

Board Meeting of the Southwest Lowline Angus Breeders Association, Inc. held at the 2010 Get-Back-To-Grass Field Day, Lowline Sale and Juniors Show on October 9, 2010.

Meeting called to order at 12:15 pm by President, Mark Roesler.

Board members in attendance----- Sandra Walker, Bill Cabaniss, Jay Dennis, Kim Watkins, and Shelly Pyburn. Absent from the meeting were board members Jerry Billingsly, Craig Campbell and Jim Crawford. Also in attendance were Stuart Pyburn and John Walker.

President Roesler called for discussion and approval of the minutes of the prior board meeting held at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on March 14, 2010. These minutes are published on the SLABA website. Kim Watkins made a motion that the minutes be approved, seconded by Jay Dennis. Approved unanimously.

President Roesler made the first order of business to discuss the open director seat following the resignation of Patti Seeley from the board of directors. Shelly Pyburn suggested that the board consider looking at candidates who ran for the board positions but were not elected as a consideration for the replacement. By general consensus, it was decided that we would contact those individuals to see if they were still interested before making a decision. The decision for replacement will be made by an email vote.

President Roesler brought up his concern that emails had been circulated among the membership suggesting that there were perhaps some impropriety on the part of the board financially. Mark said that he has seen absolutely no improprieties in regards to the current board or the prior board. However, if there are concerns among the members, perhaps we should have an audit performed. Discussion continued and it was decided that the board should strive to be as open as possible with expenditures. Sandra Walker stressed that we should also strive to stick to a budget on a yearly basis. All board members agreed. A treasurer report should accompany the publishing of the minutes following any board meetings. Mark encouraged the board members to continue to come up with additional suggestions as to how we should address the question brought up in the emails.

Kim Watkins brought up her concern that perhaps we were spending too much for our new member signs. She thought that they has cost about \$45 each. The cost of the original sign purchases was approximately \$1800. We received 110 signs. That is a little less than \$18/sign. Additional signs are being sold for \$45 including shipping. After discussion it was decided that we should continue sending new signs to the new members.

Mark asked for a report on the SLABA Member Roundup and Reward regarding response from the membership. Current we have had two new members who were referred by current members. Mark requested that the information be sent out again. Bill Cabaniss said that he would send it again. Stuart will also make it more visible on the website.

Treasurer Shelly reported that we have spent about \$300 for the Back-To-Grass-Sale. Most of that will be recouped by donations. The board felt that expenditure was well worth the cost considering that we had well over 100 people in attendance.

Sandra Walker asked for a discussion regarding the intended revisions of the Membership page on the website to contain additional information such as whether a member was a beef producer, grass-fed beef producer, or show calf producer. Bill Cabaniss said that he had the results from the surveys but had not known exactly what changes should be made. After more discussions it was decided that Stuart Pyburn would work to have the current Membership page revised with check boxes to indicate what breeders specialized in---meat, commercial bulls, show animals, breeding stock, beef, etc. The grass-fed page would continue to publicize the benefits of using Lowlines as grass-fed stock. President Roesler wanted SLABA to be an organization which promotes every aspect of Lowlines.

Subcommittee reports:

Membership---Jay Dennis has contacted every one who had not renewed and felt that we had given them an opportunity to renew. Some had decided moved out of Lowline , others had health problems and were not active. There were a variety of other reasons. Shelly Pyburn wanted a decision on when to remove them from the membership list and the website. It was agreed that all who had not renewed should be removed immediately. Kim Watkins moved that on March 1st of every year unpaid memberships are removed from the list. Reminders would be sent on February 1st. Jay Dennis seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Show----- Due to time restraints, President Roesler asked for the discussion of a SLABA sale at the Austin Livestock show to be handled by email. Some discussion followed anyway. Sandra Walker expressed her desire that we consider a Private Treaty pen sale in the spring and that two sales would be too much. Bill Cabaniss asked to explain why he had recently brought up the possibility another auction sale. Neil Effertz and Larry Watkins had recently approached us regarding having a sale in at Houston or Austin after the board had dropped the idea a couple of months ago. They felt that an auction at one of those sales would be successful and they were likely to pursue it regardless of whether SLABA participated. So, Bill contacted the Houston and Austin shows and had been told by Austin that they would be glad for us to have one there. Additional discussion continued regarding a pen sale--that individuals would pay SLABA rent for the use of a pen to display their animals. People would then purchase them directly from the breeder. It was suggested that perhaps we have three sales---having a pen sale in late May or June associated with a field day. This was to be discussed later by email.

Mark wanted to emphasize that the membership needs to be asked if there are any questions that anyone has as to the direction they (the board) is going. We need to as open as possible.

Shelly Pyburn made a motion to adjourn, Bill Cabaniss seconded the motion. All voted unanimously.