E. Fenn  
Terry Novak  
Michael Goudeau  
Milton Charanza, Jr.  
Barry Smith  
Randall Tipp  
Charolette Smith  
Mark Forgason  
Sam R. Sparks  
Wes Schneider  
Carl Glass, Jr.  
Daniel Acevedo  
Steve Wilkins  
Angel Eveline

O.W. Schneider  
Joe Ward  
Glenn Ruschhaupt  
Patricia Collins  
Stephen P. Folse  
Scott Satterfield  
Zach Tappan  
Pasquale Swaner  
Samual Duplantis  
David Miller  
Carson Watkins  
Larry Barthle  
Ricky Hammonds  
Rodolpho Pacheco

## **PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENT:**

Richard Forgason  
Ed Cullers  
Coleman Locke  
J.D. Sartwelle, Jr.

President Craig Fontenot called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Prayer was said by Mr. Bubba Sartwelle.

Dr. Joe Mask, EVP, called roll and a quorum was met.

Pasquale Swaner read the minutes of the previous meeting held January 23, 2021 in College Station, TX. Patricia Collins moved to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Milton Charanza. Minutes approved.

Pasquale Swaner turned the treasurers report over to Dr. Joe Mask who gave a detailed report over the P&L and Balance Sheets. Pasquale Swaner then gave a report from the Finance Committee Meeting. Three action items were presented and passed: Take \$46,000 and invest into Chilton, conduct an audit beginning 1/1/2019-Present, and lastly to increase activity fees effective 2022 year.

Pasquale moved to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Barry Smith. Report Approved.

Dr. Craig Fontenot brought up the Ratification of an Area 6 Director after the passing of Mr. Jerry Wood. It was moved and approved that Dr. Scott Satterfield would serve on the ABBA Board of Directors as an Area 6 Director.

Dr. Craig Fontenot then gave the President's Report. He gave an overview on the Constitutional Change results that were conducted earlier in the year and introduced a new committee to the group- the ABBA Sponsorship Committee. This committee will focus primarily on coordinating and obtaining corporate sponsorships to assist in membership and association activities. Standing Committees will be able to submit requests to this committee for funding of particular events/ causes.

Dr. Joe Mask, EVP, then gave the report of the Executive Vice President. He went over some of the great programs being coordinated by the Research and Breed Improvement Committee. Results of the ABBA Bull Development Program and the EAR Program. Dr. Mask discussed the great shape that the ABBA Office is in and the speed of work being conducted and distributed to our members. He also touched on the TAMU Beef Center Property and the importance of developing such a good relationship with Texas A&M University and how it can help move the breed and association forward for years to come.

Charlotte Smith then gave the Report of the Communications Committee. There were no action items conducted during their meeting. The goal of this year's committee is to promote events and members services. It is the plan to break up the committee into four subcommittees: Web, social media, Print Advertisement, & Merchandise. It was also discussed, the possibility of hiring a free-lance photographer. Charlotte Smith then moved for the report's approval, seconded by David Miller. Report Approved.

Randall Tipp then gave the Report of the Show Committee. Multiple Action Items were presented and passed:

1. Approve the Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, OK as an ABBA Approved Sanctioned Open Show for years to come.
2. Add David Miller to the Approved ABBA Judge's List
3. A Sub-committee consisting of Val Walters, Charlotte Smith, & Patricia Collins was appointed to find a suitable location for the 2022 ABBA National Show.
4. Mandatory to Ultrasound Scan all cattle 10-16 months of age at the ABBA National Show
5. ABBA Show Committee to assign judges to only the Top 15 Shows based off previous year's number of cattle shown. Other shows that don't make this list will be able to chose based off of ABBA's Guidelines.
6. Only Owners of those cattle entered in the International Open Brahman Show will have the ability to vote for judges of sanctioned shows.
7. 2021 ABBA National Open Brahman Show is to be dedicated to Carolyn Falgout.

Randall Tipp moved for the Reports Approval, seconded by Danny Acevedo. Report Approved.

Milton Charanza then gave the Report of the Research and Breed Improvement Committee. He gave an overview of the 161 Purebred Steers currently on feed at Texana Feeders for the ABBA EAR Program. Action Items that were discussed and passed include:

1. Bulls consigned to the ABBA Bull Development Program do not have to sell in the ABBA Performance Tested Bull Sale.
2. Allow "Genetic Visions" to be a provider of DNA Fingerprint and genetic testing
3. A Subcommittee will be preformed to focus on DNA and Genomic Implementation
4. The BHIR will be revised and updated.
5. Ultrasound Scanning of Cattle ages 10-16 months will be conducted at Houston, All American, Kick-Off, and the ABBA National Show.

Milton Charanza moved for the Reports Approval, seconded by Barry Smith. Report Approved.

Rodney Finch gave the Report of the Youth Activities Committee. Action Items that were discussed and approved include:

1. Weights & Measures Parameters were approved for the 2021 AJBA All American and that only the CALF Division of cattle will be weighed and measured.
2. All bulls 2 years of age and older are required to present a satisfactory BSE at the AJBA All American in order to show.
3. The 2021 AJBA All American Awards Banquet will be held at the Fairgrounds with the schedule being adjusted if needed due to time.
4. Clarification on the AJBA Constitution & By-Laws was needed and it was agreed that it is understood that AJBA Membership ceases the day the junior member turns 21.

Rodney Finch moved for the Reports Approval, seconded by Patricia Collins. Report Approved.

OW Schneider then gave the Report of the Marketing Committee. No action items were discussed.

Clayton Bridges was selected as the Communications Committee Liaison and Derrick Smith will serve as the go-to for questions regarding social media strategy. The Committee will like to see one line of positive performance stats in all print advertisements. Management of the 2022 ABBA F-1 Female Sale was discussed.

OW Schneider moved for the Reports Approval, seconded by Glenn Ruschaupt. Report Approved.

OW Schneider also gave the report of the Constitution Committee. One Action Items was discussed and passed to move to the next stage of Constitutional Amendment Protocol:

Article V: Board of Directors Section 3; (b)

Regular Meetings

### **Current Wording**

(b) REGULAR MEETINGS: Thereafter, meetings shall be held in person at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.

### **Proposed Wording**

(b) REGULAR MEETINGS: Thereafter, meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the ABBA President, with notice sent by email at least 30 days in advance. The President must call at least three (3) regular meetings per year, but may call up to five (5).

The second action item was a rule change that was proposed to the Board of Directors:

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Rule II; Board of Director Qualifications; Section 1

Section 1. A person shall not be eligible to serve a succeeding two-year term as a Director of the Association unless he has attended at least fifty (50) percent of the regularly called meetings of the Board each year, in person, during his previous two year term, and unless he continues to meet the qualifications set forth in Article V, Section 4, of the Constitution.

RULE XVII

## RULES FOR ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS & BOARD MEETINGS

(a) Electronic Attendance. Upon receipt of a notice from the President, the Executive Vice President will arrange for the availability of electronic or telephonic means by which such member of the board or committee may attend the meeting and will notify all members of the board or committee of the availability of such means and provide the information for establishing the connection. Members of the board or committee should log on the specified electronic connection promptly at the appointed time for the meeting, should announce their attendance and ensure that the Executive Vice President has recognized their participation and should remain connected throughout the meeting. In the event the electronic connection is terminated for any reason, the member should promptly log back on. If unable to log back on, the member should contact the Executive Vice President by telephone, email or text message to notify him of the difficulty, and if possible, to obtain other means of participation.

(b) Quorum. For purposes of determining whether or not a quorum exists for the conduct of business by the meeting, the Executive Vice President may count all members of the board or committee participating by electronic means at the commencement of the meeting as present at the meeting. The subsequent loss of a connection which cannot be re-established shall not affect the determination of a quorum.

(c) Despite the availability of electronic attendance, each Director must attend one-half (50%) of the meetings held annually in person. Similarly, each committee member must attend one-half (50%) of the meetings held annually in person.

(d) At all electronic or telephonic meetings, each member of the board or committee may vote electronically, in a method prescribed by the Executive Vice President.

Pasquale Swaner then gave the report of the International Committee. Action Items discussed and passed were:

1. The implementation of a global marketing advertising campaign
2. Allocate up to \$3000 to be used on awards for international shows.

Fall programs for international breeders were also discussed with ideas for judging seminars, youth activities, etc. Pasquale Swaner moved for the Report's approval, seconded by Angel Eveline, Report Approved.

Dr. Scott Satterfield gave the report of the Membership Committee. No action items were brought up at this time but much was discussed. The idea of a membership gathering was brought up at the TAMU Beef Cattle Short Course in addition to a gathering at the 2021 ABBA National Open Show. Dr. Satterfield moved for the report's approval, seconded by William Fenn. Report Approved.

Reggie Rodriguez gave the report of the Corporate Sponsorship Committee. It was discussed that each committee must submit a “Wish list” to the committee by August 1<sup>st</sup> that entails amount and usage of money desired. A member survey will also be conducted to get a better idea of the demographics and interest of our current membership.

Dr. Craig Fontenot then gave the report of the Executive Committee Meeting. The aged cow moratorium will be opened May 15, 2021- November 15, 2021. The following action items were discussed and approved by the Board of Directors:

1. Barry Smith moved to keep all herd books opened year-round, seconded by Ricky Booth.
2. Cildre Proforma Request
3. Vision and Mission Statement
  - a. Vision
    - i. The American Brahman Breeders Association believes the most effective way to serve our members and the beef industry is through constant innovation and the use of genetic performance technologies. The Association will have unyielding commitment to education, member services, youth development, and the value of Brahman genetics in the beef industry. The Association will diligently devote our efforts to promote and advocate for Brahman profitability both domestically and internationally.
  - b. Mission
    - i. To provide excellent customer service in an efficient manner to our members, while maintaining the integrity of the American Brahman on a worldwide scale.

Dr. Craig Fontenot moved for the report’s approval, seconded by Patricia Collins. Report Approved.

No Unfinished Business Presented.

No New Business Presented.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:35PM by Dr. Craig Fontenot.