

DRAFT Minutes of the business meeting of the International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics, 5 November 2015, Merida, Mexico

Starting time: 13.00h

Room : Uxmal 2

1. Opening:

Arjan Stegeman, chairperson of the ISVEE International Management Committee (IMC) opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Normally the chairperson of the current IMC would step down during the business meeting but the incoming chairperson, Alfredo Dajer was unfortunately not available at the meeting so Arjan Stegeman remained as chairperson of the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the ISVEE Business Meeting 22 August 2012 in Maastricht, The Netherlands:

The minutes of this meeting were made available to all on the ISVEE 14 website. No changes were proposed and the minutes of that meeting were adopted by the meeting.

3. ISVEE awards: ISVEE members witnessed the handing of the first ISVEE awards on the first day of ISVEE 14 to Ian Dohoo, John McDermott and Charles Caraguel and these awards have been well received and a worthwhile addition to ISVEE. The awards and voting criteria had been developed by Roger Morris and the IMC between ISVEE 13 and 14 after the IMC were tasked to perform this development at ISVEE 13. It was agreed at the meeting that the IMC would continue to be responsible for the call for nominations, selection and correspondence with the future candidates for the awards. The Roger Morris Trust of Massey University has confirmed funding for the first 5 award periods and these will include a medal, certificate and travel cost sponsorship to the applicable ISVEE of \$2000 per award recipient. The Roger Morris Trust foresees sponsoring of the award in perpetuity. For this reason the IMC proposes to add the following to the ISVEE bylaws:

“Before each Society meeting the IMC will call for candidates for the Peter Ellis ISVEE award, the ISVEE emerging scientist award and the Roger Morris ISVEE award, implement the selection according to the criteria given in Addendum B and present the awards at the meeting”

A two third's majority vote is required to make changes to the bylaws. No opposition to the proposed change was indicated and the change was adopted.

4. Proposed change to the bylaws: voting procedure for the future ISVEE hosts:

Tim Carpenter made the following proposed change to the bylaws: “... a(n) (online) poll, which will include the members of the current and two previous ISVEEs. If there are two proposals, the venue shall be determined by a simple majority vote. If more than two proposals are submitted, a ranking system will be used to determine the venue.” which differs from the current phrase of: “A provisional decision on the venue shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the General Committee.”

Tim Carpenter was requested to further elaborate on this proposed change. Tim Carpenter wished to remove the latter part of the proposal given the ballot paper voting system that was in place for ISVEE 16 at the current meeting. He said that he did not expect the proposal to be implemented immediately for ISVEE 16 voting. He feels there is a lack of representation in the voting given that only members of one business meeting vote on a host.

Further comment was requested from the floor:

Ian Dohoo gave a contrary view. He felt that the founding members of ISVEE wished the setup of the organization to be a simple one, and while bids for hosting consist of a large amount of work the general simple system of voting has strength in simplicity. An online poll would make things more complicated, none less than the duplication of members.

Roger Morris also gave a contrary view to the proposal. The current system works in his opinion and after each business meeting members are immediately aware of where the future ISVEE would be held. He mentioned that certainly glitches have occurred in hosting and much work behind the scenes has needed to be done, but each meeting has gone on. He feels an online poll would be complicated as people move and change information.

Roger Morris took the opportunity to further explain that the Roger Morris Trust awards are foreseen to continue into perpetuity but that given that he might not be making decision come 15 years the 5 award limit was put in place.

Arjan Stegeman mentioned that the online poll would certainly put more pressure on organizers prior to ISVEE's.

The proposal was voted on: 9 voted for - this was not a two thirds majority and the proposed change was turned down.

5. Approval of financial statement for ISVEE XIII (financial statement in attachment): Unfortunately the Treasurer of the ISVEE XIII Organizing Committee, Henk Hogeveen, could not be present so Arjan Stegeman gave a brief overview. Total inputs amounted to € 643,852.35 which was offset by expenses of € 621,740.22 giving a balance of € 22,112.13 which was transferred to ISVEE 14. There were no comments from the floor and the financial statements were thus approved by the meeting.
6. Presentation of statistics of ISVEE XIV by the Chairperson of the ISVEE XIV Organizing Committee, Alfredo Dajer:

In Alfredo Dajer's absence the ISVEE XIV statistics were presented by Jose Alberto Erales Villamil.

ISVEE XIV had 534 delegates from 53 countries at the symposium. The ratio of woman to men was approximately 50:50. The USA, UK, Canada, Australia, France, New Zealand, Switzerland, Denmark, Japan and Netherlands were the countries with most delegates while the other countries' representation was shown to the meeting. 5

workshops were and would be held in total with 2 pre-congress (Mathematical and Epi modelling, Introduction to R) and 3 post-congress (Social network analysis and modelling; Economics for animal health and epidemiology; Space time modelling). In total there are 420 oral presentations and 249 poster presentations.

7. ISVEE XIV financial report by the Treasurer of the ISVEE XIV Organizing Committee, Jose Alberto Erales Villamil:

47 delegates still owe funds ranging between \$17 and \$1200 per person. Total income is estimated at \$378700 with total debits estimated at \$367900. The LOC expect to transfer in the region of \$30000 to the Thai LOC. It currently looks as if there will be further profit from ISVEE 14 which will also be transferred to the Thai LOC and this is in the region of \$10800.

8. Presentation of ISVEE XV 2018 by the Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of ISVEE XV, Thanawat Tiensin:

The Thailand delegation was invited to give a presentation on the current situation with their organizing for the next ISVEE which will be held 5-9 November 2018. It will be held in Chiang Mai province with collaboration between the Thai Veterinary Medicine Association and the veterinary schools of the country amongst other organizations. The presentation included information on the scientific program which will be broadly classed into: One health; Applied epidemiology; Food safety and security; Aquatic and wildlife epidemiology; Animal health, economics and policy. The pre and post-congress workshops will be held at the Chiang Mai University: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. Members of the delegation also gave short introductions to the congress and urged members to attend and enjoy the Thai culture as well as their high standard of veterinary medicine. There was no opposition to the plans for the bid and the next ISVEE is confirmed for Thailand.

9. Proposals for hosting of ISVEE XVI, 2021:

Three bids were presented to host the 2021 ISVEE. Bid presentations were given in the order they were received by the IMC, viz. Nantes, France (Christine Fourichon); Halifax, Canada (Javier Sanchez); Auckland, New Zealand (Tim Carpenter). After the presentations the first round of voting was by ballot collected and counted in front of the meeting by members of the LOC. The count was New Zealand (45), Canada (44) and France (39). Thus France fell out but since a straight majority (>50%) was not initially achieved a vote by show of hands was performed to determine the final host. This result was New Zealand (55) and Canada (56), thus Halifax, Canada won the vote and will be hosting the 2021 ISVEE given the bylaw requirements they should meet in the coming years.

10. Election of new members of the ISVEE International Management Committee:

The positions of Chair and Secretary are predetermined, i.e. the Chairs of the 2015 and 2018 ISVEE Organizing Committees respectively. Nominations are invited for six additional members, one from each continent. Ian Dohoo proposes Theresa Bernardo who is happy to stand, the meeting approved; South America: proposes Gustavo Monti who is happy to stand, the meeting approved; Australia/New Zealand:

no new member proposed and Evan Sergeant indicated he was happy to remain on the IMC, the meeting approved; Africa: John Grewar proposes Lesley van Helden who is happy to stand, the meeting approved; Asia: the chairperson of the Thai LOC Thanawat Tiensin will be a member on the IMC and Takuto Watanabe is additionally proposed and is happy to stand, the meeting approved; Europe: Ann Lindberg nominates Arjan Stegeman who is happy to stand, the meeting approved.

11. Other matters:

Katharina Staerk was given the floor on her request after her services of 2 terms on the IMC. She poses a question for discussion for the members outside of the business meeting on an introspection of ISVEE, what it attempts to accomplish and the role the IMC is to play depending on that accomplishment focus. The IMC currently plays a minor operational role with financial status maintenance within the society. Is ISVEE only a conference or should it have a wider epi and economic platform in terms of capacity building? The focus influences the role of the IMC. The conference is hosted in stable environments with stable financial consequences, but potentially should ISVEE diversify and allow hosting in a more variable environment but in a country which has more to gain in terms of knowledge transfer? Also diversity can be seen in selecting areas of influence, and she mentioned China as a country wholly underrepresented at this meeting. She also mentioned a perceived imbalance between female vet students graduating (80%) versus the 50% represented at ISVEE.

Jane Gibbons took to the floor in support of this discussion and asked that members consider these points at the next ISVEE, especially the point of whether ISVEE breaks even versus building capacity and continuity.

Jenny-Ann Toribio took the floor and asked that instead of only considering this at the next meeting that the IMC representatives for each region considers opinions on the matter before the next ISVEE for discussion in the IMC and then between members.

12. Closing of the meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 15:00 with the next meeting due to be held in Cheng Mai at ISVEE 2018.