

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2012**

President Jay Harbin called the meeting of the Williamson County Livestock Association's Board of Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. Directors absent from the meeting were Tom Clapper, Jean Langley, and Lance Loerwald.

The minutes were read from the January meeting and approved. Trisha Bright presented the financial report for January 2012. All directors present received copies of the minutes and financial report.

President Harbin distributed copies of the proposed changes to the WCLA Constitution. He explained that the changes were required to re-apply for tax-exempt status (501(c)3). The changes included restrictions and clarifications on how the association enters into contracts, accepts gifts, defines and handles conflicts of interest, and defines other prohibited acts. One other change included the designation of our fiscal year for tax reporting. The new fiscal year is defined as October 1 through September 30. This change will allow the association to capture all expenses and incomes within a single show season. Tim Kleen offered a motion to accept the changes and to ratify the Constitution as presented. The motion was seconded by Jimmy Vick. The vote was opened to all WCLA membership present and the motion passed with no dissenting vote (exceeded required two-thirds majority).

President Harbin declared that WCLA ballots had been received and were counted prior to the opening of the meeting. The following directors were elected to serve a three-year term.

- Northwest – Janie Pluenneke
- Northeast – Tim Kleen
- Southwest – Keith Hancock
- Southeast – Kevin Pruess
- At Large – Lance Loerwald

President Harbin welcomed and congratulated the new board of directors and opened nominations for the WCLA 2012 officers. For the office of president, Tim Sims nominated Tim Thomason, and Jimmy Vick nominated Brian Turner. The two candidates were excused from the room and the board elected Tim Thomason. For vice president, Wayne Elam nominated Brian Turner and Tim Thomason nominated John Hert. Brian Turner declined to run stating that he felt that President-Elect Thomason's choice for vice president should be honored. The board by acclamation elected John Hert for vice president. Tim Sims nominated Jimmy Vick to serve as BOD secretary. No other nominations were offered. The board approved Jimmy Vick by acclamation.

President Harbin introduced and congratulated the slate of 2012 WCLA officers, shared some short parting words, and yielded the remaining meeting to President Thomason. President Thomason thanked Jay Harbin for his service and leadership.

- President – Tim Thomason
- Vice President – John Hert
- BOD Secretary – Jimmy Vick

President Thomason requested that new proposed rule changes be submitted in writing by the next meeting in March. Then, he asked if there were any conflicts (major livestock shows) with March 7th. The VO-AG teachers present thought that the date conflicted with the Houston Goat Show. Two alternative dates were discussed, one being one week earlier (February 29th) and one being March 5th. After some discussion and verification that the meeting room was available, **President Thomason announced that the next board meeting would be held on February 29th.**

Janie Pluenneke distributed some suggested rule changes that were developed by the Leander VO-AG department. Brian Turner suggested that the authors of these rule changes and any other rule changes be accompanied by “Pros/Cons” to help evaluate new changes. Jack Winterrowd agreed that he would work on these. Joe Leopold suggested that before we consider any changes, the board should set the show schedule so that the hatcheries could be notified. Wayne Shero asked about moving the show to a different week and perhaps shortening the show so that it would conflict less with schools (even considering moving the show to a weekend). Tim Sims asked if it was feasible to consider a move this year. John Hert suggested moving the show so that it coincided with Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. A suggestion was also made to combine tagging/validation with major show validation. Jack Winterrowd believed a move like this would adversely affect the supply and price for show hogs. Joe Leopold also felt that this move might be detrimental to poultry exhibitors. Joe Leopold stated that a move like what is being considered should be thought out very carefully and suggested that the WCLA allow two years for planning. Brian Turner offered a motion, seconded by Jimmy Vick, to set the 2013/14 show dates by May 2012, thus allowing 1½ years to properly plan. The motion carried. John Hert suggested not allowing rule changes but every 3-4 years. Tim Sims suggested that instead of reviewing and passing new show rules during a normally scheduled meeting, the WCLA consider an all-day event on a Saturday. Several dates were suggested, but none were selected. The issue was tabled.

President Thomason announced that one additional director was needed to fill the slot vacated by Bill Stewart. President Thomason appointed Christian Schroeder to fill the position (one-year term).

President Thomason invited Jay Harbin to draw the winning gun raffle tickets for the month of February. Tickets were drawn and were sealed to be announced on the remaining Wednesdays in February. Jay Harbin built a raffle drum and requested reimbursement for some of the materials. The board approved and Jay Harbin then donated the drum to the WCLA.

President Thomason discussed the vacated position of Executive Secretary. He announced that he had received a Letter of Interest from Jay Harbin to fill this vacancy. He requested that if any others wished to be considered, they likewise submit a Letter of Interest and present qualifications. He stated that he wanted the position filled as soon as possible (within 2-3 weeks). John Hert suggested that the board consider filing the position from within the BOD. Tim Sims stated that the Executive Secretary could fill a central role providing cost controls and budget for the BOD. He used the example of over-paying judges as a line of evidence for a constant figure providing controls.

Tim Sims reported on the Fundraising Gala. The date for the Gala has been set for October 13th. The location will be the same as last year. Final decisions on the entertainer have not been made.

President Thomason asked the board to think about divisional superintendents. He stated that if possible, he would like to fill those positions with the same directors/superintendents as last year for continuity.

With no other business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Executive Session:

The Board of Directors went into executive session. During executive session, no official business was conducted. The BOD discussed the Executive Secretary vacancy and proposed rule changes offered by Leander VO-AG department; however, no decisions were made during that session.



President – Tim Thomason

Executive Secretary