THE GLOBAL STANDARD
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

MINUTES ICAR BOARD

ICAR Board meeting (Conference call)

DATE 28TH JANUARY 2020
TIME 20H00 TO 21H00

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Jay Mattison (President), Frido Hamoen, Bianca Lind, Antonio Martins, Niels H. Nielsen, Bevin Harris, Laurent Journaux, Japie van der Westhuizen, Daniel Lefebvre, and Kaivo Ilves. Inspector: Ernst Bohlsen. Staff: Martin Burke (Chief Executive, CE), Cesare Mosconi, and Elena Couto.

Apologies: Josef Kuçera, Silvia Orlandini, Brian Wickham, and Andie Dimitriadou.

The President, Jay Mattison, asked to make a brief update on the Interbull strategic planning meeting held January 23rd, 24th In Uppsala, just after item 3 related to the move to Netherlands.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the agenda is approved with the change proposed by the President.

2. Approval of the 17th December 2019 minutes

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the Board of 17th December 2019 are approved as presented.

3. ICAR Office move to Holland – CE update

Martin Burke confirmed he will send an update regarding the move to Holland every two weeks; first was sent on 17th January and included a 'Gannt chart'. All feedback/questions are welcomed. A power attorney to the CE from the existing Board, Jay Mattison and Frido Hamoen, was registered at the Chamber of Commerce to facilitate the management and interaction with the Dutch authorities.
Daniel Lefebvre asked about timing for the transition from this Board to the complete Board. The CE informed about a General Assembly to be held at the end of this session to appoint the existing members of the Board for their registration at the Chamber of Commerce in Holland.
Concerning the bank account at Rabo bank, the CE visited the branch in Utrecht and informed it will take 2-3 weeks to operate with this bank account. Mark Wolters from DeJong&Laan is helping the Secretariat to finalise the procedure.
The CE and Elena Couto had a good meeting with DeJong&Laan and its IT team to start using the new account software, Visma.

The legal firm Van Diepen finalized the revision of the existing contracts with manufacturers, laboratories, consultants and non-disclosure agreement (NDA). Next contracts for review will be with staff working in Italy.
For the position of technical projects coordinator, we received 4 applications and identify 3 candidates for interview next week. All of them present the right profile. The interviews will be conducted by the CE with the support of Hans Wilmink.

As requested at the beginning of the session, the President gave an update regarding the Interbull strategy meeting. Jay Mattison and Martin Burke met last week in Uppsala with Interbull staff, the Steering Committee, representatives for Interbull and InterBeef, and Roel Veerkamp who acted as moderator.
Interbull will prepare a strategic plan by the end of April and report back to the Board by mid-May. It was agreed to have in Leeuwarden a separate meeting of the Board with the Steering Committee (SC), in addition to the meeting of the Board with Groups.
In what concerns the agreement with Interbull, the President and CE met with SLU administrator, Toine Roozen and Matthew Shaffer and agreed to work together in the next 4 weeks with SLU in order to have the agreement in place by May 2020. Some issues from previous agreement will be solved with the move to Netherlands and all the partners involved agreed this is a good time to have this contract reviewed. Thanks to the recent approval Terms of Reference (ToR) ICAR has governance on the Interbull SC. The new agreement will consider ICAR platform, logos, etc., and Interbull Centre will be only a part of it, and the SC at the same level as any other SC in ICAR.
Martin Burke informed that this meeting took place with the right people in SLU, the staff and the administrators and was very positive. Next meeting is scheduled on 3rd March 2020; the Board will be updated at the following session.

4. Governance Committee – ICAR Matrix

The matrix was circulated after the meeting last December and the members were asked to complete a self-assessment on experience/skill matrix.
The Committee will take the document for review with respect to Board succession. The CE will arrange the next call in the next weeks and the Committee will come back to the Board with recommendations. Laurent Journaux commented we should not only look at the average score or a particular skill, could be a low score but as long as we had one or two competent Board members in that skill the cover might suffice.

Action: Martin Burke will organize the next call of the Committee.

5. ICAR Strategy – Goals setting process 2020-21

During their stay in Uppsala, the President and CE discussed about the need to establish the Board goals for strategy, to be discussed later with the Groups (key chairs) and staff. Martin Burke will review the current strategy to make recommendations to the Board, hoping to be soon back to the core of ICAR to work on strategy. The President underlined the importance to distribute the workload among the Board members.

6. Members

The CE informed that the Secretariat received 3 applications for full members:
Ministry of Agriculture (Kosovo). This is a result from meeting held in Prague with Martin, Silvia and Laurent Journaux and representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Ministry of Agriculture of Kosovo is approved as full member in ICAR.

Ráogjafarmiostoo landbúnaoarins (RML) (Iceland). The CE and Elena Couto met with Icelandic milk recording staff in Auckland in 2018. As a result of this engagement they now are seeking for full membership.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Ráogjafarmiostoo landbúnaoarins (RML) is approved as full member in ICAR.

Skånesemin ek för (Sweden). CE was approached by this milk recording organization and had some e-mail exchanges with them. Based on the replies received he recommend approving their application for full membership.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Skånesemin ek för (Sweden) is approved as full member in ICAR.

Action: The Secretariat will inform the new members, update the Web site and send the request for membership fee for 2020.

7. Group’s Updates

Martin Burke explained that the Working Group Functional Traits finalized the Section 7 of ICAR Guidelines, Chapter 5 ‘Lameness’.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the proposed Guidelines are endorsed as presented and will be circulated to the Members for final approval.

The Board and CE commended the Group for their good work.

Action: The Secretariat will circulate the document to the Members for approval and adoption.

8. ICAR Conferences

ICAR2020

The CE informed that the early bird registration is now open and the programme available. The Secretariat is having routine calls with the LOC. He also reminded that the Board President and Vice-Presidents will chair the wrap up session on Friday 12th June as per Prague.

Action: Elena will send emails to the Board to indicate the hotel pre-booked by LOC. The Board will arrange directly their registration and accommodation.

ICAR2021

At this stage there is no update.

ICAR2022

At this stage there is no update.

ICAR2023

The CE and Board will start to think about host location. Normal process is for the Board to ask 3 or 4 of its members to review and make short list for full Board to discuss.

9. Future ICAR Board meetings

The schedule for the future Board meetings was confirmed as presented in the CE report.

10. AOB

The CE informed about the letter from the African Animal Breeding Academy (AABA) asking to have a presentation during the ICAR2020 Conference. Japie van der Westhuizen confirmed that this new association is a good initiative and has good geneticists involved. Daniel Lefebvre agreed that some of the sessions in Leeuwarden could be appropriate for a presentation.

Action: The CE and Japie will convene a call with the AABA to discuss their needs.

11. Adjourn

The President informed that the ICAR Board meeting is adjourned at 20h45 and that an ICAR General Assembly will take place.