ICAR Board meeting
(Conference call 3rd March 2015)
from 20:00 to 21:00

Draft Minutes EC/MB

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Hans Wilmink (President), Kaivo Ilves (Vice-President), Jay Mattison (Vice-President), Laurent Journaux (Treasurer); members: Bianca Lind, Japie van der Westhuizen, Bevin Harris, and Niels H. Nielsen; inspectors: Neil Petreny and Josef Kuçera; staff: Martin Burke, Brian Wickham, Juhani Maki-Hokkonen, Milan Zjalic, Charl Hunlun, Cesare Mosconi and Elena Couto.

Apologies from: Marco Winters and Badi Besbes

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the agenda is approved as presented.

2. Approval of the minutes

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the Board of 27th January 2015 are approved as presented.

3. Chief Executive Report (CE Report)

3.1 Matters arising from minutes

The President welcomed Martin Burke, new Chief Executive, at his first meeting. Martin has now one month experience of ICAR and the meeting wished him very success. Martin thanked the Board and looking forward to good relationship and success in future.
The matters arising from previous meeting are covered by the CE report.

3.2 Priorities

The IT project will take place over the summer after the conferences are out of way (Krakow meeting). After the Krakow meeting there will be a clear proposal and plans for discussion.

3.3 CE contract

Martin met the lawyers (Agathemis) today and went through both contracts (ICAR and S.I.) which are very similar. Now ready to move forward following minor edits which will be sent to Hans and the remuneration committee (Jay, Kaivo and Japie) for comments and feedback. Once this procedure finalised will be ready for signing and finished.

3.4 Meeting with Reinard Reents

Hans informed about the Interbull Workshop in Verden which had a very good attendance. Some ICAR Board members participated (Bianca, Bevin, Marco); unfortunately Jay had flights cancelled so could not attend.
The Workshop was focussed mainly on Gmace and Genoex PSE.
Reinhard informed about the situation with the position of new Director of Interbull; at the moment there were very good candidates and it is expected to interview a number of them by the Recruitment Committee: Brian van Doormaal, Enrico Santus, Reinhard Reents, Hans Wilmink and Erling Strandberg, as last time.
Laurent Journaux pointed out the importance of this good news to ensure good relationship with key stakeholders.

Genoex PSE – there was an industry workshop on Wednesday, the idea is that technically there is a product but now it is important to move to launch the following phase. It is planned to have it launched at Orlando meeting.
It was underlined that the herd books are big stakeholders and there is a need to have them in the fold, not just to be a dairy project. The service should be brought to S.I. level.
A short meeting could take place in Krakow taking advantage of the WHFF presence; it is important to have breeding organisations involved and there is a need to ensure they are aligned. The main event will be in July in Orlando and a good agreement can be reached.
Laurent informed about good information received from Sophie Mattalia about the clear objectives for Genoex and the interest in Gmace. He underlined his disappointment in the use that can be made by countries that do not have genomic evaluations; it seems there are a lot of issues on Gmace those needs to be worked out by Interbull.

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Communications

A Newsletter was circulated in February and Milan is looking to collect material for a new one end of April after the Symposium in South Africa. The meeting pointed out the need to receive more input from chairs and look forward to a refresh of the design.

ID test laboratories visits

Hans and Martin will look to visit the key laboratories for ID devices in The Netherlands and Germany; at the moment there is no need to visit the French laboratory. Once trip happens MB will send a report to the S.I. Board.

3.5 Financial

2014 Year End actuals ICAR

Josef Kuçera was in Rome for the inspection. The documents were circulated to both Inspectors in advance and Neil Petreny sent his comments which were verified by Josef with Elena.
There was no specific comment or remark, the surplus is €60K more than expected as not all money allocated for technical support was used.
The inspectors will send their report to the Board for final approval of the Income Statement and Balance Sheet 2014.
Laurent, as Treasurer, will need some information from Martin and the Secretariat to prepare his presentation for the next General Assembly.
Niels asked about expectations on membership fees; Martin will review this with Elena and report back to the Board for budget approval.

2016 proposal and 2017 estimate budget ICAR

Neil Petreny proposed to present at the General Assembly on the budget for 2016, and keep 2017 as an estimate for only Board use. The trend is good for Board but there is no need to involve the General Assembly till Board decides on actions to take. The proposal was accepted by the Board.
Neil also proposed to put the cost of future ICAR into more project based items and to move the CE cost under professional services.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the General Assembly will receive only 2016 budget in the new format proposed.

2014 Year End actuals SERVICE-ICAR Srl

The document is only for information; the final figures for 2014 will be ready for the next S.I. Board meeting.

Investment
It is expected to finalise the closure of investment before the next Board of the meeting. As soon as the amount invested will be in the current account it will be transferred and the DBI account will be closed. The board asked Martin to talk with the Inspectors on specifics, but if there is any other objection from the brokers we will proceed with legal action.

3.6 Legal

Report from Agathemis
Agathemis will re-draft the standard contracts in force with labs and Martin will report back to the S.I. Board meeting.
The lawyer will also propose a list of items to be delegated from Hans to Martin. After approval of this list by the S.I. Board the legal document will be prepared by the lawyer. Hans and Martin will find a suitable date to go to Rome to sign this document with the notary.

Risk and insurance
There will be a meeting tomorrow with AON with view to close these out. Martin will request for the end of the year to receive wider tenders for consideration.
The first four policies in CE report are ready and others (like Cyber attacks, legal expenses, etc.) will be reviewed before moving.
The Board expressed its appreciation with the work done.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the CE making commitment on basis of €5-6K per year in premiums for first four items in CE report.

3.7 Statutes and bylaws
Some feedback was received from Neil and others. The Board supported CE recommendations and asked to plan the distribution to members with feedback by the end of March.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the letter and document with proposed changes amended to be circulated to the Members of ICAR for feedback.

3.8 Groups report
Milk Analysis SC
The Board asked to clarify the employer of Gavin Scott who is the person proposed as chair for the Sub-Committee. Brian explained there was an error in the web site which will be corrected by Cesare as Gavin Scott is working for the full member MilkTest NZ.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Gavin Scott is the new chairman of the Milk Analysis Sub-Committee.

Recording Device SC
Brian informed that the SC members were requested to send proposals to fill the position of chair. He will report back at the next meeting end of March. He is also looking for new ToR considering the tissue sampling.

Animal Care Recording WG
Brian informed that they are still looking for good candidates to chair this Group. Niels Henning indicated that a review of number of Groups should be made as some topics are in two groups. There will be a strategic planning session in Krakow to discuss this matter.
Hans requested ideas for strategic discussion with chairs, starting of theoretical approach and how to deal with planning for this meeting. Brian will be back in Ireland mid-April and will develop plan and design for the workshop. The proposal will be shared with the Board.

Genetic Data Analysis WG
The Chair sent a letter on behalf of the Group, with input from S. Harding from Parentage WG, asking the Board for some guidance in relation to expanding the scope of their Group to certify to genetic trait level.
This request, if accepted, will need an update of the ToR.
Martin will need to find close functional S.I. functions and how to get them working together better.
Laurent insisted in the importance of having a good agreement with ISAG.

3.9 Membership
Russia

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Russian Research Institute for Farm Animal Genetics and Breeding is accepted as full member of ICAR.

MilkTest NZ

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that MilkTest NZ is accepted as full member of ICAR.

Denmark – SEGES P/L
The Board took note of the change of the name of the ICAR member in Denmark into SEGES P/S and asked the Secretariat to update the web site and data base accordingly.

Waikato associate member

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Waikato Milking Systems LP is accepted as associate member of ICAR.

3.10 Future Meetings
FAO/ICAR Symposium
Hans informed that he will not be able to attend the Symposium and asked Martin to replace him and represent ICAR.
Martin thanks Japie and Charl for the local support they are providing and informed that regular conferences are settled to follow-up the organisation and budget.
Japie and Kaivo will attend the Symposium as invited speakers.

Technical meeting Krakow
Regular skype conferences are now arranging with Danuta from the local organizing committee. There were some clashes on Monday PM coming along nicely. Next conference will be on 18th March.

Session – Chile 2016
A conference call is scheduled for 4th March at 20.00 CET.

Technical meeting 2017 and Session 2018
For 2017 it is important to have confirmation from Marco Winters as this invitation to Members will be presented during the Krakow meeting.
For 2018 Martin will talk to Kamlesh Trivedi, who has been already approached by Brian, during the Symposium in South Africa.
For 2019 Elena was in contact with the Spanish member, FEAGAS, who will report back after their Board and exchanges with the Ministry, INIA and CONAFE.

3.11 Future ICAR Board meeting

Meeting schedule

The schedule is approved as presented in the CE report. Next Board meeting will be on Tuesday 31st March at 20h00 CET.

3.12 Any other business

No.

3.13 Adjourn

The meeting was closed on at 21h00.