



1 calves report. Discussion was held. The marketers also expressed the consensus that the NBA  
2 Growth Fund should be renamed to reflect emphasis on consumer outreach. The Commercial  
3 Marketers' Committee formally voted to recommend that the Growth Fund contribution per  
4 participant be increased to \$2 head, with 25 percent to be allocated to the NBA, and the  
5 remainder to be dedicated to promotion. Boyd Meyer made a motion to accept the Commercial  
6 Marketers' Committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ken Klemm. Discussion  
7 was held. The motion was put to a vote, and carried.

8 Boyd Meyer provided a report from the Gold Trophy Show and Sale Committee. He  
9 reported that 100 bison have been checked in at the National Western Stock Show.

10 Jim Matheson provided a report of the Science and Research Committee. The committee  
11 met on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, with several people participating from South Dakota State University. Dr.  
12 Kristi Cammack will be serving as director. The university is eager to fill the endowed chair for  
13 bison studies. The committee is also discussing a follow-up International Bison Herd Health  
14 Symposium. There is potential funding available through USDA National Institute for Food and  
15 Agriculture. Dave Carter mentioned that APHIS has received approval for a follow-up  
16 epidemiological study of bison. Mr. Matheson and Mr. Carter will be meeting with  
17 representatives of APHIS following the conference to discuss the focus of that study.

18 Ken Klemm reported that the Science and Research Committee had discussed concerns  
19 that have arisen regarding the DNA technology utilized by the North American Bison Registry.  
20 There is concern that the technology utilized is outdated. Discussion was held. No action was  
21 taken.

22 The board moved to a report from the NABR. Connor Elliott, chair of the NABR, joined  
23 the meeting. He reported that the NABR Committee conducted a conference call with their  
24 advisory committee to discuss DNA testing technology. The NABR had developed a  
25 recommendation for the NBA Board. The resolution was reviewed and wording amended. The  
26 recommendation reads:

27 *1. Revised wording for NABR motion-*

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29 *"The NABR shall henceforth accept all accredited forms of DNA analysis that have been*  
30 *unanimously approved by the NABR Committee and Advisory Council. Pre-requisites to*  
31 *accreditation are an approved laboratory and technology with the ability to provide information*

1           *sufficient for the NABR to (a) perform eligibility analysis (b) register bison (c) provide data for*  
2           *parentage and lineage association.*

3           *The NABR shall continue to serve as ‘a species registry’ held and operated by the*  
4           *NBA. Accreditation, as described herein above, must be approved by majority vote of the NBA*  
5           *Board of Directors.”*

6           2. *Preliminary Registration using microchips-*

7           *Bylaws wording regarding permanent ID-*

8           (8.5) Official Permanent ID: Permanent ID recognized by USDA APHIS for traceability.

9           Further discussion was held. President Baggett noted that some advisors may have a  
10          conflict of interest because they work for institutions that market DNA testing. Mr. Klemm  
11          noted that perhaps the NABR should be focused on parentage, and that the Science and  
12          Research Committee have jurisdiction over identifying acceptable DNA technology for bison.  
13          Following discussion, the board expressed consensus for NABR to revise the proposed  
14          recommendation to reflect the board input.

15          Mr. Elliott reported that a producer wants to register animals that have been microchipped,  
16          but not tagged with a permanent ID. The NABR bylaws require permanent ID. The producer  
17          wants to register the animals now, with the understanding that the producer will transition to a  
18          permanent ID. A motion was made by Ken Klemm to accept the NABR recommendation, with  
19          a requirement that the animals be tagged with a permanent ID within one year. Said motion was  
20          seconded and carried.

21          Discussion was held on the National Buffalo Foundation (NBF). Dave Carter reported on  
22          the progress to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NBA and NBF, as  
23          recommended by NBF in its strategic planning session last year. He will continue to work with  
24          the foundation to get a formal MOU proposal finalized. Mr. Gehring, who has been serving as  
25          the NBA’s representative on the NBF board, reported that he has been elected as a regular  
26          director on the NBF board. The NBA needs to appoint a liaison director to replace Mr. Gehring.  
27          Discussion was held. Mr. Carter and Mr. Matheson addressed the importance of a close working  
28          relationship among the NBA and NBA, including the finalization of a Memorandum of  
29          Understanding. A motion was made by Donnis Baggett to appoint Joe Graham as the NBA  
30          liaison. Said motion was seconded and carried.

31          Discussion was held on the Throlson Foundation. The NBA is charged with electing a  
32          formal representative to the Throlson Foundation. Following discussion, Brian Grubb made a

1 motion to nominate Dick Gehring as the NBA representative on the Throlson Foundation. The  
2 motion was seconded and carried.

3 Discussion was held regarding a strategic planning session for the board of directors. The  
4 dates were tentatively set for March 19-20, pending availability of Mimi Hillenbrand. Mr.  
5 Carter agreed to provide the board with a copy of the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses,  
6 Opportunities and Threats) analysis conducted by the staff on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carter will also  
7 provide directors with the current Strategic Plan.

8 Mr. Matheson reported that the 2021 Winter Conference will be January 19-22. Discussion  
9 was held regarding the length of the conference. No action was taken.

10 Dave Carter recommended that the NBA again provide a sponsorship for ShiftCon. Brian  
11 Grubb moved to provide a sponsorship for ShiftCon in October 2020. Said motion was  
12 seconded and carried.

13 Because Alan Douglass was elected vice president, a board member vacancy exists in  
14 Region I. Brian Grubb made a motion to appoint Mary Adams as the new director from Region  
15 I. Said motion was seconded and carried.

16 Mr. Carter distributed Conflict of Interest statements. He informed the board that he is  
17 performing consulting services for Merck Animal Care and for the Pet Sustainability Coalition.

18 The board discussed its schedule for 2020 meetings. The following dates were identified:

- 19 • March, during strategic planning.
- 20 • June 20-22, in conjunction with Summer Conference.
- 21 • 5 p.m. MDT August 20, via teleconference.
- 22 • 5 p.m. MST October 22, via teleconference.
- 23 • 5 p.m. MST December 10<sup>th</sup> 5 via teleconference.

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25 There being no additional business to discuss, and upon motion made, seconded and  
26 carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

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28 Respectfully Submitted,

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Joe Graham, Secretary

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David E. Carter, Recording Secretary