

ABCA Board of Directors Meeting

January 24, 2006 Conference Call

Executive Summary

Directors on the call: Mike Neary, Larry Burkes, Dan Gill, Norma Brice, Eileen Stein, Robin French, Jim Swift, Martin Penfold, Susan Carvalho, Gary Westbrook.

Also on the call: Patty Rogers, Secretary.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee – Mike reported that the Executive Committee had approved the purchase of six similar domain names for a 5-year period for a reduced rate. Eileen reported that the purchase had been made, and all the new URLs point to our web site. All approved.
- Finance Committee – Jim Swift (chair), Glenn Firchow, Dal Kratzer & Linda Fogt. The Committee is reviewing investment reports and material from the auditors and will report further at the next meeting. In the meantime, our bank account is over its FDIC limit, and we should take some action. On MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to authorize Patty to invest \$100,000 in a short-term CD.
- Hall of Fame Committee – Dan Gill (chair), Eileen Stein. Dan reported that new members would be added soon.
- Health & Genetics Committee – Sally Lacy (chair), Denise Wall, Amy Coapman, Eileen Stein, Mark Billadeau. Eileen deferred reporting on funding requests until later in the meeting.
- Communications Committee – Eileen Stein & Susan Carvalho (co-chairs). Eileen reported that they are working on recruiting new committee members and their first priority is getting the website updated.

Cattledog finals. The USBCHA's requests for 2006 were for \$5,000 from the livestock fund for cattle, \$5,000 from the livestock fund for sheep, plus \$6,400 to be divided between the cattle finals and the sheep finals for the general fund. Upon MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the request as submitted, but that we would request a report on how the \$6,400 was spent.

Upon MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to pay the same prize money as last year – in the Nursery a total of \$2,000 (1st - \$500, 2nd - \$300, 3rd thru 10th - \$150), and in the Open pay \$100/handler to the top 20 of each of the two qualifying rounds, plus 1st - \$500, 2nd - \$300, 3rd - \$200, 4th thru 10th - \$100, plus \$500 to the breeder of the top ABCA-registered dog in both the Nursery and the Open – and in addition to pay \$250 to the 1st place winner of each go-round in the Nursery.

Eye testing was discussed, and it was agreed that Dr. Acland would be contacted to see if he would be available, and other arrangements would be sought if he was not.

Health & Genetics. The Health & Genetics Committee recommended an additional grant of \$5,000 to support Dr. Todhunter's study of the DLS technique for predicting mature hip conformation. We are 2/3 of the way toward enrolling and testing the 50

working border collies needed for this study; blood is also being collected from these dogs for Dr. Todhunter's mapping project for narrowing down the location of the genes governing hip dysplasia. On MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the H&G Committee's recommendation. The Committee also recommended a grant of \$5,000 toward the collection of blood and pedigree information from dogs with idiopathic epilepsy and their relatives, for a preliminary study initially approved last year. On MOTION duly made and seconded, this request was approved also.

Director vacancy. Mike announced that Kate Broadbent is no longer able to serve as director from eastern Canada. On MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to ask Lorna Savage, who was runner-up in the election for that position, to serve as director for the remainder of the year.

Late registrations. Larry noted that there is a growing problem of people applying to register dogs years after they are born, with increased concerns about inaccurate and unverifiable pedigree information. The potential abuses of late registration were discussed, as well as the policy of the ISDS and other registries. Upon MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to double the fees for registration after one year from date of birth, and to triple the fees and require DNA testing for registration after two years from date of birth, with this change to become effective on January 1, 2007.

Caps. Upon MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to authorize Larry and Dan to look into style and costs, and to spend up to \$1,000 for ABCA caps to be given to handlers at the 2006 cattledog and sheepdog finals.

PAWS legislation. The PAWS bill, now pending in Congress, which would bring some breeders who sell dogs at retail directly under federal regulation for the first time, was discussed at length on the ABCA Directors private forum on the BC Boards. It was decided in that online discussion to oppose the bill as currently drafted, and to send a letter to all members of the Senate committee considering this bill stating our opposition and suggesting how the bill could be improved. A letter was drafted, and on MOTION duly made and seconded, the letter was approved. Mike reported that the letter had been sent, and that no reply had been received from any of the Senators. It was suggested that a copy of the letter should be placed on the ABCA website so members would be informed of our stance.

Disciplinary action – Kristen Campbell. Mike reported that a hearing had been held regarding the charges against Kristen Campbell, and the Hearing Board had found on the basis of the evidence presented that Ms. Campbell had submitted multiple false registration documents to the ABCA and had falsified registration applications she gave to the buyers of her dogs. The Board voted to expel Ms. Campbell from membership, and to revoke her registration and certification privileges, effective May 10, 2005. Ms. Campbell has not appealed that decision, so it is final. The Hearing Board also recommended that Blue Belle #250069 and Chloe #255780 be de-registered. After a review of the evidence, on MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to de-register those dogs.

New computer equipment. Upon MOTION duly made and seconded, it was voted to authorize an expenditure of up to \$2,000 to replace the NT computer with a new workstation and monitor, as recommended by the computer consultant.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.