

Braunvieh Association of America

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Held on 7/27/21-7/28/21 @ Double Tree Hotel, OK City, OK

Tuesday, 7/27/21

Board Members Present:

Robert Williams, Nesha Smith, Bob Gunnett, Benny Phillips, Caleb Russell, Daniel Roberts, Jason Pfeifer, John Hall, Mark Wolken, Todd Hill plus managing director, Montie Soules

Board Members Absent:

Evan Bartley and Colby King

Guests Present:

Larry Lane and Edsel Keith

Eddie Zeigenbein on phone during exhibition committee report to give North American show update

Heather Lange joined via zoom for Digital Beef review

Lisa Bard joined via zoom for Blueprint session

Wednesday, 7/28/21

Board Members Present:

Robert Williams, Colby King, Nesha Smith, Bob Gunnett, Benny Phillips, Caleb Russell, Daniel Roberts, Jason Pfeifer, John Hall, Mark Wolken, Todd Hill plus executive director, Montie Soules

Board Members Absent:

Evan Bartley

Guests Present:

Larry Lane and Edsel Keith

MEETING HELD ON Tuesday, 7/27/21

President Robert Williams called the meeting to order at 8:04 am CST.

KPI Report:

Montie Soules discussed June key performance indicators including registrations, memberships, and POP (now called THR) statistics. Compared to last year, registrations and memberships have increased. Noted in 2021, cows assessed per member have increased compared to the last four years.

Minutes:

The Board unanimously dispensed the reading of two separate minutes, May 18, 2021 board meeting and also the email vote that was confirmed approved on 5/4/21. (note – no meeting was held in June due to scheduling conflicts; therefore, no minutes)

Treasurer Report and Discussions During Treasurer Report:

Bob Gunnett discussed financials as of June 31, 2021. Noted the YTD total revenue is currently higher than budgeted amount. *The board unanimously accepted the financials as printed for the month of June 2021.*

Bob gave an update on accounts receivables. It was reminded members accounts are locked once their balance reaches 90 days. For their account to be unlocked, member must pay full balance. Different discussions were made on how to collect the aged receivables. *The board unanimously approved to write off certain accounts that knew was not going to be paid.* Contacts will be made to accounts aged 90 days or older in hopes for collection. *The board unanimously approved at the end of this fiscal year, after this round of personally reaching out to breeders in arrears, anything 365 days and 720 days old, will be written off if cannot be collected.* Bob emailed Jason Rowland, the accountant, of this board approval.

Subject was brought up of members who have bought cattle and aren't receiving their registration papers in a timely manner. It is understood because of rule change, seller is required to pay transfer fee before new buyer receives registration paper. Will try and get some type of pop up alert in Digital Beef that is more visible than what's present now to alert seller of the charges to be paid.

Nesha gave update from bank on the recent approval to change representatives on CD. Final paperwork should be sent out this week for final signatures to complete changing representatives on CD. Also, we are waiting on bank to let us know their procedure regarding unlocking and closing out lockbox.

Breeders Guidelines Committee Report:

Caleb Russell announced Breeders Guidelines Committee do not have any action items at this time but have continued working with Registrations and Transfers Committee.

Junior Committee Report:

Jessica Bartley not present – no report.

Exhibition Committee Report:

Mark Wolken announced Braunvieh will be shown at the North American show in Louisville, KY this year; date of show scheduled for 11/18/21. Eddie Zeigenbein joined mtg via phone to confirm more details on North American show. *Mark Wolken, Chair brought forth recommendation from the exhibition committee to add the North American show in Louisville, KY as a point show. The board unanimously approved this recommendation of adding the North American as a point show.*

Mark announced right now, we have 8 major shows including Ozark Empire Fair, Tulsa, American Royal, North American, Cattlemens Congress in OK City, Denver, Forth Worth, Houston. However, noted Denver has Braunvieh in their books right now but if the minimum requirement of entries is not met, they are going to pull the show.

Discussion was made of current rules regarding protest protocols and DNA requirements. *Mark Wolken, Chair brought forth recommendation from the exhibition committee to remove the requirement of steer DNA. Mark explained Braunvieh steer shows are only held at the Texas State Show and Junior Nationals Show. The board unanimously approved this recommendation to remove requirement of steer DNA.*

Mark gave National sale update; announced Donnie Johnson will be sale chairman. More details to confirm at a later date.

Mark explained was unable to get banners made in time to present in June to the high show point winners for recent show season but will plan to present at National meeting for the last two years.

Discussion was made in regards to not seeing show points online. Currently, show points can't be programmed into Digital Beef system. It was suggested for committee to request official show results from each show and then submit to BAA ofc to be listed on BAA website.

Genomics Committee Report:

John Hall followed up on registration papers showing traits – work in progress. Considering making the registration papers two sided.

Had discussion of how to get old genetics on file – discussed couple different options.

John gave report of the research project taken place in NW AR. John recently AI'd bred 520 cows, standing heat only, to 15 different bulls (2-SimAngus, 2-Santa Gertrudis, 3-Angus, 8-Braunvieh) and then 12-Braunvieh cleanup bulls turned out – this will allow us to have a range of data. Mark Nelson got it where cattle will be ran through the Grow Safe system. This farming operation would like to do this research program for 3 years so John is taking nominations who would like to put bulls in next year – will need 8 or 10 different bulls (approx 30 straws each needed plus Braunvieh cleanup bulls will be needed) This project is ongoing and looking at some interns to help. Long process as it starts at the ranch with breeding and getting all the data entered into Digital Beef, moving on to the feedyard and packing house.

International Committee Report:

Daniel Roberts stated the committee is at the ground stages of planning an elite sale in conjunction with Houston show in March 2023 – more details to come as further planning takes place.

Performance Committee Report:

Evan Bartley, Chair was not present but Daniel Roberts, committee member, was present to give report. Daniel handed out report showing details of planned participants in the upcoming national bull test – estimated up to 48 bulls to be consigned. Committee is still working on details for upcoming test and sale.

Adjourn for lunch at 12pm – meeting back in session at 12:30pm.

Registrations and Transfers Committee Report:

Section 1 Revision (revised 7/27/21 and 7/28/21 – see minutes under 7/28/21 for continued revisions)

Benny Phillips stated that the board had already approved section 1 changes in board meeting held on 5/18/21 but afterwards, found a few items needing strengthened. *The Board unanimously approved the recommendation from the Registrations and Transfers Committee presented by Benny Phillips, Chair to revise Section 1 of Rules and Regulations – Membership in the BAA. Section 1 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 1– Membership in the BAA.*

Section 2 Revision (revised 7/27/21 and 7/28/21 – see minutes under 7/28/21 for continued revisions)

Benny on behalf of the Registrations and Transfers Committee gave overview of proposed revisions to section 2 – BAA Herdbook in Rules and Regulations. Bulk of revisions made are listed here in minutes but for complete section 2 approved as printed, see attached Section 2 – BAA Herdbook.

As part of the proposed revisions, committee proposed to remove the definition from BraunAngus, Braunbray, Simbraunvieh in the revision of section 2 under Rules and Regulations. Rather these definitions be listed under the rules, they will instead be listed on the BAA website.

Benny explained section C, 2 – Purebred Braunvieh needed revised to get our current registry system to work as it was intended to work. In the past, Braunvieh cattle mated to other breeds of cattle and/or an unknown breed(s) of cattle have been identified as Purebred when they have reached 93.75% Braunvieh for males and 87.5% for females. The Braunvieh males (bulls) with purebred status have been treated as 100% when figuring the percentage of their progeny. The Braunvieh females that have PB status use the classified actual Braunvieh percentage of that female toward the progeny percentage. Thus, allowing Purebred Braunvieh (PB) animals to decline in actual Braunvieh percentage over the years. Committee made recommendation to switch to actual genetic makeup (AGM). *The Board unanimously approved to begin using actual genetic makeup (AGM) rather than classified percentage beginning January 1, 2022.*

By majority vote, 86% Braunvieh was determined to be used as the targeted AGM to define Purebred Braunvieh animals, including males and females. Discussion was made of when to begin implementing the 86% requirement. Motion was made and seconded to implement 86% beginning January 1, 2026 but motion failed with 6 votes against, 3 votes for, and 1 abstained. Motion then made and seconded to implement 86% beginning January 1, 2028 – motion carried with 8 votes for, 1 vote against, and 1 abstained. Discussion was made of what percentage to use until implementing the targeted AGM of 86% to allow membership time to adjust to new rule change. Motion was made and seconded, beginning 1/1/22, to be considered a Purebred, AGM has to be 82% to register a calf and any calves for first 12 months till 12/31/22 would be grandfathered in and registered under the old rules that came in less than 82%, registered as a Purebred still using old chart. Motion carried with 6 votes for, 2 votes against, and 2 abstained.

Discussion was made of the Mini Braunvieh cattle. *The board unanimously approved to accept Z prefix to define calf born from one registered mini parent (anything over 43" at hip cannot be shown as a mini) and to also accept S prefix as voluntary for small and cannot go back into other categories of Braunvieh once given S prefix.* It was noted it will be imperative to make sure performance data turned in is kept in a contemporary group of mini type Braunviehs as per the member/breeder.

The Board unanimously approved the recommendation from the Registrations and Transfers Committee presented by Benny Phillips, Chair to revise D - Foreign Braunvieh under section 2 of Rules and Regulations – BAA Herdbook.

Several motions were made for different parts within Section 2 – parts of section 2 were discussed and approved on 7/27/21 and 7/28/21. Section 2 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 2– BAA Herdbook.

See additional revisions to section 2 under minutes dated 7/28/21.

Digital Beef Review:

Heather Lange joined meeting via zoom and did quick review in Digital Beef.

To add a commercial animal, go to herd management, recording, commercial (click on the word) then enter your information on commercial animal, including DOB and the breeds of cow making sure total equals 100%. Note - can enter 100% in one box for mixed beef breeds. Then click create.

To add a different registered breed, such as PB Angus, contact office and give registration number and name of animal. If member is trying to use an Angus bull natural service, BAA office has to have service agreement if member does not own the bull.

To record calf, go to herd management, recording, and then calves. For help, click on the icon labeled page guide located in upper right hand corner. Page guide will give more information and also explanations of codes used in the drop down menu box. For example, under temper, number 1 is for mild disposition. After inserting calves information, click validate – green box will show data validation complete. If anything is incomplete, box will be highlighted in red to be completed. Member can also add calf to weaning queue and then insert weaning information.

Families can make an associated herd. For example, associated herd between parents and their children. To complete, click on the associated tab when logged in under the child's acct, enter parents BAA member number. One benefit of associated herd, cattle can then be in same contemporary group.

To complete POP assessment, now called THR (total herd reporting), click on herd mgmt, inventory, assessment age tab if working on current year. Member will go through each animal then and identify if animal will be assessed for the year or has been disposed.

There are different codes under POP inventory. Few examples discussed.
Code 50 = for non Braunvieh that aren't bred Braunvieh will hold them for next year - also considered recip cows
Code 51 = Braunvieh heifer held from breeding (not been exposed)
Code 52 = donor dam not around to have a natural calf (if flush cow and she doesn't have calf that year)

Montie stated IGS announced they changed their days for weaning weights; the window is now between 100-310 days. Yearling weights are from 270-500 days. Also noted, contemporary groups can be for 3 head to 500 head. IGS sets the contemporary groups.

Board has requested some form of education through webinar for example for membership. Plans are to put out this education closer to date of new rules going into place January 1, 2022.

Blueprint Media Update:

Lisa Bard with Blueprint Media joined meeting via zoom and discussed proposal she had emailed to board members during meeting. Blueprint is proposing to restart Braunvieh World publication with Blueprint handling all business from start to finish, including sales, production, editorial, design, layout, printing, postage, distribution, collection of sales revenue, etc. Board will further discuss details of proposal and plan to make a decision in next meeting.

5:30 pm - President Robert Williams announced recess. Board met for dinner later in evening.

****MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, 7/28/21****

President Robert Williams called the meeting to order at 8 am CST.

Registrations and Transfers Committee Report:

Continued Section 2 Revisions (continued from day before, 7/27/21)

Discussion was made increasing the percentage of Braunvieh required for Beef Builders.

The Board unanimously approved to revise section 2 – BAA Herdbook, C, number 3 and 4, beginning 1/1/22, the minimum percentage to be registered as a Braunvieh Beef Builder and certified BeefBuilder will change to 20% AGM. Any animals that do not make the 20% AGM to be a beef builder but would qualify under previous rules and was conceived before the new rule was put in place on January 1, 2022, may be grandfathered in.

Several motions were made for different parts within Section 2 – parts of section 2 were discussed and approved on 7/27/21 and 7/28/21. Section 2 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 2– BAA Herdbook.

Section 3 Revisions (revised 7/28/21)

Discussion was made of what was called POP, now called THR (total herd reporting). Had discussion of importance of program, possible fees, and how to possibly identify those members. *The Board unanimously approved the revision as printed Section 3 of Rules and Regulations – Total Herd Reporting – changes to begin 1/1/22. Section 3 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 3– Total Herd Reporting.*

Section 4 Revisions (revised 7/28/21)

Benny stated cleaned up section 4 (IV) – Registration Information, cleaned up where found contradictions, etc. *The Board unanimously approved the revision as printed Section 4 of Rules and Regulations – Registration Information. Section 4 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 4– Registration Information.*

Continued Section 1 Revisions (in addition to yesterdays revision)

Benny Phillips stated that the board had originally made rule change in 3/16/21 board meeting where board had approved name change from POP to THR. In that approval, changes were to begin 9/1/21 but with all the changes that have been made in this two day in person board meeting, recommended to begin changes effective 1/1/22 and also proposed to change name from non THR to traditional concept breeder. *The Board unanimously approved changing effective date to 1/1/22 and revising name from non THR to traditional concept breeder, as printed Section 1 of Rules and Regulations – Membership in the BAA. Section 1 was approved by board from working draft that was presented. Working draft contained old rules and proposed new rules – section will be cleaned up, removing notes and old rules that are deleted, adding new rules that have been discussed and approved. See attached final copy of approved rule change to section 1– Membership in the BAA.*

Promotions Committee Report:

Colby King gave report of recent filming that was done by the newly hired company, Sweet Briar Design. Three different locations were filmed with the focus being on how well Braunvieh crosses with other breeds and how well Braunvieh's perform from a carcass standpoint. Currently, still in the editing stage right now of new film but plan to air 10/18/21 on American Rancher.

Discussion was made of increasing membership dues as this has not been done in several years. *The board unanimously approved to raise membership dues by \$10, from \$75 to \$85. Note – junior membership will remain the same.*

Nomination Committee Report:

John Hall, chairman stated committee has been working on nominations for upcoming year. Various discussions were made including who will be up for re-election, bylaws, how to calculate votes, etc. Committee is to do research and bring back to board for further discussion.

Social Media Update:

Shelby not present to provide update. However, John Hall stated how successful the TBA facebook page has been since they have hired an intern to assist. Discussion was made of possibly using an intern to assist BAA with its social media. John is to do more research and bring it back before the board.

Old Business:

Bob Gunnett said he would be contacting committee chairmans to obtain budget information throughout the week.

Montie Soules announced new BAA website recently came out Monday 7/26/21; however, the site is still a work in progress but at least now functioning. Board reviewed parts of the website and pointed out few things noticed needing corrected. BAA office is still requesting more Braunvieh cattle pictures be emailed to info@braunvieh.org

New Business:

Montie Soules discussed in family transfers. This would allow 4 owners (farm name, child A, B, C) on pedigree of dam and when its calf is born, then member would register calf in one child's name, for example, A and then child A will be shown as breeder. *The board unanimously approved in family transfers for immediate family – immediate being described as parents and children. Member would pay \$5 for in family transfer fee.* This fee of \$5 would only be charged when member calls BAA office because otherwise, computer system would charge standard transfer fee.

Montie Soules discussed only approx 17% of membership eblasts are being opened by members. Board agrees we still need to look at some other options to be effective in our communication. Montie suggested a publication being effective as well as using the 1 minute recorded messages. Board will discuss more details in upcoming meetings.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Submitted by Nesha Smith, BAA Secretary

Approved: 9/6/21