

**PENNSYLVANIA DEER FARMERS ASSOCIATION**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Minutes of June 25, 2009**  
**Huntingdon County Ag Extension Office**

The June 25 meeting of the Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association was called to order by Dave Griffith, President, at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Board members absent were Diane Miller, Bob Lieberum, Vernon Troyer and Mike Heiter. Guests included Glenn Dice, Luke Stem, Mark Gee, Brenda Loree, Don Wagner and Lucas Nelson.

The minutes of the May 14, 2009 meeting were read. Motion to accept was made by Larry Pittenger, second by Steve Stem. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed. Available funds as of 6/23/09 are \$350,312.92. Motion by Steve Stem, second by Rich Huff to put \$30,000.00 in checking, put \$200,000.00 in two CDs and the rest in a Money Market account. Motion Carried. Motion by Rich Huff, second by Greg Lucas, to file the treasurer's report for audit. Motion carried.

The 2008 - 2009 audit info was sent to our accountant at the Harry Sickler & Associates firm.

**PAC Fund** - The PAC fund has \$17,770.00.

**Legislative Report** - Andy Goodman was absent but sent a lot of information Legislation was introduced to exempt deer farmers feed from sales tax. The law firm of McNees, Wallace & Nurick reviewed with the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue the current sales tax situation. It was based on a "farming exclusion." They found it to be inadequate, thus the new bill was introduced.

**Executive Secretary Report** - see attached.

**NADeFA** - Cervid Congress will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma on July 30 & 31. Motion by Jim Loree, second by Josh Newton, that PDFa send two people. Motion carried. Harry Strawser and Glenn Dice scheduled to go.

Dave Griffith reported that he chairs the Hunting Ranch Council. They are working on three projects: 1. The "Fair Chase" code of ethics for hunting ranches has been completed; 2. The white paper listing the positive contribution of hunting ranches is in draft form. If it gets approved in time, we could possibly use it in our directory; 3. An operation guidelines booklet for hunting ranch operators is still in the planning stages.

Glen Dice reported that he is working with New Jersey establishing a NJ Deer Farmers Association.

CWD final rules are out. They were distributed with the meeting announcement.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership** - Kelly Pittenger reported that the office is sending out second notices. The non-paid list will be sent to her after July 15.

**Policy** - Rich Huff has started to work on our policy book. Beverly Gruber is to send him the minutes and a sample of other association's policy books.

**Spring Meeting** - Harry reported that we will talk about a 2010 facility during new business.

**Fall Auction** - We will be in Johnstown on September 10, 11, and 12. Jerry sent his recommendations. Motion by Amos Kauffman, second by George Hazard, that we spend \$10,000 total on incentives. Motion carried. The breakdown will be: \$2000 Grand Prize for buyers present

\$6000 - 6 - \$1000 prizes

\$1000 - 2 - \$500 prizes

The board feels that no more than 200 lots should be sold at the auction. The meal charge will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Harry Strawser, Amos Kauffman and David Lapp to work on getting the meal sponsors to cover the rest of the cost. It was decided to give a \$1000 cash award randomly chosen from everyone who is a meal sponsor. Your name would go into the pot for every \$500 you sponsor. Beverly Gruber to work with the caterer to get coffee service organized.

**PAC Fund** - Greg Lucas. Report given with the treasurer's report.

**Reward Fund** - George Hazard is getting his committee together. Possibly a conference call.

**Hunting Ranches** - Mike Gee presented the new proposals for the movement and importation of swine (see attached). Now that his committee is complete, he will get them together via a conference call.

**Research** - Glenn Dice shared that at Texas A&M an elective course on deer management has been offered to 3rd year vet students. Motion by George Hazard, second by Greg Lucas, that Glenn pursue this idea at the University of Pennsylvania, New Bolton center. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Research Project** - Two research proposals have been brought to PDFA in the last year, one from Jason Brooks, PSU, on Fusobacterium, and a second from Dr. Doug Wagner on establishing normal parameters for white tail deer. Greg Lucas to talk to Jason Brooks about possibly funding his research. Motion by Larry Pittenger, second by Harry Strawser, to fund, the amount to be determined at the August meeting. Motion carried.

Greg Lucas will also contact Dr. Wagner about his project and inform him we are supporting the fusobacterium project.

**CWD Final** - see information under NADeFA.

**VMA info** - The sponsor check was sent to the Veterinary Medical Association for their August convention. Harry Strawser volunteered to attend if we were given a trade show booth. Since the meeting we found out the booth would cost \$700. We will not attend.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Fall Sale** - See committee report.

**Facilities for Sales in 2010** - A chart with available facilities is attached. Bev Gruber and her staff researched the facilities. After considerable discussion, the 2010 April Sale will be at the Lancaster Host and the 2010 Fall Sale will be back in Altoona at the Blair County Convention Center with Johnstown War Memorial as a back up. Bev Gruber to contact the Lancaster Host and David Griffith to contact Altoona for contracts.

**PSU/Don Wagner Presentation** - Don Wagner presented information on the deer herd at Penn State University. Since 1991 they have been doing research on deer contraception. This project ends in August and they will be able to do other research more geared to the industry. Hopefully down the road PDFA could fund a graduate student position on captive deer research, approximate cost would be \$30,000 per year.

Texas has been hiring PSU graduates recently so the Texas Breeders Association talked about coming to Pennsylvania to have a sale that would benefit PSU deer program. This is not going to happen. Don encouraged all PDFA members to call him any time with questions. He reminded everyone he is not a vet so

he has to be careful when he talks about drugs.

**PDA Update** - See attached. Animal Health Emergency Management Information Network release on necropsy case drop offs at the Pennsylvania Department of Ag.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Information received on the CWD rule and NADeFA's reply and the \$50K deer research grant to A&M.

The August meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 20th, but this conflicts with John Yoder's sale. The meeting was changed to Thursday, August 13th. Since the Ag Extension office is not available, we will hold the meeting at 6:00 PM at Hoss's Steak & Seahouse on Route 22 (9016 William Penn Highway).

Motion to adjourn was made by George Hazard, second by Larry Pittenger. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Gruber  
Executive Director, for Diane Miller

Note: Don't forget the Summer Picnic to be held on August 14 & 15 in Big Valley.