



1 Seaman to approve the Year to Date Financial report as presented. Said motion was seconded  
2 by Dick Gehring, and carried.

3 Mr. Carter reported on the Proposed Three-Month budget for January – March 2013.  
4 The three-month budget proposes gross income of \$215,820, and gross expenses of \$173,647.  
5 After the 5% designated reserve, and other adjustments, the projected net income for the three-  
6 month period is \$32,162, compared to \$39,895 in 2012. Discussion was held. Formal adoption  
7 will be conducted during the January 25<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

8 Mr. Matheson provided a report on membership, which report was included as Attachment  
9 D with the board packet. The NBA has 1,031 members. After lagging behind projections  
10 throughout much of 2012, a strong performance in December put the association ahead of  
11 budgeted projections for 2012.

12 Mr. Matheson reported that Beverly Brown and the Winter Conference Committee have  
13 put together a tremendous schedule of speakers and activities for this week. Mr. Matheson  
14 reviewed the agenda with the board.

15 The chair called on Jim Matheson to provide a report of the State/Regional Committee.  
16 Mr. Matheson reported that Felicia Sergeant has left the North Dakota Buffalo Association.  
17 Ryan Hanna has agreed to assume the chair of that committee.

18 Boyd Meyer provided a report of the Gold Trophy Show and Sale Committee. There are  
19 104 live animals and 18 carcass class entries at the 2013 GTSS. Mr. Meyer said there will be  
20 discussion at the GTSS consignors over the issue of non-vaccinate animals at GTSS. Discussion  
21 was held. No action was taken.

22 Dave Carter and Robert Stirling provided a report on the Commercial Marketers'  
23 Committee.

24 Mr. Carter reported on Legislative and Regulatory issues. He reported that he and  
25 representatives of the Wildlife Conservation Society met with the key congressional staff  
26 members in January to discuss re-introducing the Bison Legacy Act. The group met with 12  
27 House and Senate offices. All of the sponsors from last session continue to be strongly  
28 supportive and are eager to move forward. A change in the House rules, however, is presenting  
29 a complication for passage of the bill.

30 The Farm Bill will be a major topic of congressional debate during the upcoming session.  
31 The NBA will be working to make sure that rural development programs are left intact, and that

1 the legislation provides adequate resources for USDA's Agricultural Research Service to assure  
2 that that agency has the capacity to handle some of the ongoing and emerging research activities  
3 relating to bison herd health.

4 Mr. Carter reported that he has been working extensively with representatives of the  
5 USDA Foreign Agriculture Service to address discriminatory practices against bison in the  
6 export marketplace. In regard to the efforts to address the discriminatory export policies to the  
7 European Union, the National Bison Association is working with FAS officials to petition the  
8 National Agriculture Statistics Service to authorize a separate export code for bison meat. Bison  
9 meat currently has the same export code as beef.

10 The NBA has also initiated discussions with FAS regarding the prohibition on bison  
11 exports to Japan and South Korea.

12 Mr. Carter reported that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) had issued a proposed  
13 rule to exempt Alaskan wildlife officials from certain Endangered Species Act (ESA) provisions  
14 concerning wood bison. This proposed rule would allow wood bison to be reintroduced into its  
15 former range in Alaska with "special rules that allow for some of the management requirements  
16 of the ESA to be relaxed to facilitate acceptance by local landowners and managers." The  
17 National Bison Association and Canadian Bison Association will be coordinating with the  
18 Alaskan officials to develop a unified industry public comment submission prior to the March  
19 4<sup>th</sup> deadline.

20 Discussion was held regarding the NBA Code of Ethics. In a previous meeting, discussion  
21 was held regarding in-vitro fertilization in bison. A motion was made by Russ Miller to table  
22 the discussion until the Friday meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

23 Marvin Moore has been nominated by the Canadian Bison Association to serve as the  
24 international director on the NBA board. He introduced himself, and provided a report of the  
25 International Director. He reported that the high grain prices and the loss of federally-inspected  
26 and EU-compliant slaughter plants have created an impediment to the business. He reported that  
27 the Canadian Bison Association had a successful annual meeting and sale.

28 Russ Miller provided a report of District I. He reported that legislation has been  
29 introduced to expand the ability of landowners to take bison (including commercial bison) that  
30 come on to private property. Existing laws provide that protection only when publicly owned or  
31 wild bison get on to private land. The Montana Bison Association and the World Wildlife

1 Federation have been cooperating to address this issue. Mr. Miller read to the board a statement  
2 that was adopted by the Montana Bison Association.

3         Jud Seaman reported from District III, and provided a preview of the Dakota Territories  
4 Buffalo Association annual meeting scheduled February 1-2. He reported that Felicia Sergeant  
5 has left the North Dakota Buffalo Association. Bruce Anderson reported that there is a lot of  
6 drought related decision-making.

7         Lee Graese reported from District V. He reported that the Minnesota Buffalo  
8 Association had a successful meeting and sale in November. Prices at the sale were slightly  
9 lower.

10         Troy Bivens provided a report from District VII. He said some new producers are  
11 getting into the business. Several producers in that region are investigating a mobile processing  
12 plant.

13         Bill Edwards provided a report from District VIII he encouraged the NBA to promote  
14 the Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program.

15         Mr. Carter and Mr. Kleinert reported that they were approached in December by an  
16 NBA member involved in making an IMAX film on the demise of buffalo in the late 1800's.  
17 Mr. Kleinert reported that the project is not moving forward.

18         Mr. Carter said that he had nothing additional to report to the board.

19         There being no additional business to come before the board, and upon motion made,  
20 seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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22 Respectfully submitted,

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25 Dave Carter, Recording Secretary

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28 Amil Kleinert, Secretary