



MINUTES ICAR BOARD

ICAR Board meeting (conference call)

DATE 26TH FEBRUARY 2019
TIME 20H00 TO 21H00

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Jay Mattison (President), Niels H. Nielsen, Daniel Lefebvre, Frido Hamoen, Bevin Harris, Jorge Lama, Antonio Martins, Bianca Lind, and Japie van der Westhuizen. Staff: Martin Burke (Chief Executive, CE), Brian Wickham, and Andie Dimitriadou.

Apologies Laurent Journaux, Kaivo Ilves, Josef Kučera, Neil Petreny, Silvia Orlandini, Charl Hunlun, Elena Couto and Cesare Mosconi.

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 22nd January 2019 are approved as presented.

3. Matters arising

Martin Burke informed that the matters arising are detailed in the Chief Executive (CE) report for discussion during the meeting.

Action: ICAR Secretariat to merge the Matters arising with the Chief Executive report in future agendas.

4. Chief Executive Report

4.1. Victoria Agricultural Services (VAS) Patent: Bianca Lind reported about the call of January 24th. There is an on-going negotiation with the aim to come to an agreement. It is a good development also from an economic aspect than going to opposition. The next call will be on March 13th-14th with further updates to the Board after this.

4.2. Financial Inspector: A call will be sent out to Members in March and the results will be reviewed with the Board in April. The election of the Inspector is a Board decision. If there is no outcome, it will be necessary to look for a candidate. Review any candidate replies/applications with Board at our April/May meetings.



4.3. Term end dates for ICAR Board Members: In the report presented Laurent Journaux was missing from the CE's report as a continuing member – to be corrected. In June 2019 in Prague, Neil Petreny's term as ICAR Inspector finishes and as mentioned above in 4.2, the Board needs to nominate a new Inspector. Jorge Lama will finish his first term in Prague and is due for re-election. The Board will also need to discuss and plan the end of term in 2022 of some Members. An agenda needs to be built up for Prague and succession will be an item to address.

Action: CE to add Laurent Journaux in the ICAR Board Members' Term dates table. CE to ensure Board succession is on the ICAR Board agenda for June's meeting in Prague

4.4. ICAR office move to The Netherlands: The relocation team, formed by the CE, Hans Wilmink, Frido Hamoen and Elena Couto, had a conference call on February 14th to start preparing a proposal to the Board and next General Assembly in Prague. The CE also met Hans Wilmink in Utrecht in February. Elena met with the notary to examine the legal requirements for moving the seat of ICAR and Service-ICAR. Frido Hamoen and Hans Wilmink are enquiring with Daan (Daan are the legal firm in Netherlands who ICAR have engaged for our re-location) about the legal structure that will be best to adopt in NL. The CE with Hans will look at potential office sites in April. The next team conference call will be on March 15th. If the Board Members have any questions or comments, please send them to the CE.

4.5. Guidelines updates:

- Section 8 – Certificate of Quality: The Section was approved in November 2018. Changes made afterwards were reviewed by the ICAR Secretariat and the Section was updated. Jay thanked the CoQ Advisory Group and the Secretariat for the updating of the Section.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Section 8 is approved and taken to the ICAR Members as presented.

- Section 18 – Breed Associations: This is a new Section to be added to the Guidelines and therefore it has not been approved before. It contains general guidelines, as each country can adopt its own. It was developed with Susanne Harding and the Breed Associations Working Group. There are a couple of typos in the Index and in the Summary in page 2.

Action: Brian Wickham to correct the typos.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Section 18 is approved and taken to the ICAR Members for approval after the corrections.

4.6. Associate Membership (for Board information): The CE reported about the two applications for ICAR Associate Membership received in February:



- ZTown, Kazakhstan
- Tapco, Iran

The CE is happy with ZTown from Kazakhstan but does not know Tapco from Iran. The CE thinks it is positive to keep the ICAR door open to these countries. Niels H. Nielsen asked about ICAR's position in dealing with countries that are under embargo, like Iran in this case – or if e.g. North Korea applied for membership or for ear tag testing/certification. Bianca Lind noted that there is no embargo from the EU, but from the US. As an NGO, ICAR does not have a political position, but Niels H. Nielsen refers to the risk management and logistical/financial aspects (invoicing, money transfers, samples shipment, etc.). Daniel Lefebvre noted that in terms of membership, the only risk is that some ICAR member countries might be upset (in this case, the US might not be happy if ICAR deals with Iran).

Action: CE to proceed with both Associate memberships and through the process review if there any issues with Iranian payment etc. – will update Board if any issues arise.

4.7. Groups' Update

- **ICAR-Interbull Operations Team:** The Team's conference call is held every 2 months. Good progress on items such as; Certificate of Quality, DNA Accreditation and Data for fees. The discussion of the fees for Interbeef will be discussed at a face to face to be organized by CE, Andrew Cromie and Toine Roozen to be scheduled in April. The good cooperation is continuing.
- **Sensor Device Task Force:** A meeting was held in The Netherlands on February 6th, hosted by QLIP. The draft Guidelines Section will be ready for Prague. The device coding system is complex and the TF have asked Reinhard Reents and VIT to propose a straw model. Steven Sievert and the Task Force are working hard. Jay Mattison raised the issue of how to ensure connecting to the right people, given that the Prague conference is close to the Precision Dairy conference The CE acknowledged that there is an unfortunate clash among the meetings and will discuss with Steven Sievert how to attract participants. Communication will be the key for planning of future meetings
- **SMARTER*:** A good meeting was held in Rome on February 13th to agree on the project's stakeholder and dissemination strategy. Jean Michel Astruc and Cesare Mosconi represented IDELE and ICAR respectively.
** SMARTER (Small Ruminants breeding for efficiency and resilience). The H2020 project has as its goal to understand the genetic determinism of resources allocations to animal resilience and efficiency (heath, welfare, production, feed efficiency and body composition reproduction), etc. in different environmental conditions to increase the genetic adaptability of small ruminants to low input systems. ICAR's role will be in WP 6 (methods for recording*



phenotypes, and through its members facilitating international evaluation inc. genomics) and WP8 Dissemination (Conferences, publications of guidelines).

- **Animal Identification Sub-Committee:** The SC held its face-to-face meeting in Brussels on February 20th-21st. It was a good meeting with full participation of the SC members and Test Centres. Mr. Kaido Kroon from the European Commission, DG Sante/Animal Health made a presentation about the Animal Health legislation that will be applied from 2021. It is necessary to enlarge the Sub-Committee membership. Jo Quigley, the SC Chair, and Andie Dimitriadou will put together a work plan for 2019 and share it.

Action: CE to share Kaido Kroon's presentation with the Board.

- **Milk Analysis Sub-Committee:** The SC had a conference call on February 21st. There is still no Chair for the SC. The CE thanks Jorge Lama and Niels H. Nielsen for their work on helping to enlarge the SC membership and we expect to have some new nominations to the board in March. Reference laboratories are over 50 currently. There is ongoing discussion with FOSS re MIR equipment certification and a proposal for test was send to FOSS in March – further discussions to be had.

4.8. ICAR Conferences

2019

Good meetings were held with the LOC on February 4th and 25th. Currently, 27 abstracts have been received and 75 registrations. The closing date of February 28th for abstracts will be extended for 4 weeks. Cesare Mosconi will send out the announcement on March 1st. The CE is working with Joseph Kučera on an invitation to business leaders that will focus on business matters and not technical aspects.

2020

There will be a conference call with the Program Committee and the LOC on Monday, March 4th.

2021

Pending Manuel Luque to come up with a location and a short presentation for Prague.

2022

Pending feedback from Canadian ICAR members (Canadian Dairy Network, CanWest DHI, and Valacta).

4.9. Future ICAR and SERVICE-ICAR Srl meetings

Invitations for the next Board meetings have been circulated.

5. AOB



There was no other business. Niels H. Nielsen noted with thanks that a lot of good activity is ongoing with ICAR and present and urged CE and team to continue the good work.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was closed at 20h50 and continued restricted to the Board members.