

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the South Dakota Red Angus Association was held on November 25th, 2017 at the Watertown Event Center in Watertown, SD.

The meeting was called to order by Keith Larsen at 6:12 pm by President Keith Larsen. Introductions were made and there were 20 people present representing 10 memberships. 2 guests were present from the Minnesota Red Angus Association.

The Secretary's report was given by Amanda Larsen. Motion made to accept as given by Jared Namken, seconded by Robert Campbell.

The Treasurer's report was given by Amanda Larsen. Motion made to accept as given by Emit Valnes, seconded by John Jung.

Old Business

The 2017 Convention Report was given by Jared Namken, Stephanie Jung, and Craig Bieber. It was held in Colorado Springs, CO and all agreed it was well attended. There was active voting and campaigning as all positions with the exception of President were opposed. A bylaw change was voted on. The event was seen as an overall success. There was a lot of interest from attendees about the 2018 convention to be held in Watertown.

Junior Association report was given by Amanda Larsen, Stephanie and Jacob Jung and Kale Pharis. Jacob and Kale spoke about their trips to the North American Junior Red Angus Event and Round-Up. They enjoyed their experiences and learned many things. They both hope to attend more events in the future and take on more leadership positions in South Dakota. Kale and Jacob were awarded \$250 each from the SD Red Angus Grant program to help with expenses they incurred. Stephanie reminded everyone that the national association also has scholarships available specifically for commercial producer kids and she encouraged everyone to remind people they know who might be interested.

Amanda Larsen and Stephanie Jung gave the Junior Show Report. Numbers were the same as years past at the Summer Spotlight. It always seems to fall on a very hot week. The show format was changed as the showmanship was held on Friday and the breed shows on Saturday which helped with the overall flow of both days. We had the largest show at State Fair in comparison to the most recent years past. Jacob Jung was awarded \$50 for having Champion Red Angus Heifer in his county.

Craig Bieber gave the SD Beef Breeds Council Report as our representative was not in attendance. They hope to have a meeting during the SD Cattlemen's Convention. Most of their work revolves around Summer Spotlight and State Fair so that would be the main topics of discussion.

Winter Shows and Sales reports were given by Jared Namken and Brandon Mitchell. Watertown Winter Farm Show had one entry. Unless there are many entries sent in within the next few days, we will not sponsor a show there this year. Sioux Empire farm show had 22 bulls and 4 heifers entered which is one more than last year. Black Hills Stock Show capped out on entries. There will be 68 head entered as consignors are limited to 2 bulls and one heifer. There were 85 entries submitted.

Amanda Larsen reported on the Red Angus Affiliate Grant Program. We have gotten approved for all of the funds we applied for and we are looking into fresh ideas. Radio has been looked into but the RAAA is unsure of how to fund that along with difficulty in choosing a radio station that will reach most of the members. We may try to move the focus around each year. All funding must be geared toward commercial cattlemen and producers. Anyone with new creative ideas is encouraged to contact Amanda.

There was no other old business.

New Business

Keith Larsen reported on the Fundraising Auction at the Black Hills Stock Show. We typically use most of the funds raised each year which takes pressure off the senior association to fund the Junior programs. Last year we raised \$3890. One of the popular items was old Red Angus memorabilia from Ed Artz. Anyone who wanted to donate was encouraged to contact Keith or Brandon Mitchell. Brandon and Belinda were thanked for their efforts of coordinating the fundraiser.

2018 National Convention report was given by committee members Craig & Peggy Bieber, Jared Namken and Stephanie Jung. It will be held in Watertown, SD mainly at the Watertown Event Center. The theme is "Reds Rising over the Northern Plains." The Watertown CVB has been very helpful with coordination and offering their services to the association. Jared Namken has taken over fundraising. The more money raised, the cheaper it will be for all attendees. They are currently looking for sponsors of any size. The goal is \$30,000 and there is a list of about 125 names and companies that will need to be contacted. Anyone who had names or businesses to contact needs to tell Jared so they aren't asked by multiple people. All donation amounts are accepted and can be grouped together to sponsor things such as shuttles, coffee break, open bar, etc... Sponsors must fill out a sponsorship form. There is typically 12-18 booths and we hope to get many more than that as the facilities are great and can handle a large number. Stephanie Jung is on the decoration committee and is open to any ideas. The schedule was discussed along with our unique events such as an evening at the Goss Opera House with a meal and a band. Tracey Koester has been working on a logo and members got to see a few of the options. The Minnesota meeting will be in 3 weeks in Hutchinson, so a committee member will attend to speak about fundraising along with the North Dakota meeting in a few weeks.

Junior Show rules were discussed. Since we made the change to require registration papers on all animals, there has not been as much push back as expected since the state 4-H office also made the change. Our rules are consistent with the national rules which work well for the association.

Amanda Larsen spoke about the Junior Grant Program and the County Champion Heifer awards. They are there for promoting Red Angus and encouraging juniors to get involved in the Red Angus breed as something more than just showing cattle. Juniors can attend Round-Up, NAJRAE, Young Stockmen's Competition, or Loaded for Leadership. They are then expected to fill out an application and give a short speech or report at the SDRAA Annual Meeting. This was the first year that anyone applied and they all enjoyed their experiences. Stephanie Jung hopes to get a larger delegation from South Dakota to attend these events and she is willing to do what she can to help kids get there as they learn many valuable life skills. Association members are encouraged to promote this program to any juniors they know who might be interested.

Amanda Larsen posed the question if the Association was meeting everyone's expectations. Emit Valnes suggested looking into more advertising, specifically in the Green Sheet, to appeal more to commercial producers as they are everyone's main customers. Amanda will look into more specific SDRAA advertising that will bring value to commercial cattlemen.

No other new business.

Elections

Stephanie Jung nominated Jared Namken for Northeast Director. Elected on a unanimous ballot.

Stephanie Jung nominated Robert Campbell for Northwest Director. Elected on a unanimous ballot.

Jared Namken nominated Jared Dick for Southeast Director. Elected on a unanimous ballot.

Stephanie Jung nominated Brandon Mitchell for Southwest Director. Elected on a unanimous ballot.

Emit Valnes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chance Popham. Meeting was adjourned.