

**BBU BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 25, 2019  
TEXAS A & M BEEF CENTER**

Vice President JC Thompson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Justin Williams opened the meeting in prayer.

Secretary Dan Gattis called roll with the following in attendance:

Tony Psencik	Dr. Jim Colvin	Kendall McKenzie
Brian Melloan	Larry Lairmore	Collin Osbourn
James Skelton	Gary Halepeska	Dan Gattis
Trey Scherer	Derek Frenzel	Chris Kauffman
Jerry Thomas	Justin Williams	JC Thompson

Sue Pierson was absent recovering from surgery. Steve Carpenter was absent due to water issues at home. Bob Siddons arrived late due to family health issues.

Thompson entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2019, board meeting. Kendall McKenzie questioned the motions made in executive session not being included in the minutes (4 motions). **McKenzie made a motion to include the motions made in the executive session of the January meeting in the minutes from that meeting. Larry Lairmore seconded the motion.** Dan Gattis voiced concern over including executive session minutes due to possible sensitive issues at times. **The motion carried. Larry Lairmore made a motion to approve the minutes (including the motions made in executive session) from the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Justin Williams and with a vote the minutes were approved as amended.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT – Treasurer Chris Kauffman and EVP Collin Osbourn** presented the February Financial Report as sent to the board. Kauffman spoke to various line items in the report (membership, certificates, embryo bills of sale, etc) and entertained questions. **Trey Scherer moved to accept the financial report as presented with a second by Dan Gattis. The financial reports were accepted.**

**Summer Meeting Schedule** - June 26 – 28 at the Embassy Suites Northwest in San Antonio. Osbourn noted that more information will follow with a possible Thursday evening social activity (Top Golf or such).

**B.E.E.F. ENDOWMENT UPDATE – Mackie Bounds** updated the board stating that the money is beginning to come in on the commitments already made. He noted that no substantial new commitments have been made of late but shared that a plan has been put together to revamp

the way we move forward to gather the funds to grow the endowment. The top 100 breeders will be contacted to be a part of growing this endowment. Bounds also asked that the board become spokesmen for the Endowment as well.

**Texas A&M Presentation – Dr. Jason Cleere and Dr. Jeff Savel** – addressed the board about what is going on in the Beef Industry (future of select grade beef) and about the Beefmaster herd they are looking to develop and work with at A&M. Dr. Cleere talked about the criteria they are looking for in the Beefmaster cattle they will use to build this herd. A&M has one of the largest animal science departments in the world with 13000 students and over 50 dedicated faculty. Currently they have an Angus herd study in progress and they are ready to add a Beefmaster herd. They use the herds as a teaching tool. When asked the question “what is the negative side of Beefmaster Cattle” the team replied “marketability of their bulls and color uniformity”. The positive side of Beefmasters is their “adaptability and their maternal abilities (fertility and longevity)”. They hope to be aggressive in the development and production of the Beefmaster herd. Adhering to the criteria set, especially on (live) donated animals, will be key in helping the study succeed and progress in a timely manner. Osbourn noted that BBU staff can pre-approve donations but the A&M staff will have the final say in which are accepted and which aren’t.

**DNA LABS – Collin Osbourn** addressed the use of Neogen (Geneseek) and Zoetis labs and the challenges of having two official labs that compete with each other. Neogen has approached us to go exclusively with them. Collin stated that about 80 percent or better of our work flows through Neogen now. They offer a ULD (which Zoetis does not offer) at an affordable cost which has allowed us to move our genomic enhanced EPDs up. The challenge is that we have a significant history of older animals that were typed at Zoetis. Neogen made an overture to take a pretty significant number and do those at cost for us in order to get them on file at Neogen. The challenge remains in getting samples if the animals are deceased. Even though we own the samples at Zoetis, when you change labs it is just not guaranteed how successful we will be at getting those samples moved over. Neogen has an online system that we have access to when running parentage that Zoetis does not offer which causes significant delays on Zoetis parentage tests. Neogen is also who has developed and is running our commercial heifer chip (which is currently in the testing phase with UAM and Flying B research cattle). There will be some challenges going exclusive with one lab even though the transition would be done over a period of time with a future start date. The issues and consideration will be further looked at and delegated to the appropriate committee to review, discuss and make a recommendation to the board.

**AI SIRE/DONOR DAM PARENT VERIFICATION EXCEPTIONS** were allowed thru late October 2018 according to past board actions. The policy was to be reviewed after that time and a decision made on whether to continue to allow PV exceptions for AI Sires and Donor Dams. We are presently still allowing the exceptions but the board needs to decide if we wish to continue

to allow them or put a permanent end date on the allowance. The exception was not set up to allow IVF calf registrations OR to except the HD Genotype requirement. It was specific to and only in place for the AI Sires and Donor dams parent verification requirements when the parents of such are dead and/or sold without papers and no longer available to obtain a sample to meet the requirement. Discussion ensued. Osbourn suggested the topic to be given to Breed Improvement to review, study and make a recommendation to the board.

**TRADITIONAL ET VERSUS IVF** and the requirements for AI certificates. Traditional ET flushes require an AI certificate and entitles you to make or register up to ten progeny from that mating based off of one AI certificate. IVF do not require an AI certificate but do require parent verification before registration. The two are confused by breeders in knowing which requires parent verification. The real issue is trying to track the ten per one AI certificate allowed on traditional ET registrations. Collin noted that with AI certificates now in place it makes more sense to require one AI certificate for each registration of an ET calf or require parent verification on every ET calf. AI certificates are a currency of their own. It is something that needs to be addressed soon by the Long Range Planning Committee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Breed Improvement chairman Mackie Bounds** informed the board that the committee has a meeting scheduled next week. The topics they are covering include:

- Improving \$M
- Increasing the use of AI
- Providing Topics for educational seminars for the 2019 Convention

Bounds indicated that the committee will be divided into subcommittees to properly address and make recommendations on these various topics.

**Membership Committee chairman Barry Parker** updated the board on the current membership statistics with a comparison to the last several years. The committee will be reaching out to members that didn't renew this year to find out the reason they didn't renew and will report back to the board on the feedback they receive. The committee will also be contacting other breed associations to ask what membership benefits they offer their members.

**Finance and Audit treasurer Chris Kauffman** asked that all committee chairs present their budget requests for next year to him or Collin by June 1<sup>st</sup> to help them solidly formulate and propose next year's budget to the board for approval. Kauffman noted the following items are also on the committee's agenda:

- Have committees look forward to the next two to three years with goals and projections to help finance and audit plan and budget for the association appropriately

- To continue to review fees annually to determine their impact on the overall budget hoping to rotate increases so they don't all happen at once
- They are currently interviewing auditing firms to find a more affordable alternative to the larger firm we now use

**Advertising and Public Relations chairman JC Thompson** reported that sub-committees have been formed to focus separately on:

- Digital and social media
- Print ads
- How to grow co-op ad participation to expand our reach

Thompson was disappointed to report that due to lack of participation, there will be no RFD Show this year.

**JBBA Adult Committee – Collin Osbourn** reported that the group is gearing up for Nationals and moving forward – changing some things up and adding some educational seminars to their program this year.

**International Committee - Osbourn** noted that we were approved for funding from USLGE and several trips are currently being planned to disburse and spend those funds wisely.

### **President's Report**

**President Siddons** stated that he will be working closely with all committees in the next several weeks making sure they are prepared with topics and recommendations they will make to the board at the June meeting.

**EVP Report – Collin Osbourn** announced that the commercial product we have been working on is being tested now. It will be a \$25 test and should roll out middle to late summer.

Osbourn reported that a new part time DNA secretary has been hired. Melissa Becker works Tuesday thru Thursday and can be contacted via email on any DNA inquiries. Collin also shared that we will have a summer intern to help us through Junior Nationals and to learn the ins and outs of an association office this summer.

Collin stated that he has spoken with the junior group concerning coming up with a code of conduct for the juniors. It started simple idea and grew and got out of hand quickly. Collin talked with the JBBA committee chairs and indicated that they need to take some time to come up with a code to present to the board that is not too detailed but still covers the issues that lead them to develop a code in the first place. They will continue to work together on a code that addresses the conduct of people as well as the treatment of animals and when they have one formulated it will come to the BBU Board for approval.

**Kendall McKenzie made a motion to move into executive session. Chris Kauffman seconded and the motion carried.**

**The EVP will now have an annual review with an evaluation form to include a dashboard.**

**Dan Gattis made a motion to come out of executive session. Trey Scherer seconded and motion carried. The meeting returned to open session.**

**Kendall McKenzie made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Justin Williams and the meeting was adjourned.**