



1 \$27,866 above anticipated levels. Summer conference was \$11,637 above budget, primarily  
2 because of the higher-than-anticipated attendance. Also, the check-off expenses to date are  
3 \$5,202 above budgeted levels. If that continues, however, there will be a balance sheet  
4 adjustment at year-end to bring in some of the checkoff reserves to cover the difference.

5 Dave Carter reviewed the balance sheet. He reported that the association may move some  
6 current assets into Money Market Accounts at the end of September. A motion was made by  
7 Dick Gehring to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Roy Liedtke, and  
8 carried.

9 The Chair called on Mr. Carter to provide a report on regional director and officer  
10 elections. Mr. Carter reported that elections will be held in September for directors from  
11 Regions II, IV, VI and VIII. Boyd Meyer in Region II and Bill Edwards in Region VIII are  
12 prohibited from seeking re-election under the term limit provisions in the bylaws. Ray Thieman  
13 of Colorado has been nominated as a director in Region II. No candidate has yet been  
14 nominated in Region VIII, but the NBA office has contacted the Eastern Bison Association to  
15 request a nomination. Dick Gehring in Region IV and Jason Moore in Region VI are both  
16 eligible for re-election, and have been nominated to serve a second term.

17 Mr. Carter also noted that the association's bylaws allow the Board of Directors to  
18 nominate a slate of candidates for officer and director-at-large positions, with the elections to be  
19 held during the winter conference. Under the bylaws provisions, President Cook and Secretary-  
20 Treasurer Kleinert are term limited, and cannot seek re-election to their current positions.  
21 Without objection, the Executive Committee was directed to develop a recommended slate of  
22 officers to bring forth to the Board of Directors at the October scheduled board meeting.

23 Jim Matheson provided a report of the Winter Conference Committee. The committee is  
24 requesting that the board authorize up to \$5,000 to pay for a keynote speaker at the 2014  
25 conference. Discussion was held. Russ Miller made a motion to authorize up to \$5,000 to pay  
26 for speakers at the 2014 Winter Conference. The motion was seconded by Lee Graese.  
27 Discussion was held. Bill Edwards and Karen Conley expressed concern about the cost. Roy  
28 Liedtke noted that the Winter Conference Committee last year did not have any direction on this  
29 topic. Lee Graese noted that good speakers will often pay for themselves in terms of additional  
30 attention. The motion was put to a vote, and carried.

1 Mr. Carter reported that the NBA administratively implemented a policy a few years ago  
2 to assess a 10 percent administrative fee on fun auction items that were sold for the National  
3 Buffalo Foundation or the Throlson American Bison Foundation. He requested that the board  
4 formalize that policy. Russ Miller made a motion to establish that as board policy, a 10 percent  
5 administrative fee to be charged on fun auction items sold at conferences for the National  
6 Buffalo Foundation and the Throlson American Bison Foundation. The motion was seconded  
7 by Dick Gehring, and carried.

8 Jim Matheson reported on the planning for Summer Conference. Randy Miller, an NBA  
9 member with a ranch in southern Missouri has proposed a conference in Branson, MO for 2014.  
10 He has volunteered to serve as the host ranch. The Missouri Bison Association has also agreed  
11 to serve as the host State/Regional association. The Chateau on the Lake Hotel is offering room  
12 rates of \$125/night for a conference to be scheduled June 4-6, 2014. Peter Cook noted that the  
13 early dates proposed for the conference would make it difficult for families with children to  
14 attend the meeting. Mr. Matheson noted that children have not been a significant portion of the  
15 past few summer conferences. A motion was made by Peter Cook to approve the 2014 summer  
16 conference for June 4 - 6 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, MO. The motion was seconded  
17 by Roy Liedtke, and carried.

18 The Chair called upon Roy Liedtke to provide a report of the Membership Committee.  
19 The committee has been restructured, and recently held a conference call meeting. Diana  
20 Weinhardt of Minnesota has recommended that outreach be conducted to encourage zoos with  
21 bison to join the NBA as Friends of the Buffalo. The association has also implemented the \$50  
22 student chapter membership program. Mr. Matheson reported that several members have  
23 expressed interest in sponsoring student organizations as members. Mr. Carter said this new  
24 category will be promoted at the FFA National Convention.

25 Jim Matheson reported that the membership in August is 1,012, which is the same number  
26 of members as in June. The association is investigating potential software that will allow it to  
27 better track and evaluate its membership trends.

28 Boyd Meyer provided a report of the Gold Trophy Show and Sale Committee. The  
29 committee is recommending that Paul Lyman be approved as the third judge for the 2014  
30 GTSS, to join Alan Oborny and Marielle Graese as returning judges. A motion was made by

1 Peter Cook to approve Paul Lyman as a judge for the GTSS. The motion was seconded by Lee  
2 Graese, and carried.

3 Mr. Meyer reported that Ryan Clark of Canada has inquired about the request that was  
4 brought forward in January's consignor meeting to drop the Bangs vaccination requirement for  
5 non-vaccinates. Mr. Meyer said that Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Montana do not allow animals  
6 to come into their states without a Bangs vaccination. There may be other states as well. At  
7 Mr. Meyer's request, Mr. Carter has discussed this issue with the association's attorney, and  
8 with Jud Seaman. The attorney and Mr. Seaman reported that the association would not incur  
9 additional legal liability if the new policy were posted in the rules and announced during the  
10 auction. Mr. Meyer noted that a change in the current policy could result in additional animals  
11 being brought to GTSS. Mr. Meyer reported that he felt it would be worthwhile to implement on  
12 a trial basis. Discussion was held regarding the importance of getting the GTSS committee's  
13 input on the issue. Russ Miller made a motion that the board of directors approve removing the  
14 Bangs vaccination requirement for the Gold Trophy Show and Sale, subject to concurrence  
15 from the GTSS committee. The motion was seconded by Bill Edwards and carried. Mr. Meyer  
16 will work with Jim Matheson to send out an email to the GTSS Committee asking for  
17 concurrence. The chair recommended that the GTSS Committee establish a written policy  
18 regarding procedures to cover situations in which a non-vaccinate animal is purchased by a  
19 buyer who desires to ship the animal to a state that requires vaccinations.

20 Jim Matheson reported that the GTSS Committee is looking at some alternatives for  
21 trophies.

22 Bradeen Auction Service have submitted a bid to handle the 2014 Gold Trophy Show and  
23 Sale for the same price as in 2013. The NBA has not yet sent out a request for bids. Lee Graese  
24 made a motion to accept the bid from Bradeen Auction Service for the 2014 Gold Trophy Show  
25 and Sale. Said motion was seconded by Bill Edwards, and carried.

26 The NBA is continuing to utilize the checkoff program for both consumer promotion, and  
27 for producer recruitment. Checkoff dollars have been used to develop the Bison Finder App,  
28 which is preparing to go live in the coming weeks. This free downloadable app will allow users  
29 to locate retail, restaurant, and on-farm sources for bison meat throughout the country in their  
30 area.

1 The NBA is scheduled to host a booth at the FFA National Convention in Louisville, KY  
2 for October 29 – November 1, and at the National Association of Farm Broadcasters' Trade  
3 Talk event on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

4 Mr. Carter reported that, in anticipation of the passage of a Senate Resolution designating  
5 November 2<sup>nd</sup> as National Bison Day, the association is developing a public relations kit that  
6 members can use to promote bison meat for holiday entertaining.

7 Mr. Carter reported on activities from the Commercial Marketers' Committee. The  
8 committee has started to become involved in reviewing humane certification labels emerging in  
9 the retail marketplace.

10 The Humane Farm Animal Care Association agreed to work with a working group of  
11 NBA members to review that organizations draft standards for humane bison handling. Those  
12 draft standards were provided to the NBA, and a working group of producers reviewed them  
13 and developed a series of formal recommendations. The recommendations were then  
14 communicated to HFAC. Mr. Carter reported that HFAC has positively responded to the NBA  
15 input. Dick Gehring noted that the HFAC document could serve as a basis for the development  
16 of a Best Practices guide for the NBA.

17 Mr. Carter reported that he will be working the Commercial Marketers' Committee to  
18 develop and distribute the twice-yearly on-line survey.

19 He also reported that the Commercial Marketers' Committee in 2010 developed a  
20 Statement of the North American Bison Industry to communicate the supply-demand challenges  
21 with retail and foodservice customers. That statement is being updated to reflect current  
22 industry conditions. He has sent the draft statement to Terry Kremeniuk at the Canadian Bison  
23 Association for review.

24 Jim Matheson provided a report from the State/Regional Committee. The committee met  
25 via teleconference and discussed scheduling Bison Advantage workshops, and updating the  
26 Bison Advantage website. Peter Cook asked if there has been discussion regarding a  
27 State/Regional Summit this fall. Mr. Matheson said that topic did not arise during the committee  
28 call.

29 Dave Carter reported that the Pioneers' get-together held in conjunction with summer  
30 conference was a huge success. The NBA will be compiling the interviews conducted during  
31 that session, and may do a follow-up activity in conjunction with the 2014 Winter Conference.

1 Mr. Carter provided a report on legislative and regulatory issues.

2 The Washington Roundup is scheduled for September 11 – 13. The Washington Plaza has  
3 reserved a block of rooms at \$179/night. He reviewed the list of members who have registered  
4 to participate in the Roundup. And, he reviewed the issues scheduled to be addressed during the  
5 Roundup.

6 The final language for the resolution establishing National Bison Day on November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7 has been drafted, and is scheduled to be introduced by U.S. Sen. Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Tim  
8 Johnson (D-SD) in early September. Mr. Carter noted that a copy of that resolution is attached  
9 with the board packet.

10 Mr. Carter noted that the NBA has received responses from both Agriculture Secretary  
11 Tom Vilsack and U.S. Representative Michael Froman regarding our reminder to them of their  
12 past commitments to assist the U.S. bison industry in addressing the restrictive tariff on bison  
13 products entering the EU. Those responses were very positive.

14 He reported that he has also contacted officials in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to  
15 forward the suggestion that USDA Ag Vets be allowed to handle the wildlife inspection on  
16 bison shipments coming into the U.S. from Canada if USFW resources were limited. The  
17 response to that request has not been encouraging. Mr. carter also reported that he is working  
18 with the Canadian Bison Association to develop a joint communication to the U.S. Fish and  
19 Wildlife Service regarding bison imports into the United States from Canada. That joint  
20 communication will include a request to eliminate the branding requirement on Canadian bison  
21 being imported into the United States.

22 Mr. Carter reported that the House Senate Farm Bill Conference Committee will likely be  
23 meeting during the time of the NBA Legislative Roundup.

24 Also during the Roundup, the NBA is planning to meet with the USDA Agricultural  
25 Research Service to discuss improvement and expansion of the agency's database for bison  
26 products.

27 Mr. Carter reviewed with the board the schedule for the upcoming American Bison  
28 Society conference in Big Sky, MT. He stressed that it is important that private producers be  
29 represented at this meeting. He also noted that he and Jim Matheson are both slated to be  
30 presenters at this conference.

1           The Chair called upon Mr. Matheson to report on the 2017 International Bison  
2 Conference. Mr. Matheson reported that he is working with Conference Direct to investigate a  
3 Mississippi River Cruise as a venue for the 2017 International Bison Conference. He will  
4 continue to explore that option.

5           The Chair called upon directors for reports from their regions.

6           Boyd Meyer reported that the Rocky Mountain Buffalo Association is holding its fall  
7 meeting at Genesee Park in September.

8           Karen Conley noted that the North Dakota Buffalo Association has moved its winter sale  
9 and meeting to January 11<sup>th</sup> in Rugby, ND.

10          Jason Moore reported that the inaugural Indiana-Illinois Bison Association has taken  
11 place. The association is now drafting its bylaws.

12          Marvin Moore reported Canadian/EU trade negotiations are continuing.

13          Mr. Carter did not have any additional information for his Executive Director's Report.

14          Following discussion, the board set the next meeting for 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 15.

15          There being no further business to come before the board, and upon motion made,  
16 seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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18          Respectfully submitted,

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21          David E. Carter, Recording Secretary

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23          \_\_\_\_\_

24          Amil Kleinert, Secretary