



# Canadian Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Association Canadienne Suisse Brune et Braunvieh

## Minutes – Annual General Meeting

Hotel Universel – Alma, Quebec  
Friday, March 29, 2019 - 10:00 a.m.

### 1.0 Call to Order

- Ken Dummond thanked everyone for attending and called the meeting to order at 10:05am.
- English translation provided by Joey.
- Sem Lehmann, president of the Quebec Brown Swiss club gave a welcoming speech to those in attendance, wishing a great collaboration between all organizations and laid out the plan for the upcoming day.

### 2.0 Identification of Members

- Each individual present introduced themselves and gave details of their operation.

### 3.0 Approval of Agenda

- All participants were given time to review the agenda.
- Items added to the agenda are the catch up program, classification workshop and World Conference 2020, US Animal vs DHI.
- Renald motioned to accept the agenda with addition and keep open. Serge seconded.

### 4.0 Minutes

- All participants were given time to review the minutes while Ken highlighted important points from the 2018 minutes.
  - Items, which were up discussion, were fee schedule, location of AGM, master breeder & classification workshop.
  - AGM was unable in British Columbia due to illness in the host family.
- Request made to have minutes sent out prior to the meeting for review.
  - Recommendation: send by email along with invitation to AGM.
- Serge motioned to accept the minutes as read. Renald seconded.

### 5.0 Business Arising from 2018 Minutes

- Advised all present to notify the secretary manager for website issues.
  - Monies available in budget to make appropriate fixes.
  - Requested all present to send in photos to the secretary manager for website usage.
- Question brought forward on why Newsletter had US animal on cover (WDE Supreme winner).
  - Secretary Manager answered it was due to lack of Canadian animal picture inventory and since a Brown Swiss animal won a prestigious award, it was to highlight the breed.
- Question brought forward asking if National Board had a position on robotic milking data.
  - Further clarification on the topic: which recommendation will CBS&BA make towards the dairy industry concerning publication of robotic milking software data.
  - Carolin updated on a small project by Holstein Canada where they are collecting milking software data from farms to study.
    - If there are willing participant farms, Carolin will gladly forward to Holstein Canada.
  - Ken stated the incoming board is tasked with establishing a national position.
- Chris will provide an update on Swiss Genetics later in the day.
- Question brought forward about the change in administration from Eastgen to Holstein Canada.
  - Ken provided an update on the process undertaken. The change to Holstein Canada came down to a few factors: familiarity in the industry, history with the Association, available bilingual person and easier integration.
  - Trial period for one year until October 2019, which provides a stable expense per month.

## **6.0 Financial Matters**

- Donald presented the financial statements as provided by RLB.
  - Reiterated the notice to reader advisory.
  - Advised all participants the transition from Eastgen to Holstein Canada happened mid-year, which creates a difficult forecast on expenses.
    - Opportunities exist to save on expenses; to be explored by the secretary manager such as translation.
  - Question and explanation of the former Quebec levy on genomics of \$5.
- Jean-Yves motioned to accept the financials as read and Chantal seconded. Unanimous vote for.

## **7.0 Appointment of Auditors**

- Discussion of historical auditors appointed and potential options going forward.
  - Options of having internal members complete the audit or remain with RLB.
  - An option to merge with Holstein Canada was discussed; however, the value for the price is better than what Holstein Canada can offer with their auditors.
- Renald motioned to retain RLB as auditors and Chantal seconded. Unanimous vote for.

## **8.0 Committee Reports**

### **8.1 Show Reports**

- Shirley provided a report for Ontario and shows.
  - 71 members, 350 purebred registrations with 120 animals registered at percentage purity
  - 11<sup>th</sup> year at the Hanover show with 50 head.
  - Kindcardine show had over 30 head.
    - Error found on Annual Report for Kincardine Show – John & Shirley Dortmans are best exhibitor and Nor Bella are the best breeder.
- Dave provided a report for Quebec shows.
  - Two shows in Quebec: Victoriaville (with 24 head) and the Supreme.
  - Quality of animals at the Quebec shows was impressive.
    - Most animals from Quebec finished in the top five at the World Dairy Expo.
- Dave provided a report for World Dairy Expo
  - Canadian animals greatly represented in the large classes; classes as large as Canadian shows.
  - This is the first year Quebec won second for State Herd; takes many exhibitors to achieve.
  - Two animals won best production awards at WDE.
    - Highlights Canadian cows are not behind the US.
  - Discussion of US owned animals with Quebec genetics / housed in Quebec.

**\*An apology to Chantal Leclerc for forgetting Milec Glenncore Caramel-ET from the report.\***

### **8.3 President Message**

- Ken read his final president message.

### **8.2 Breed Improvement Committee Report**

- Not many meetings because there was never a driving topic to move forward.
- Recommendation to change committee structure for prosperous future.
  - Idea to have vice president be chair of committee.

## **9.0 Amendments to the Constitution**

### **9.1 QC Resolution #1: Superior Production Award at 305 Day**

- Discussion on this resolution to recognize cows for the production they have done.
  - Certificate not issued until her completed lactation.
  - Resolution is to have the certificate issued after 305 days
- Reviewed and approved by Board.
- Josée motioned to accept this resolution and seconded by Jean Yves. Unanimous vote for.

### **9.2 QC Resolution #2: Bylaw 22.3 amendment**

- Reviewed in conjunction with 9.4 ON Bylaw amendment.
- Board recommends accepting Ontario amendment for bylaw wording and Quebec resolution for administration process.
- Request: French bylaw has 'Société canadienne d'enregistrement' should read 'Registrar'.
- Request: have translation sent to Quebec club review prior.
- Discussion on finer details, differences and commonalities of both amendments / resolution
  - Original Ontario submission states an agreement by both parties; which is a core difference from the Quebec submission.
- Board recommends removal of 'by phone' option.
  - Prefer methods, which maintain identity of requestor and are trackable.
    - Need to ensure APA guidelines are met to track change.
  - Discussed administration guidelines of this new system.
    - Transfers can occur right away, send a confirmation email if buyer requests transfer.
    - Permission implied if seller submits transfer.
    - Deal with issues on a case by case.
    - This is a system to help with integrity of the Herdbook and traceability.
- Discussion about doing like Holstein Canada online account.
- Spirit of the attendees is the will of amendment is accepted; simply finding the proper wording is the challenge.
- Discussion concerning the accepted style of wording required for Bylaws.
  - The Ontario amended fits the style to keep it simple and not constrictive.
- Ken read the agreed modified amendment:
 

“Applications for transfer must be forwarded with the certificates of registration to the Registrar for endorsement of the change of ownership. An electronically submitted application for the transfer, written or electronic agreement, will also be accepted by the Association.”
- Shirley, on behalf of Ontario Club, motion to accept the Bylaw amendment, as read (*reading above agreed modified amendment*) & seconded by Josée. Unanimous vote for.
- A vote was held to accept the amended amendment. Unanimous vote for.

*Meeting paused for Lunch.*

After Lunch, Chantal thanked our sponsors for their tremendous support.

Sollio Agriculture (auparavant LaCoop)

Clinique vétérinaire Sagamie

John Deere Maltais et Ouellet

CIAQ

Producteurs de lait du Québec

Groupe Estrie-Richelieu

Desjardins Entreprises

A.P.L. du Saguenay Inc.

Équipement laitier Gagnon

- Josée motioned to table resolution #2 submitted by Quebec and seconded by Serge. Unanimous vote for.

### **9.3 QC Resolutions #3: Adding 'Comments' field to registration form**

- Very quick discussion about the resolution.
- Renald motioned to accept the resolution and seconded by Roger. Unanimous vote for.

### **9.4 ON Bylaw 22.3 amendment**

- See 9.2

### **10.0 Fee Schedule**

- Board did not have any recommendations to bring forward.
- Request made to have a two-tier registration late fee structure: 0-3 months and 3 months and up.
- Different from Braunvieh is due to pasturing of their animals.
  - They specifically asked for a different price.
- Discussion on volumes of registrations per age groups (both member and non-members).
  - Review of registrations at 50% purity or less for \$11, instead of registering purebred at 24 months and over for \$100.

- Discussion of any levy to add on genotyping, similar to prior years with Quebec levy.
- Dave, with permission from Josée, motioned to maintain the fee schedule the same as 2018 and seconded by Emmanuel. Vote held with 13 for and 4 against.

### **11.0 Location of next AGM**

- Ontario is willing to host the AGM.
- CBS&BA accepts the invitation the national meeting.

### **12.0 Other Business**

#### **12.1 Catch-Up Program**

- Program to renew annually.
- Discussion on the program and its use to attract new members.
  - Use program to enter members at a fair rate and not make it too easy to enter and not retain membership.
- Board recommends an increase for the catch-up rate from \$11 to \$13 for the 0-3mths & recorded categories.
  - Board agreed to a \$2 payback for any catch-up handled by Serge.
    - This is recognition for the field service work done by Brown Swiss Quebec
  - The offer is available to any provincial club upon written request.
    - Paid to the provincial club, not to an individual member who may have helped.
- Board recommends setting a one-year time limit (rolling year) for the catch-up and rate.
  - This will help get the work completed and close the open-ended nature of the current wording.
- Emmanuelle motioned to accept the Board recommendation to increase the catch up rate from \$11 to \$13 for the 0-3 mths and recorded categories, and seconded by Fred.
- Emmanuelle motioned to accept the Board recommendation set a one-year time limit to the catch-up program and recorded categories, and seconded by Fred.
- The vote was held on both motions with 14 for and 2 abstain.
- Renald motioned for incoming board to implement the program for one year and seconded by Serge. Unanimous vote for.

#### **12.2 Classification Workshop**

- Discussion on topics to cover at the workshop hosted at Ferme Lehmann.
  - Review rump evaluation
    - Identify wanted rump conformation
    - Breeders have different ideas on this; this workshop is a helpful start to identify the desired breed traits
    - Then move it on to Breed Improvement Committee
  - Bone quality is a topic to review
  - Teat length calculation
  - Classifier process with Brown Swiss breed
    - Carolin will go over the classifier scorecard & their processes at the Workshop.

#### **12.2B Heifer evaluation project update**

- Sub topic during workshop discussion
- Carolin provided a quick update on the project.
  - No preliminary data available yet
- Goal is to have 17,000 heifers classified – slightly behind schedule due to ProAction & Classification workload.

#### **12.3 Brown Swiss World Conference 2020**

- Fred stated from his experience this is a great place for meet good Brown Swiss friends, acquaintances and enthusiasts.
- Dave stated the goal is to promote the Canadian Brown Swiss breed
  - Need feedback
- Question: was CBS&BA approached to be a guest speaker at the event?

- Answer: not at this time. CBS&BA asked to be co-host only; which is not financially possible
- Idea: have an All Canadian section at World Dairy Expo
  - Dave will ask and see if this can be worked on, while respecting the historical allocation of stalls at WDE fairgrounds.
- Idea: have banner or logo to tie all Canadian Bred or Canadian Owned animals.
- Idea: organize a bus to go to the event.

#### **12.4 U.S. Animals and Milk Recording**

- Serge asked if Ontario Club has the same issues where herds are losing publishable status.
  - Three herds in QC are having publishable records issue.
- Serge made inquiries with Valacta who mentioned they need permission from CBS&BA to make herds publishable.
- Since there are multiple possibilities why publishable status is affected, some verification needs to be done.
  - If new dairy tag number issued, need to have cross reference established.
  - If transfer from Brown Swiss USA not done, need to have this completed.
- Ken advised attendees to bring issues forward to the Secretary Manager for review and help.

#### **12.5 Swiss Genetics**

- Chris provided an update on current state.
  - Announced a new order was received
- Brown Swiss members have contributed to the great success of Swiss Genetics with their semen order compared to registrations.
  - Inbreeding rate has gone down due to use of European based semen, which is a positive compared to other breeds.
- Semex and Swiss Genetics continues to have a strong partnership in support of all Brown Swiss members in meeting all our goals.

#### **12.6 Introduction of New Registrar**

- Not just the Secretary Manager at Holstein Canada who is a part of your team.
- Introduction of Janine Eygenraam
  - Chris gave high praise of her work rate and intelligence.
  - Members all have positive and high praise for their work with Janine.

#### **12.7 Newsletter**

Congratulations on the December newsletter: great presentation, easy to read.

#### **12.8 Mastitis Resistance**

- Question: why does Brown Swiss not have Mastitis Resistance on genomic results.
  - Answer: not enough data yet; need a bigger reference set – will come in time.

#### **12.0 Adjournment**

- Renald motioned to adjourn.
- Adjourned at 2:55.