



The American Association of Avian Pathologists  
63rd Annual Business Meeting  
August 5, 2020  
4:00 pm to 5:30 pm  
Zoom Meeting

## MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called By: President Eric Jensen

Note Taker: Janece Bevans-Kerr

### Call to Order

President Eric Jensen called the meeting to order.

### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the 62nd Annual Business Meeting—Natalie Armour**

**Second: Ton Schat**

**Motion passed.**

### 63rd Annual Report

Suzanne Dougherty, AAAP Executive Vice President reported.

The American Association of Avian Pathologists, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c) 6 corporation, is financially healthy even in a tough year. The AAAP's net assets in FY2020 saw a decrease from \$1,065,922 to \$996,533. Overall, for FY2020, AAAP's total revenue decreased by \$175,799, mainly due to decreased sponsorship income and unrealized investment losses. General journal revenue was down, but 2020 showed a higher-than-normal journal revenue due to the payment for the AI supplement which was published in FY19. Membership income was down slightly due to late renewals. The Annual Meeting Sponsorship committee brought in \$95,000 from 49 sponsors for the 2020 virtual annual meeting. That is an outstanding amount all considered with having to convert mid-stream to a virtual meeting. Education sales brought in \$60,995 of revenue. The Gross Pathology of Avian Diseases, the Avian Disease Manual (both English and Spanish version) sold out and had another print run. The Avian Diseases Journal continued to be healthy with royalties from Bio One and JSTOR totaling \$99,462 a slight decrease from FY19. Subscriptions have increased by \$12,228 this fiscal year. Last year AAAP eliminated page charges for members and reduced in half page charges for nonmembers. The reduction in the cost to publish an article in Avian Diseases was intended to encourage more manuscript submissions. This past year manuscript submissions increased by 9%. We still need to engage all our members to promote the journal as a great source to publish in. AAAP, Inc does have an Investment Fund to

support future projects and provide operational funds when needed. In 2011 the AAAP Board invested \$150,000 into a Charles Schwab account. The AAAP Board invested another \$150,000 in December 2018. While the fund decreased by a total of \$31,886 this past fiscal year, it ended the fiscal year with a value of \$333,265. The board at its November 2019 meeting also authorized an additional \$100,000 to be invested due to the past success of the Necrotic Enteritis Symposium. AAAP Membership increased by 49 this fiscal year and membership has grown from 926 to 975. Revenue from membership decreased by \$13,038 due to some members renewing after the fiscal year ended. This past year AAAP overwhelmingly voted to update its bylaws. This year AAAP also plans to publish an AAAP Policies and Procedures Manual and Organizational Structure document as a follow up to the bylaws change. The AAAP Board of Directors continues to focus on its strategic plan: 1. Recruiting and retaining members, 2. Expanding scientific information base, 3. Improving member experience 4. Fostering relationships with external organizations and groups that influence issues important to AAAP members, 5. Supporting the AAAP management team, and 6. Strengthening AAAP's financial stability. In a joint venture with the American College of Poultry Veterinarians, both ACPV and AAAP will be publishing the results of the 2020 Salary Survey. A Veterinary Medical Statistical Consulting group helped to validate and create the report.

#### Election Announcement

There is a new election process since the Bylaws were revised last year. All Directors are now at large with four-year terms. There is now an Associate Member Director elected by the Associate Members of AAAP, and a Student Director elected by the Student Members. The election is now held electronically before the AAAP Annual Meeting. The results of this year's election are as follows.

Julie Helm	Director
Karen Grogan	Director
Holly Sellers	Associate Member Director
Kelly Hewitt	Student Director
Louise Dufour-Zavala	President Elect

#### Auditing Committee Report

Karen Grogan reported.

The finances for both AAAP and AAAP Foundation are doing well especially when considering a challenging year due to the pandemic. Despite some losses in investments, the Foundation ended the 2019/2020 fiscal year with \$993,081. AAAP saw a decrease of \$175,799 in FY 2019/2020 but is still in good shape with \$996,533 in assets.

**Action Item: Motion to accept the auditor's report—Louise Dufour-Zavala**

**Second: Eric Gingerich**

**Motion passed**

#### Foundation Report

Fred Hoerr Reported.

In the 2019/2020 fiscal year the AAAP Foundation funded 22 poultry scholarship scholarships, 11 preceptorship scholarships, and 1 Avian Biosciences Travel Scholarship for a total of \$84,259 in scholarships. Five scholarships have been fully funded at \$40,000: There are still 3 poultry scholarship funds that are not fully funded, but are expected to be fully funded very soon. The Foundation launched the Avian Biosciences Travel Scholarships last year to address the needs of students who are enrolled in a Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy program, and do not hold a veterinary degree. The Foundation is grateful for Merck's' continued donation of \$50,000 to give 10 scholarships to students interested in poultry. The Foundation is also appreciative of Elanco and Cobb who fund 3 scholarships. The Foundation created the Gold Feather Guild and gives pins to individual donors who have given \$5,000 or more over a 10-year period. There is also a Donor Guild for members who have given more than \$1,000 in a 10- year period and a Corporate Guild for members who arrange corporate support.

#### Recognition of Fred Hoerr

Fred Hoerr is stepping down as AAAP Foundation President after 10 years in that position. AAAP honored for his service by announcing that a poultry scholarship would now be given in his name--the Frederic J. Hoerr Poultry Scholarship. Dr. Hoerr is responsible for initiating the Foundation scholarship program.

#### Top Performing Committee

President Elect David Frame announced the top performing committee for 2020. AAAP currently has 23 committees and over 200 of our members serve on committees. 17 committee chairs met individually with the Review Committee last April. It is the Committee Review Committee's job to select the Top Performing Committee. The criteria are as follows:

1. The committee defines specific goals on a regular basis and actions to achieve them.
2. The committee work is shared among the committee members.
3. The committee produces products and/or services that benefit the AAAP and/or the wider community.
4. The committee submits reports to the AAAP Board of Directors.
5. The committee submits rosters to the AAAP Board of Directors.
6. The committee leadership rotates.
7. The committee invites new members.

The 2020 Top Performing Committee award went to the Research Priorities Committee. The Research Priorities Committee's mission is, "to advance the application of science-based knowledge in the poultry industry by ensuring that the practical research needs of the industry are communicated to researchers and research funding agencies." The committee accomplishes this task by designing survey instruments to determine the research priorities of allied association groups. The committee also receives input from researchers and this year is expanding its scope by soliciting feedback from federal agencies. The committee then generates annual ranked lists of research priorities and distributes the research priority lists to poultry researchers and research funding agencies. The Research Priorities committee was formed in 2010

### Old Business: Proposal for AAAP to meet independently from the AVMA in 2023.

Eric Jensen led the discussion.

President Jensen explained that at the 2019 AAAP Business Meeting, a proposal from the AAAP Board of Directors to have AAAP meet independently from the AVMA was tabled pending further discussion. Since that time, members were polled for their opinions with 67% supporting an independent meeting. Board members have called over 80 AAAP committee chairs, past presidents, industry group leaders, and others to discuss the proposal. 82% of those who voiced an opinion were in support of an independent meeting. Messages explaining the rationale for the proposal have been sent to the membership. Dr. Jensen explained that at this Business Meeting the Board would like to outline the proposal and give everyone present a chance to ask questions or voice concerns. After the meeting, the Board will conduct one last poll of the membership to assess the support for an independent meeting. Dr. Jensen emphasized that while the board makes the final decision, they would not approve an independent meeting if the membership was overwhelmingly against it. The reasons for the Board of Directors recommending an independent meeting were summarized as follows:

A. Standing alone would enable AAAP to enhance its own identity by offering a meeting planned solely around its own needs, including:

- Location of our meeting.
- Date of our meeting (avoid other poultry meetings).
- Flexibility in providing right sized rooms and locations for all sessions (symposia, scientific program, poster rooms, committees, boards, allied groups, etc).
- Advanced planning with registration.
- New revenue stream for AAAP.
- Ability to keep cost impacts low for AAAP.

B. Independence would also mean a number of benefits for members, to include:

- A meeting focused on poultry health with flexibility in scheduling special events.
- Lower registration costs
- Lower hotel costs
- Simplified registration process
- Simplified abstract collection process
- Ability for program committee to build a program on timeline that best fits the needs of our members.

Discussion included members voicing support for the proposal and others voicing opposition. Those who opposed the proposal stated they felt the process had been undemocratic. Others opposing stated they liked the current situation of meeting with the AVMA and still others opposing were afraid AAAP's relationship with the AVMA would be damaged if AAAP met separately.

### Passing of the Presidency and Meeting Adjournment

Dr. Jensen announced that David Frame would be the new AAAP President and adjourned the meeting.