



Ultrasound Guidelines Council

P.O. Box 5097
Bozeman, MT 59717-5097
Phone: 406-581-9071
Fax: 406-585-4685
<http://www.ultrasoundbeef.com>

UGC Board Meeting

June 3, 2011
Bozeman, MT

Board Members Present: Larry Keenan (chair), Bill Bowman, Becky Hays, Mark Henry, Rethel King, J.R. Tait, Mike Tess, and Robert Williams.

Board Members Absent: Russell Coon, Scott Griener, Dean Pringle, and Wade Shafer.

- LK opened the meeting at about 7:15 PM
- Financial Report – Mike Tess
 - A financial summary was passed out, explained and discussed. LK – reported that the Beef Breeds Council was pleased with the financial status of UGC.
 - RK – approve. RW – second. Approved.
- Lab and Breed Association Fees – Mark Henry
 - Ultrasound image volume and its potential impact on lab business were discussed. No action taken. UGC will need to monitor.
- Pre-sorting – Field Certification – Becky Hayes
 - Obtaining extra cattle for field certification and pre-scanning them to determine which animals to use in certification was encouraged. MT stated that this has been practiced at the past two spring certifications and at the Brazil certification. MT was encouraged to implement this practice at the fall certification.
- Speeding up Field Certification Process – Mike Tess
 - MT discussed the need to speed up the process – i.e., the time from scanning day to final votes. RK – proposed determining IQ during certification. MT was encouraged to provide deadlines to labs and Board voters.
- Reference Techs for Field Certification – Mike Tess
 - This discussion centered on the need for 3 (current policy) versus 2 reference technicians, and whether Classic equipment should be represented in all certifications. BH thought 3 reference techs was best. JRT thought that all technologies should be represented in every certification.
 - MH – motion to always include Classic. RW – second. Failed.

- Hardware/software – JR Tait
 - JRT expressed concern that genetic correlations between ultrasound and carcass are lower than they once were in the Angus breed. Several possible reasons were suggested.
 - Representatives from the 3 UGC labs and JRT were charged with considering plans and experimental designs for a research project to re-evaluate machine/software accuracy for IMF.

- Lab Certification – Mike Tess
 - MT thought that the software used by lab techs to certify should be of the same manufacturer as used in commercial practice. The Board generally thought this was a good practice. No formal action taken.
 - MT highlighted the difficulty that labs have in reading images from different software packages.

- Update on Brazil – Mike Tess
 - MT reviewed the recent certification in Brazil and shared that he has been invited back to Brazil to speak at an ultrasound workshop and to conduct another lab certification. MT shared the need to be reimbursed for his time when conducting UGC business beyond the scope of his current contract.
 - MT will attempt to get a clearer picture from the Brazilian leaders regarding how they wish UGC to help them in the future.
 - RW encouraged MT to consult attorney regarding charges for services rendered in South America.

- Study Guide – Mike Tess
 - MT encouraged all to finish their assigned chapters.

- Webinar topics and speakers – Mike Tess
 - Potential topics and speakers identified:
 - Image Quality from a Lab Perspective - Becky Hays
 - “Ultrasound is not dying” - Kent Anderson or Matt Spangler
 - “Contemporary groups, reading reports”
 - “From data (or Images) to EPDs - Wade Shafer
 - LK asked MT to formally thank ASA for their help in providing the webinars.

- RK – motion to adjourn. RW – second. The meeting was adjourned at about 9:45 PM.