



Board Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2011 Phone Conference

Participants:

Shannon Nichols – President
Dana Wakefield – Vice-President
Patti Adams – Secretary
Dave Adams – Treasurer
Shaun Ann Lord – Director

Meeting called to order at 3:20 pm EST.

Registration Update –

1. Our negotiation with the Red/White Dairy Cattle Association on a proposal for their association to provide the AKCS registry services has been tabled by their Board. They want to wait until their Executive Secretary has been replaced and they expect this to happen by November 2011. They will resume consideration of a registry service proposal in 2012.
2. Brown Swiss Cattle Association is also considering a proposal for providing the AKCS with registry services. Their Board's next meeting is on Thursday, August 4, 2011. The current proposal includes a \$1,200 initial set-up fee, \$20 fee to register individual animals, and \$20 fee to transfer individual animals. (Update: Their Board did not discuss our proposal at this meeting – so we need to proceed with other arrangements until this becomes an option in the future.)
3. The CLRC open herd book is the only currently available option for recording AKCS registrations and transfers.

National Dairy Herd Information Association (NDHIA) –

1. The AKCS has been assigned a block of American ID numbers by the NDHIA. This series goes from 58,570,000 to 58,579,999 (10,000 numbers). These numbers will be the AKCS official registration numbers and will allow the future AKCS registry to tie into the NDHIA database, as NDHIA milk records and information are accumulated on AKCS registered Kerry cattle.
2. The NDHIA website is: <http://www.dhia.org/>; our contact is Leslie Thoman, Business Operations, Phone: (608) 848-6455, ext. 108, Email: Lthoman@dhia.org

AKCS Forms –

1. The following forms are currently complete and available from Shannon Nichols:
 - a. AKCS Birth Report Form
 - b. AKCS Membership Application Form
2. The 2011 AKCS Directory is complete and available for use. Copies can be requested from the Secretary, Patti Adams. It is also available as a PDF document for distribution by email.
3. The application form, instructions, and sample envelope needed for genotype testing Kerry cattle at Texas A&M is available from Patti Adams.
4. The forms needed for CLRC registrations and transfers are available from Shannon Nichols.

AKCS Website Update –

1. Shannon Nichols asked for contributions of content, including photos (labeled with contributor's name for giving proper credit), historical information on the American Kerry breeders group, listing of for sale or wanted animals for the classified section.
2. Shannon announced that the AKCS website is expected to be online and available this month. The URL will be: www.kerrycattlesociety.org

Board Actions:

1. Patti Adams made the following motion: "I move that we initiate discussion with the CLRC to make the American Kerry Cattle Society a recognized breed organization with the CLRC." Motion seconded by Shannon Nichols. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Shannon Nichols will initiate contact with CLRC on this matter.
2. Shannon Nichols informed the Board of several upcoming research and educational opportunities (these are needed to maintain our 501-C3 non-profit organizational status). Shannon Nichols made the following motion: "I move that we initiate collaboration with the American Milking Devon Association and others to write a grant to study B-variants in Kappa Casein for cheese-making using Kerry cow milk." Motion seconded by Shaun Ann Lord. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Shannon Nichols will initiate contact with the American Milking Devon Association on this item. (Side Note: Kappa Casein: There are nine known variants of the Kappa Casein in milk. The genotyping of κ -casein alleles (A and B) is of practical importance, since the B allele is found to correlate with commercially valuable parameters of cheese yielding efficiency. Cows with BB genotype have been found to have a 10% better yield than cows with the AA. The B allele was found to be associated with thermal resistance, shorter coagulation time, better curd formation and micelles of different sizes, which are preferable in cheese making (Schaar et al., 1985; Marziali and Ng-Kwai-Hang, 1986) The AA genotype is more desirable for milk powder production.)
3. Shannon Nichols informed the Board of Steve Washburn's study on CLAs and Omega-3 fats as another potential research project for the AKCS to become involved in. After some discussion, the Board decided that it wanted to have more information on the specifics of this type of research project before making a decision to become involved.

Treasurer's Report –

Dave Adams reported that the AKCS account balance was \$50.00 as of 7/31/2011.

Miscellaneous –

1. Shannon Nichols asked for photos of Kerry crossbred cattle to use in promoting registered Kerry bulls and Kerry bull semen with other breeds.
2. Shannon Nichols reported that AKCS has approximately \$1,700 at ALBC that belongs to the AKCS.
3. Shannon Nichols requested an update from Texas A&M on all genetic testing that has been done (to date) on Kerry cattle and on the current account balance remaining for future testing. Patti Adams will follow-up with Eleanore Conant (Dr. Cothran's assistant) on this. Patti will also send Shannon a file copy of the Texas A&M testing application form and hair sample envelope.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Adams, Secretary