

**Summer ABBA Board of Director Meeting**

**August 13, 2021**

**The Stella Hotel**

**Bryan, TX**

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Craig Fontenot, President

**STAFF:** Joe W. Mask, PhD, Executive Vice President  
Morgan Thomas, Director of Communications/ Youth  
HC Neel, IV, Director of Association Services

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Alfredo Muskus, Jr.

Carl Glass, Jr

Josefina Muskus

Daniel Acevedo

Carl Lambert

O.W. Schneider

Terry Novak

Joe Ward

Milton Charanza, Jr.

Glenn Ruschhaupt

Barry Smith

Patricia Collins

Randall Tipp

Kelvin Moreno

Charolette Smith

Zach Tappan

Mark Forgason

Samuel Duplantis

Wes Schneider

David Miller

Steve Wilkins

Rodolpho Pacheco

**PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENT:**

Richard Forgason

Coleman Locke

J.D. Sartwelle, Jr.

Dr. Craig Fontenot called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. CST.

A prayer was given by Mr. Coleman Locke.

Dr. Joe W Mask, EVP, conducted roll call and a quorum was established with 22 elected directors present.

Minutes of the previous meeting held May 7, 2021 in College Station, TX were reviewed. A motion was made by Coleman Locke to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Barry Smith. Minutes approved.

Dr. Joe W Mask then gave the report of the Secretary/ Treasurer and Finance Committee in the absence of Pasquale Swaner. It was proposed to earmark \$100,000 for the 2024 World Brahman Congress at the end of this fiscal year, pending the funds are there at the end of the year. Motion passes by majority vote. It was proposed to move all AJBA Finances from Quicken to Quickbooks. Motion passes by majority vote.

Dr. Craig Fontenot gave the report of the ABBA President. He spoke on the great traction ABBA has gained in the beef cattle industry and the direction our association is going. Multiple successful events took place this summer and this speaks volumes of our leadership, staff and members. He gave a report on the Executive Committee's June Meeting where they approved new members and established that Dr. Joe W Mask shall have access and authority over the World Brahman Federation accounts- Report Approved by majority vote. Dr. Fontenot then gave a report on the committee's brief meeting in July to approve new members- Report Approved by majority vote. Dr. Fontenot continued his report by reporting on the Executive Committee's meeting in August. It was discussed that those color appeals made after the AJBA All American will be upheld and support the decision made by the color classification committee. Discussion was then held on the proposal to a rule change in regards to show ring violations. Dr. Fontenot presented the following proposed changes from the Executive Committee Meeting:

#### **H. PROCESS OF A FILED COMPLAINT**

Upon receipt of a filed complaint, the Executive Vice President shall promptly forward the complaint to the Chairman of the Executive Committee to determine whether the allegations of the complaint would, if proven, constitute an infraction of the ABBA Show Ring Code of Conduct and Ethics. The procedures that will be followed in regards to the Investigation, Right of Hearing, Suspension and Appeal will follow the procedures outlined under Violative Conduct (Rule I; Section 7, III-VII).

**Disciplinary actions by the ABBA Executive Committee for a first offense may include:**

- (a) Suspension or removal of a Judge from the ABBA Approved Judge's list for up to five years.
- (b) Forfeiture or return of awards, prizes, premiums or proceeds for the show in which the infraction occurred.
- (c) Forfeiture of Register of Renown points for the show in which the infraction occurred.
- (d) Written letter of reprimand to the responsible party.
- (e) Temporary or permanent disqualification of animal in violation from exhibition for the remaining time of their show career.
- (f) Disqualification of an exhibitor, owner, breeder and/or ABBA member from ABBA sanctioned shows for up to five years.
- (g) Temporary or permanent disqualification of an exhibitor, owner, breeder and/or ABBA member from ABBA membership (including suspension of all rights and privileges of active membership, e.g. board of director and committee membership) for up to five years.
- (h) Publication of the offense.

**Disciplinary actions by the ABBA Executive Committee for subsequent offenses may include:**

- (a) Suspension or permanent removal of a Judge from the ABBA Approved Judge's list.
- (b) Forfeiture or return of awards, prizes, premiums or proceeds for the show in which the infraction occurred.
- (c) Forfeiture of Register of Renown points for the show in which the infraction occurred.
- (d) Written letter of reprimand to the responsible party.
- (e) Temporary or permanent disqualification of animal in violation from exhibition for the remaining time of their show career.
- (f) Temporary or permanent disqualification of an exhibitor, owner, breeder and/or ABBA member from ABBA sanctioned shows.
- (g) Temporary or permanent disqualification of an exhibitor, owner, breeder and/or ABBA member from ABBA membership (including suspension of all rights and privileges of active membership, e.g. board of director and committee membership)
- (h) Publication of the offense.

Discussion was held throughout the group. Kelvin Moreno moved to amend the motion by striking out letters "A, F, & G." Seconded by Alfredo Muskus, Jr. Discussion was held and motion failed by lack of majority vote.

Kelvin Moreno was recognized by President Fontenot and called division and for a reestablishment of Meeting Quorum.

***\*\*At this time there was a break in quorum with a lack of 22 elected directors present. Therefore, the remainder of this meeting was INFORMATIONAL ONLY and no business could be conducted in accordance to the ABBA Constitution. \*\****

Dr. Fontenot continued the report of the ABBA President and Executive Committee. He touched on the increase in new members, the establishment of adding Homozygous and Heterozygous Polled onto Official Registration Papers and our goals for improving our DNA Program as an association by possibly adopting the SNP Parentage requirement at every ABBA Show.

Dr. Joe W Mask then gave the report of the Executive Vice President. He began with updates on the constitution and corporate sponsorship committees' goals and upcoming events. Dr. Mask introduced HC Neel as the Director of Association Services and welcomed him on board the ABBA Staff. HC joined the Association on August 1<sup>st</sup> and we look forward to what is to come. Dr. Mask touched on the great response the ABBA Booth had at the annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course and the pure interest there was in Brahman Cattle genetics. Discussed some great things happening in regards to research and breed improvement- for instance the Breed Improvement Symposium happening this weekend to shed light on what we as an association and breeders can do to help move the breed forward. We need to realize that we have a wholesome product in heart healthy lean beef that needs to be on the shelves of retailers, but first- we must do our jobs as producers and promote that product on a broader scale.

Rodney Finch then gave the report of the Youth Activities Committee and discussed the following items:

1. Proposed Judges list for the 2022 AJBA All American to be voted on by the AJBA Board of Directors and Allowing Morgan Thomas to secure these judges after vote is conducted.
2. Proposed number of judges change (4 Total) for the 2022 AJBA All American:
  - a. Owned Females
  - b. Owned Bulls
  - c. Bred & Owned Cattle/ F1 Females
  - d. Showmanship
3. The location of the 2022 AJBA All American to be Mercedes, TX.

Brooke Prather then gave the report of the Communications Committee and discussed the following:

1. Goals/ Focus of the Communications Committee
2. Ad Campaign Concept Focal Points
3. Possibility of launching a Certified Brahman Beef Label and working with Go Texan

Randall Tipp then gave the report of the Show Committee and discussed the following:

1. 2022 National Show Location Possibilities
2. Date of Birth Changes on Pedigrees

Milton Charanza gave the report of the Research and Breed Improvement Committee where they discussed the following:

1. Importance of Hybrid Vigor and us marketing the impact Brahman genetics have.
2. Currently have 161 Steers on Feed at Texana Feeders in the ABBA EAR Program.
3. Possibility of purchasing and feeding out F1 Cattle to gain informative data.
4. Would like to have an in-person meeting with the Show Committee in the very near future, prior to the November Meetings at the National Show in Rosenberg, TX.

O.W. Schneider gave the report of the Marketing Committee and discussed the following:

1. National Show Cook-Off Competition- “A Cut Above Brahman Beef Cook-Off”
2. RFP for 2022 National F-1 Sale
3. What ABBA can do to increase participation

Phyllis Ruschhaupt gave the report of the Membership Committee where the following was discussed:

1. Regional Membership Meetings
2. 2021 National Show Coffee Bar
3. Possible Ground Breaking Ceremony at ABBA Office at appropriate time
4. Membership Activity at the 2022 AJBA All American

Josefina Muskus gave a brief overview of the International Committee Meeting where the following was discussed:

1. 2024 World Brahman Congress to be held in the USA
2. ABBA International Friend of the Year
3. PC testing for international guests who attend the 2021 National Brahman Show
4. What ABBA can do to educate our international members on our programs and advancements in technology/ research.

Dr. Craig Fontenot moved for Adjournment and the meeting was adjourn at 2:39 p.m. CST.