

# **Minutes of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau Annual Council Meeting held at the Hotel Clarion Suites, Guatemala City, Guatemala on 27 November 2023**

## **1 President's Welcome**

In welcoming representatives and members from eleven countries, the President (Steve Le Feuvre) thanked the Latin American Jersey Forum (LAJF) for inviting the Bureau to attend in parallel with its meeting. He reinforced the importance of the Council concentrating on the Bureau Strategy as the priority for this meeting.

## **2. Present and eligible to vote**

Steve Le Feuvre (President), Benoit Guioullier (VP Europe), Jacobo Cabassa (VP Latin America), Alison Gibb (VP Oceania), Trevor Saunders (Treasurer and Australia), Agustin Robredo (Argentina), Anthea Day (Australia), Roberto Paez (Colombia), Liliana Quevedo-Soto (Colombia), Poul Bligaard (Denmark), Jens Abell (Germany), Russell Gibb (New Zealand), Des Hickey (New Zealand), Danielle Brown (USA).

Also in attendance Martha Melgar (Guatemala), Maria Melgar (Guatemala), Benjamin Perrachon (Uruguay), Sebastian Perrachon (Uruguay), Calvin Covington (USA), Herlindo Montenegro (Guatemala) and Roger Trehwella (Bureau Secretary).

## **3. Apologies**

The President read a letter of support and apology for non-attendance from the Bureau Patron, Mr Derrick Frigot MBE.

Apologies were also received from: Chris Sorenson (VP N America) and Mrs Sorenson, Dai Harvey (VP Africa). Jose Bustos (Costa Rica), Robert Perchard (Jersey), Paul Houze (Jersey), Bent Olesen (Denmark), Peter Larson (Denmark), Jurgen Kluiwert (Germany), Martino Cassandro (Italy), Raffaella Finochiaro (Italy), Mr and Mrs Edwin Ettinger (USA), Paolo Borrello (Italy).

## **4. Approve Minutes of the 2022 Council Meeting held in France**

Proposed: Alison Gibb, seconded: Trevor Saunders - the Minutes were approved unanimously.

## **5. Matters Arising**

Strategy as within Agenda item 7

## **6. Officers' Reports**

### **a. President, b. Vice Presidents, c. Secretary**

All taken as read.

### **d. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer focused on the fact that the Bureau had 'closed down' the majority of its in-person activity during the Covid-19 pandemic period. This meant that income was reduced but there was also limited expenditure during the past few years and assets had been conserved, placing the Bureau in a healthy position to move forward and able to take advantage of today's opportunities and needs, including decisions that come from the Strategy.

### **e. Approve 2022 Accounts**

Approval of the accounts was deferred until an internal audit is completed. Calvin Covington, Des Hickey and Agustin Robredo were appointed to undertake this task and report to the second Council Meeting to be held on 03 December 2023

### **f. Budget**

Deferred until 2022 Accounts approved on 03 December 2023.

### **g. Member Applications**

None during the year.

### **h. Membership Fees**

Deferred until approval of Accounts and Budget on 03 December 2023.

## **7. Strategy**

Alison Gibb (VP Oceania) had chaired a Working Group that met virtually many times for discussions. She thanked the seven representatives from Member Associations for their commitment through an intense period, and delivered a well-received presentation of the process and outcomes.

(Presentation attached)

Trevor Saunders recommended that a Working Group is set-up to review progress on an annual basis.

Calvin Covington congratulated all involved and welcomed the timeliness of the report.

Proposed: Trevor Saunders, seconded: Calvin Covington and approved unanimously that the Strategy be accepted.

## **8. Future Meetings**

### **a. 2024 International Conference and Bureau Meetings, Denmark**

(16 – 22 June) with Post Tour to Norway (1 week) – Poul Bligaard's presentation was warmly welcomed. It confirmed that the European Jersey Forum (EJF) will also meet in Denmark.

**b. 2025 Annual Council Meeting, Australia** (April).

The '*Dairy First*' tour to Victoria and New South Wales for 12 - 14 days, potentially followed by additional time in South Australia, has been offered. The President noted that Jersey Australia had spent a lot of time and incurred costs in arranging meetings for 2021 and 2022, both events having to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Proposed: Agustin Robredo, seconded: Alison Gibb and duly accepted.

**c. 2026 Annual Council Meeting, South Africa.**

Confirmation awaited from Jersey SA that this is feasible and workable.

**d. 2027 International Conference and Bureau Meetings, New Zealand.** Accepted unanimously on the proposal of Trevor Saunders, seconded by Jacobo Cabassa.

**9. Any Other Business**

**a.** Roberto Perez (President, Latin American Jersey Forum), informed the Council that the next LAJF meeting will be in June 2025 in Uruguay

**b.** Martha Melgar (President, Jersey Guatemala), thanked the Bureau for accepting the invitation to host their Annual Meeting and tour in Guatemala, and also taking the opportunity to meet breeders and see the work of those in Guatemala and throughout Latin America.

The meeting adjourned at 08.30am.

**Minutes of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau Annual Council Meeting held at the Hotel Clarion Suites, Guatemala City, Guatemala on 03 December 2023**

**1 President's Welcome**

The President welcomed attendees and informed everyone present that the focus of this meeting would be to discuss and approve all the financial matter in the agenda (point 6), and then to move on to further discuss the Strategy.

**2. Present and eligible to vote**

Steve Le Feuvre (President), Benoit Guioullier (VP Europe), Jacobo Cabassa (VP Latin America), Alison Gibb (VP Oceania), Trevor Saunders (Treasurer and Australia), Agustin Robredo (Argentina), Anthea Day (Australia), Jens Abell (Germany), Russell Gibb (New Zealand), Des Hickey (New Zealand), Danielle Brown (USA).

Also in attendance Martha Melgar (Guatemala), Maria Melgar (Guatemala), Benjamin Perrachon (Uruguay), Sebastian Perrachon (Uruguay), Calvin Covington (USA), Herlindo Montenegro (Guatemala) and Roger Trehwella (Bureau Secretary).

### **3. Apologies**

Same apologies as received for the previous meeting of 27 November 2023, plus Roberto Paez and Liliana Quevedo-Soto (Colombia), Poul Bligaard (Denmark).

### **6.d Approval of Treasurer's Report including the Internal Audit**

**Report.** Agustin Robredo reported on behalf of the Internal Audit committee which met with Trevor Saunders (Treasurer) and Roger Trehwella (Secretary) in attendance. The committee accepted the accounts as below before making a number of recommendations for the Bureau's future accounting policies:-

- i. The accounts for 2022 as presented are factually accurate;
- ii. Costs in the year exceeded budget as a result of the need to hold the second part of the Annual Council Meeting virtually.
- iii. RECOMMENDATION that the Bureau moves to 'cash accounting' based on actual income received and expenditure made, rather than the current accrual basis which does not reflect the actual trading situation.
- iv. RECOMMENDATION that Associate Member countries be invoiced in Bureau Conference years for the period since the previous Bureau Conference (usually triennial). This will reduce the cost of making payments for Associate members and enable them to pay at a time when they will have a meaningful decision on the Bureau Officers elected for the forthcoming term.

In discussion;-

The President believed that the Bureau business, as constituted, can introduce cash accounting without transgressing Jersey Island law, this to be confirmed with our accountant.

**ACTION:** the Treasurer, bookkeeper and secretary to ensure that an up-to-date spreadsheet of subscription payments is maintained and reported to Council annually.

Proposed Agustin Robredo, seconded Benoit Guioullier that the report be approved in its entirety including the reporting on an Annual Cash Accounting basis backdated to be effective from 1 January 2023.

AGREED unanimously.

**6.e Approval of 2022 Accounts.** Proposed Trevor Saunders, seconded Agustin Robredo APPROVED unanimously.

**6.f Approval of 2024 Budget.** Trevor Saunders, Treasurer, presented the 2024 budgeted surplus of £5850 based on total income forecast to almost double as an outcome of the Tour Levy expected to rise to £10,000 for the Bureau Conference in Denmark, and post-tour to Norway.

Costs show a 25% rise from the 2022 actual with funds being directed towards the Strategy implementation.

There were no funds allocated for JETA as the Strategic review proposes a revised format.

In addition, the Treasurer indicated that a revamped website would be eligible for funding from capital reserves, due to the longer-term sponsorship generating potential of such investment.

Alison Gibb noted that no costs have been allowed for 'Gifts' although the Bureau meeting will require them.

Trevor Saunders proposed, Agustin Robredo seconded, and the budget was approved unanimously.

**6g. Membership Applications.** None.

**6h. Membership Fees.** Agreed that no changes be made to fee rates.

**7. Strategy.** Alison Gibb led discussions following the presentation from the first meeting. Comments and questions are to be sought from all member Associations as the Officers develop implementation plans.

90-day goals to be set for each of the critical focus areas – Communication, Scientific, Youth, Financial. This would bring discipline to the process, and allow for consistent reporting in the future.

Trevor Saunders recommended two working groups – 'Member Consultation' and 'Finance' with one officer in both groups to ensure that the two streams do not diverge within the concepts.

Agreed that Officers should have their targeted areas of responsibility in future.

Agustin Robredo flagged a concern that 'free advertising' should be avoided from 'Virtual Farm Tours' and other such promotion that was suggested could appear on a re-vamped web site.

Calvin Covington expressed an expectation that the strategy is running by the 2024 Bureau meeting in June. The President gave a reassurance that the process will be well under way early in the new year.

Anthea Day recommended brainstorming suggestions from all.

Russell Gibb requested that all National Associations contribute towards identifying global sponsorship opportunities.

The President concluded by requesting that any comments and suggestions be channelled to the Secretary by e-mail - [admin@wjcb.net](mailto:admin@wjcb.net)

## **9. Any Other Business**

Jurgen Kouwert (President, European Jersey Forum) has forwarded papers from that EJJ's tour to The Netherlands. The information on milk pricing, nutrition and production as applying to the Jersey breed was deemed excellent.

ACTION: Roger Trehella to circulate to all members Associations and place on the website.

There being no other business to discuss, the President thanked all attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 08.10am.