

AYRSHIRE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday March 9, 2016 at 10:45 a.m.
Hôtel Crowne Plaza Moncton, Moncton, New Brunswick

Minutes

Present: François Beaudry (President), Mario Lacerte, Hendrick Larouche, Jonathan Lemay, Robert Powell, Robert Saville, Mary-Ellen Trueman, Michel Boudreault, Ayrshire breeders, special guests, and sponsors.

Translation: Yves Charpentier, national fieldman

Secretary: Lucie Lecomte, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Jean-Philippe Daunais, Duane Tolhurst

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

François Beaudry, President, calls the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and welcomes everyone. He indicates to the members a few guidelines to follow for the proper conduct of the meeting.

He thanks everyone present for coming to the meeting and welcomes again everyone.

2.0 MEMBERS IDENTIFICATION

François Beaudry asks all members to identify themselves with their voting cards and, having observed more than 25 members' voting cards, declares the Annual General Meeting to be legally constituted.

3.0 NOMINATION OF THE SCRUTINEERS

François Beaudry asks the attendance to nominate scrutineers.

Mario Lacerte / John Riordon moves and seconds Dale Macphee and Alain Blanchette as scrutineers.

Both propositions are:

CARRIED
2016-0309-009

4.0 READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

François Beaudry reads out the agenda and asks whether any items need to be added.

Cynthia Daoust / Mary-Ellen Trueman moves and seconds the adoption of the agenda as presented.

CARRIED
2016-0309-010

5.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Michel specifies that, in the French version of the Annual Report, 2 pages were moved at the time of assembly. He presents a summary of the highlights recorded in the Minutes.

It is asked whether there are any questions.

No questions.

There is a call to vote.

6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Michel Boudreault reads out last year's resolutions follow-up, available on pages 20 and 21 of the Annual Report.

It is asked whether there are any questions.

No questions.

7.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

François Beaudry reads out his Report, presented on page 22 of the Annual Report.

He specifies that the data transfer to Holstein Canada's new registration system has begun, and, as improvements and updates will be made to this registration system, we will also benefit from them.

8.0 GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Michel Boudreault reads out his Report, presented on pages 23 - 25.

9.0 BREED IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Michel Boudreault presents the Breed Improvement Committee Report, presented on page 26 of the Annual Report.

It is asked whether there are any questions.

No questions.

10.0 FINANCES

François Beaudry explains that a French translation of the Financial Report could not be presented as the Auditor was late in delivering his work. However, the Auditor's Report was translated.

He stresses the fact that auditing the 2015 Financial Report was a very good decision, as it provided reassurance and gave more confidence to the Board and Members regarding the state of our finances.

Auditor's Report

Auditor's Report on pages 31 - 33.

François Beaudry reads out a few points from the Auditor' Report.

Financial Report

Mark Cummings, Finance Director at Holstein Canada, the firm we hired for our accounting, presents the Financial Report, found on pages 34 – 41.

He specifies that an audit ought to comply with a certain number of rules and, when financial reports have not been audited for several years, corrections must often be made to previous financial reports. This explains why 2014 is now finishing with a deficit of \$21,979 instead of a profit of \$14,787; and, if we exclude investment revenues, this deficit would actually be of \$39,857. Mr. Cummings mentions that 2015 was a good year, even though it is finishing with a deficit of \$27,979, which includes amortization expenses. He confirms that, with this audit, all 2014 and 2015 figures have been verified and are now exact. He highlights that our cost control is excellent as there has been a reduction in costs, the percentage of which is higher than the percentage of the decrease in revenues. He ends by mentioning that our liquidity is good.

It is asked whether there are any questions.

No questions.

François Beaudry thanks Mr. Cummings and highlights that his recommendations and knowledge have been much appreciated.

11.0 NOMINATION OF AN AUDITOR FOR THE REVIEW ENGAGEMENT OR AUDIT

The Assembly is asked whether they wish to nominate an auditor or prefer to leave the task of requesting quotes and making a decision to the Board of Directors

Cynthia Daoust / Garnet Schellen

moves and seconds that the Board of Directors, following a request for quotes process, select an auditor and decide on the type of verification for the Financial Statements ending November 30, 2016.

CARRIED BY MAJORITY
2016-0309-012

12.0 A WORD FROM THE SPECIAL GUESTS

François Beaudry introduces the guests and invites Ms. Mary Creek to take the floor.

Ms. Creek indicates that she represents the American Ayrshire Association as well as the World Ayrshire Federation.

Key points:

- World Conference held September/October 2016 in the United States; registration documents are now available; possibility of choosing conference options; guided bus tour includes tourist attractions, farm visits, historical places, Amish farm, museum, shows, and much more;
- The Ayrshire breed is sparking interest worldwide;
- Comparison tool for the different genetic evaluations across countries, by Michel Boudreault, WAF Secretary, in collaboration with CDN;
- She invites people to forward information for posting on the WAF website;
- She invites people to submit their votes for the online photo contest on the WAF website;
- Michel works for the WAF and, as such, is available to answer any questions.

It is asked whether the Financial Report has to be adopted by the Assembly. It is specified that this responsibility lies with the Board of Directors.

Since we are ahead of schedule, it is mentioned that we will continue with Item 14.0 of the agenda.

13.0 LUNCH

Lunch was served following the adjournment of the meeting.

14.0 GUEST SPEAKERS

Brian Van Doormaal thanks the Board Members for having renewed their invitation to take on the floor during our AGM.

Topic of his presentation: Statistics on the evolution of genotyped heifers and cows born in Canada.

Some points presented: LPI/Pro\$ gains, haplotypes (genes) affecting fertility, genotyped animals by herd, the New Brunswick Milk-Lait 2020 Project encouraging breeders to genotype their animals (discounts on tests), reliability, 1st lactation predictions, costs and gains vs. the number of genotyped heifers, a decrease in the number of heifers, advantages of genotyping to improve database reliability, etc.

15. BYLAWS CHANGES

Section 11 (2) (a)

Current Bylaw:

For all general meetings, a notice of at least twenty (20) days in advance shall be sent by mail to the last known post office address of each member in the form of a circular letter, postage prepaid, indicating the time and place of the meeting and purpose for which it is called. The mailing of a form letter can be replaced by the publication of the notice in the Canadian Ayrshire Review.

Proposed Amendment:

For all general meetings, a notice of at least twenty (20) days in advance shall be sent by mail to the last known post office address of each member in the form of a circular letter, postage prepaid, indicating the time and place of the meeting and purpose for which it is called. The mailing of a form letter can be replaced by the publication of the notice in the Canadian Ayrshire Review or on the official website of the Association.

Reason:

Publishing notices, or any other information, in the Ayrshire Review is very costly. Since our website is a timely, accessible, and economical electronic tool, it is necessary to make this change.

Mario Lacerte / Alex Cumming moves and seconds this bylaws change.

There is a call to vote.

CARRIED
By more than 2/3 of the Members present
2016-0309-013

16. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution # 1

Whereas robotics are becoming increasingly more prevalent in herds;

Whereas robotic milking herds are shifting away from milk recording programs;

Whereas genetic data are being lost;

Whereas herds that are shifting away from milk recording programs benefit from the same advantages of genetic evaluations.

It is moved that genetic evaluations compiled by robots be captured at low cost to ensure that a breed like the Ayrshire can benefit from good genetic evaluations.

Société Ayrshire du Québec

The Board of Directors supports this resolution.

Hendrick Larouche / Cynthia Daoust moves and seconds the adoption of this resolution.

Discussion.

Since many large herds are not using robotics and data can be lost, it is asked to use the term "automated milking system" instead of "robots". It is specified that a project is currently underway at CDN, in collaboration with other partners, to recover the maximum number of data and lose as little as possible.

Amendment:

Whereas robotics are becoming increasingly more prevalent in herds;

Whereas robotic milking herds are shifting away from milk recording programs;

Whereas genetic data are being lost;

Whereas herds that are shifting away from milk recording programs benefit from the same advantages of genetic evaluations.

It is moved that genetic evaluations compiled by all automated milking systems be captured at low cost to ensure that a breed like the Ayrshire can benefit from good genetic evaluations.

Société Ayrshire du Québec

Cynthia Daoust / Mario Lacerte moves and seconds this resolution's amendment.

There is a call to vote.

The resolution's amendment is:

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
2016-0309-014

There is a call to vote on the amended resolution.

The amended resolution is:

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
2016-0309-015

Resolution # 2

Whereas it is important that the best Ayrshire animals be present at the Royal in Toronto and whereas the Dairy Supreme Show is being held after the Royal's registration deadline.

It is moved that animals finishing first or second in each class at the Dairy Supreme be eligible for the basic registration fees at the Royal in Toronto and for Ayrshire Canada to present this request to the RAWF.

Société Ayrshire du Québec

The Board of Directors supports this resolution.

Alain Sirois / Alex McCaig moves and seconds the adoption of this resolution.

Discussion.

No discussion.

There is a call to vote.

This resolution is:

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
2016-0309-016

Resolution # 3

Whereas it is important to have a national show featuring a maximum number of breeders;

Whereas it is more interesting to have a national show featuring great classes of several animals;

Whereas, in the spirit of the word "competition", a rivalry between several animals is implied.

It is moved to determine the minimum number of head required to qualify for the title of national show, including for the calculation of All-Canadian results.

Société Ayrshire du Québec

The Board of Directors supports this resolution.

Carine Nault / Robert Powell moves and seconds this resolution.

Discussion.

Additional explanations are requested.

Reason: Shows that will not meet the required minimum number of head of cattle exhibited will not qualify as national shows, and it will be possible to have other shows qualify as such.

There is call to vote.

This resolution is:

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED
2016-0309-017

Resolution # 4

There was great concern regarding the divestment of Ayrshire Canada's interest in TransAmerica Genetics and the apparent loss of capital. Therefore:

Be it resolved that;

Ayrshire Canada pursues the recovery of lost funds resulting from the sale of Trans America Genetics, to the fullest extent possible.

Alberta Ayrshire Club

The Board of Directors supports this resolution.

The Board of Directors supports this resolution as the work and review have already been done.

Mary-Ellen Trueman / Jonathan Lemay moves and seconds the adoption of this resolution.

Discussion.

No discussion.

There is a call to vote.

This resolution is:

REJECTED
2016-0309-018

Resolution # 5

Considering that the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is world renowned and draws dairy visitors from around the world;

Considering that Canadian Ayrshire breeders take pride in looking for avenues to involve youth;

Considering that there is a Junior Showmanship Class at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair;

Ayrshire Ontario proposes that the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Ayrshire Junior Showmanship Class rules of entry be changed:

From: "This Showmanship Class is open to any 4-H member or young person from a dairy farm"

To: "This showmanship class is open to any 4-H member or young person, from across Canada or internationally, from a dairy farm who is aged 10 – 21"

ALSO

To have the last line reflects the change in Ayrshire Ontario's name, to change the old name Ayrshire Cattle Club of Ontario to Ayrshire Ontario.

Ayrshire Ontario

The Board of Directors supports this resolution.

Cynthia Daoust / Brian Mitchell moves and seconds the adoption of this resolution.

Discussion.

An amendment is asked to specify the maximum age, that is 21 by January 1st, and the origin of people who can enter.

Amendment:

Considering that the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is world renowned and draws dairy visitors from around the world;

Considering that Canadian Ayrshire breeders take pride in looking for avenues to involve youth;

Considering that there is a Junior Showmanship Class at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair;

Ayrshire Ontario proposes that the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Ayrshire Junior Showmanship Class rules of entry be changed to:

"This Showmanship Class is open to any Canadian or foreign 4-H member or young person between the ages of 10 and 21 by January 1st."

ALSO

To have the last line reflects the change in Ayrshire Ontario's name, to change the old name Ayrshire Cattle Club of Ontario to Ayrshire Ontario.

Ayrshire Ontario

Cynthia Daoust / John Riordon moves and seconds this amendment.

There is call to vote on this amendment.

CARRIED
2016-0309-019

There is a call to vote on the amended resolution.

The amended resolution is:

CARRIED
2016-0309-020

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

18.0 NOMINATION OF JUDGES – 2017 ROYAL & 2017 DAIRY SUPREME

It is asked that we proceed with the nomination of the Judges for the 2017 Royal and the 2017 Dairy Supreme.

It is specified that the Breed Improvement Committee changed the rules last year and that the 2 most popular names suggested by voters, i.e. exhibitors from the last 3 years, will automatically be eligible to appear on the ballot papers.

Royal (Popular Names)

James McOuatt and Neil Kittle.

Dairy Supreme (Popular Names)

André Clavet and Joel Lepage.

Judges: 2016 Royal: Doug Evans. 2016 Dairy Supreme: Richard Landry.

Yves Charpentier points out that Judges can only judge one major show per year. He informs the members that Richard Lagacé will be judging the 2016 Spring Show.

Vote for the 2017 Royal Judge

Jonathan Lemay / Mario Lacerte moves and seconds Rock Hébert.

Peter Sinclair / Alex McCaig moves and seconds Peter Rossiter.

It is asked whether there are any other nominations. No other propositions.

There is a call to vote for the 2017 Royal Judge: Mr. Peter Rossiter is elected.

Vote for the 2017 Dairy Supreme Judge

Cynthia Daoust / Bernard Daoust moves and seconds Duncan Hunter.

Alex McCaig / Peter Rossiter moves and seconds Blaise Tomlinson.

Jonathan Lemay / Mario Lacerte moves and seconds Joel Lepage.

It is asked whether there are any other nominations. No other propositions.

There is a call to vote for the 2017 Dairy Supreme Judge: Mr. Blaise Tomlinson is elected.

19.0 NEW BUSINESS

Cynthia Daoust would like to issue a challenge to the other Maritime Clubs, that is to award a prize to the winner for the Showmanship Class, similar to the one given at the Royal Showmanship. At the Royal Fair, a prize is sponsored by the Powell Family (different prize every year) and the Dundas-Stromont Club sponsors a jacket.

Cynthia Daoust also asks about assessing the possibility of inviting Canadian or foreign youth to attend the AGM, as previously done a few years ago for one of our AGM in Ontario.

It is specified that a booth will be organized at the World Conference in Madison. People in charge for this are Jonathan Lemay and Michel Boudreault. Mr. Lemay is thanked for his involvement.

Bernard Daoust is inviting everyone to participate in the Spring Sale event held April 2 in Ontario. There will be 25 head of cattle for sale.

Everyone is invited to participate in the Spring Show event held in Victoriaville on April 13 – 14. The Sale will be on the 13th, and the judgement, on the 14th. Registration documents are currently available online and will be on Ayrshire Canada's website shortly. Also, the Yellow Briar herd dispersal sale (John and Marilyn Stephen) will be held March 26.

François Beaudry thanks the New Brunswick members for their hospitality and their excellent work.

20.0 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

René Fournier / Robert Powell

moves and seconds the adjournment of the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

CARRIED
2016-0309-021