



MINUTES ICAR BOARD

ICAR Board meeting (Edinburgh, UK)

DATE 11TH JUNE 2017
TIME 9H00 TO 13H00

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Hans Wilmink, Jay Mattison, Laurent Journaux, Niels H. Nielsen, Kaivo Ilves, Bevin Harris, Daniel Lefebvre, Bianca Lind, Japie van der Westhuizen, and Jorge Lama. Inspectors: Josef Kuçera and Neil Petreny, and Martin Burke (CE). Staff: Charl Hunlun, Silvia Orlandini, Brian Wickham, Andie Dimitriadou, Cesare Mosconi, Milan Zjalic, and Elena Couto.

The President informed that a closed meeting will start at 12h00.

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 25th April, 2017 are approved as presented.

3. CE Report

3.1 Golden rules

The President informed that at the end of the session time will be dedicated to discuss if golden rules as presented in the CE report are met or not.

3.2 Priorities

The items for discussion are highlighted in the CE report, if there is a need for more information an email can be sent to Martin Burke.

3.3 Update on action items from previous ICAR Board

EU Genetic reference centres for genetic evaluation

EU application for Interbull was submitted in March, and as far as we know, there was just one applicant. EU came back with few questions, and Toine Roozen is taking care for the answers. In July first feedback is expected from EU. L. Journaux is confident that application will succeed and we will have Interbull as a reference laboratory, but more important than in the past, there is a need to work more closely in the ICAR-IB Ops TF to define the way to achieve the tasks. M. Burke



agreed and proposed to visit again with the responsible personnel Mr. Alf Fuessel of EU Santé some time in the fall with the President.

Victoria Agricultural Services Patent challenge

The CE informed he received an update from EFFAB through Jan Venneman. There was a meeting held May 10th. A legal team TPO (third party observation) is now working and we are waiting for feedback from lawyers. After the statement there will be 9 months to react.

J. Mattison informed USA has not approved, but B. Lind underlined that process is different in USA and Canada compare to EU for patent applications. The meeting agreed it will be interesting to know any implication and reasons for rejection in USA, although situation is different from EU the technical arguments could be useful.

The President concluded the process is running and ICAR is monitoring it and we will await to hear from EU patent office before any further action is taken.

3.4 Financial / administration

Financial Sub Committee (FSC)

The CE informed about the first meeting of the FSC on 2nd June. The FSC covered the recommendations from Deloitte, and the consolidated accounts provided by the Secretariat giving good feedback. Following the suggestion of the FSC, the Secretariat prepared a document with the budgets for QTR1, 2, 3 and final forecast available on the restricted area of the Web site. Next meeting of the FSC is scheduled for August.

The President thanked the FSC and looks forward for proposals. He also underlined the importance to have good and stable tool for the staff to work from using the same without later changes, unless there would be for example a new project.

The CE proposed to the FSC to review the budgeting process for 2018 moving the approval by the ICAR Members to mid-October each year. In this way the CE and Board will have more data/information to make a better informed and more realistic budget. According to the Statutes the Ordinary General Assembly approves the budget for the following year but this could be arranged through electronic means during October of each year.

The Board discussed about the decision making process considering the need of a quorum and how to handle the whole process.

It was agreed that the ICAR final budget for 2018 will be prepared and sent to the General Assembly for approval through electronic means at the end of October, 2017.

ACTION: The CE will check with legal counsel if Italian law has specific mention about voting through electronic means and will prepare a proposal for the process to apply in these cases.

MOTION: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the ICAR budget for 2018 will be presented to the General Assembly for approval in October 2017.

ICAR Membership 2017

M. Burke informed that at the time of this meeting close to 90% of the ICAR membership fees have been paid for 2017. The Board accepted this report and thanked the staff for the efforts.

ICAR Board Handbook 2017

Some draft sections of the ICAR Board Handbook are now available in the restricted area of the Web site. It is a tool for Board members consisting of an index with links to the most important areas. One of the document is the “Investment policy” which will be reviewed and updated by the FSC.

The Board suggested to have indications for each document and the approval date. The goal is to keep things as simple as possible but also be transparent and functional.

ACTION: The CE will develop a table containing the different documents and level of approval to be shared with the Board.

ICAR Board vacancy

The CE and the Nominating Committee reviewed the nomination for the board position created by Clara Diaz’s resignation. A nomination was received but withdrawn at this time from Prof. Grosu (Romania) supported by the ICAR Member Simmental Romania. At the General Assembly in Edinburgh the President will show the renewal for second mandate of Japie van der Westhuizen (Rep. South Africa) and Bevin Harris (New Zealand) and that the open position will not be filled this year. J. Mattison pointed out that according to the ICAR Statutes the number of Board members are from 7 to 11, so we are not obliged to have the maximum of members.

There was a discussion about the profile of a Board member and the procedure of selection. N.H. Nielsen noted the criteria is clear in the Statutes, but maybe the Board should add some specific requests in the procedure of selection, which are part of the internal regulations.

J. Mattison informed that the Committee will prepare a proposal including reviews of travel support and will submit an update to the current procedure for selection.

ACTION: The CE and E. Couto will support the Committee in the preparation of these documents.

In February 2018, a document will be presented to the General Assembly to explain some adjustments to allow a smooth transaction of the Board Members and Inspectors.

President Award

The President announced the Committee decided to give the award to Uffe Lauritsen for his long career and contribution to ICAR.



There was a discussion about definition of the different awards and basis for selection. K. Ilves proposed not to give the President award to providers, only to Board and Groups, but sometime the providers contribute with their technical support to the success of ICAR. The possibility of having a technical award should be considered.

ACTION: A Committee will take this item for discussion and submit a proposal to the Board.

3.5 Groups' updates

SC Milk Analysis

M. Burke informed about the increase in first PT round compare to the previous year. S. Orlandini was happy with the results but still looking to increase the participation in all parameters.

The full reports of this first round are available on the Web site.

Following a first meeting in March with manufacturers, a new certification service has been launched in June for milk analyzers. Service ICAR will start the program with 'Grandfather Exception' for instrument models already in use, and for new instruments a full certification will be requested. Another meeting with manufacturers is scheduled during this session.

SC Animal Identification

The CE informed that there is still a search being conducted to look for a chair in this SC. As a result of the work done to expand the SC ID membership, he presented the nomination of Othon Reynoso Campos from Mexico for approval.

MOTION: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Othon Reynoso Campos is member of the SC Animal Identification.

ACTION: The Secretariat will continue to investigate and find a suitable candidate to Chair the ID SC.

SC Recording and Sampling Devices

The sensor survey was completed and results will be shared with the Board in the afternoon during the meeting with the Groups. The aim is to have a final report from the Sensor Task Force to present during the February 2018 ICAR sessions.

TF ICAR/Interbull

The DNA WG is developing a data test file for participants to submit to the Interbull Centre for validation to be part of the GenoEx PSE.

The President informed that the ICAR – IB Ops Task Force report and presentation that was planned to finish in June 2017 but will be extended until February 2018. The activities of the TF are clear, and the plan is to finish with the final report in February 2018. The remaining activities

are the agreement between the Interbull Centre with SLU; an agreement between the Interbull Centre and ICAR and the IB branding and logo.

There are discussions that at some stage the need to have the Interbull meetings with the ICAR annual sessions every year. L. Journaux noted the useful link with research that may come from a joint meeting with EAAP, compare to ICAR which is looking more to practical aspects.

Certificate of Quality

C. Hunlun submitted the two reports with visit audits to NMR (UK) and Holstein-UK for the renewal of their Certificate of Quality and recommend the approval.

MOTION: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the CoQ was renewed for NMR (UK) and Holstein-UK as presented.

ACTION: The Secretariat will send the letter to NMR and Holstein UK informing them about the CoQ renewal and place the information on the ICAR Web site.

Groups snapshot review

The CE informed that Gavin Scott, chair of the SC Milk Analysis, expressed his wish to leave the position due to lack of time. The Board and staff will start a search for a new MA SC chair in the next six months.

3.6 ICAR Conferences

Auckland 2018

The Secretariat is having one meeting per month with the LOC. N. Petreny noted the schedule should be updated as the ICAR Board meeting will be on Wednesday 7th February and not Tuesday, 6th February as indicated.

Prague 2019

This session will be jointly organized with IDF Analytical Week, like the joint meeting in Berlin in 2014.

Netherlands 2020

H. Wilmink informed about the decision of the LOC to hold the meeting in Leeuwarden, in the north of the country, but the location is very well connected to Schiphol airport by train. The dates will be 7th to 12th June 2020.

Concerning the next Board conferences/meetings, the President asked if there is a need for a face to face ICAR Board meeting before Auckland in February 2018, and also if the ICAR Board conference call in January will be necessary considering the face to face meeting on 7th February.



L. Journaux proposed to have a face to face meeting only if there are important matters to be addressed.

The President proposed to fix the date at the next meeting (Wednesday 14th June), probably 28th November, and decide later if a face to face is required.

4. Any other business

The President asked the attendees to write suggestions, impressions, comments in paper for consideration by the Board in the evaluation of the golden rules and the feedback is captured here:

Feedback Comment	Quantity Post- its
Open Discussion – Open Minded	11
Well Prepared – Good Structure	7
Need for more Strategic in depth discussions	6
Miscellaneous	3

5. Adjourn

The meeting with staff was closed at 12h00.