



Pres. Paul Hill called the 55<sup>th</sup> annual Colorado Simmental Association annual business meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, 2025, at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) grounds, Denver, CO. The meeting followed tours of the refurbished historic Livestock Exchange Building, courtesy of Colorado Cattlemen's Assoc., and the Legacy Building, courtesy of National Western. Both structures are slated to open by the 2026 NWSS. Twenty CSA /CJSA members attended.

Jane Delling-Baty moved and Chad Cook seconded to dispense with the reading and approve the 2024 annual minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Secretary/Treas. Susan Russell shared a printed and verbal financial overview for the fiscal year Oct. 1, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2025. Willie Altenburg moved and Jane seconded to increase "rent" to Susan from \$4,000 annually to \$6,000 annually, effective immediately. Motion passed. Willie moved and Jayme Gittlein seconded to approve the fiscal year financial report as presented. Motion carried. It will be filed with the CPA & IRS.

In verbal and printed reports, highlights from the 2025 NWSS were shared by Willie, Jane and Paul. Jayme Gittlein, CJSA president, offered CJSA highlights and Paul gave the CSA President's Report.

Chad Cook, American Simmental Association western trustee from Colorado, gave the ASA report. It included staff changes; a financial report; the request of Breeding Soundness Exam data for research; an update on having a Hydrops test created; discussion about International Genetic Solutions governance; Carcass Merit Program needing sires; new rules on walking herd sires and prefix sharing; and a Phenotype & Genotype show pilot project to be tried at the 2026 AJSA Eastern regionals. He pointed to statistics showing ASA members from the western region provide the most support dollars on a per member basis, as well as herds with 100 head or more make up 5.3 percent of the membership yet contributing 60 percent to ASA's financial health.

In unfinished business, Duane Yearous reported he and Willie participated in the recent National Western planning session and he emphasized the new "Supreme Heifer" multi-breed junior show breeding beef drive beginning in 2026, as well as the addition of more Phenotype & Genotype shows added.

In new business, Vice President Cody Pitt opened elections. Amy Gittlein nominated Jolynn Midcap and Susan Russell each to another director term. Cody nominated Leah Clark of 7LDiamond Ranch for a director term to round out the slate since Willie is term limited. Curtis Russell moved to close nominations and elect Jolynn, Susan and Leah each to three-year terms by acclamation. Chad seconded and the motion carried.

Also in new business, the 2026 National Western Stock Show plans were reviewed and discussed. In the pen shows, the Phenotype & Genotype show will expand to both a purebred and percentage division, and a new pen show called Rancher's Best will be offered as a mixed gender pen from previously exhibited cattle. Conference calls with potential exhibitors will be Nov. 12 & 13, plus other messaging planned.

For Power Simmental, Willie distributed updated budget projections. Based on CSA's financial position and project projections, Jane announced that the board voted to increase the prize money to the breeder winning Power Simmental to \$20,000, up from \$10,000 due to current market values. Sponsors and semen for the tank are still being accepted; finalist jackets will be ordered soon.

Paul reported working with M3 Cattle Marketing to secure lots for the *One & Only Sale*, with the catalog photo deadline looming. Fundraising lots before and at the start of the sale were outlined on the agenda. Paul announced honors. Awards were presented to:

- Honored *Outgoing director* Willie, who is term limited. Willie was thanked for his most recent service stint from 2017 through today, and praised his exceptional role as Simmental's Leader, Promoter and Innovator. For a total of 26 years on the association board, he was presented with a framed hide.
- *CSA Youth Education Grants* were awarded to Jason Dias and Jayme Gittlein. Each was given a check of \$500 toward their education.
- *CSA Youth of the Year* was given to Jayme Gittlein, CJSA president.

Paul highlighted the upcoming events with announcements also printed. Dues and co-op advertising were accepted. Curtis moved to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan S. Russell, secretary/treasurer