

MINUTES OF THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAS
AB-WRSA BUSINESS MEETING
JUNE 20, 2002
, Cuba

President S.D. Lukefahr opened the meeting at 12:15 p.m. by welcoming the members and guests in attendance. A list of attendees is attached. During the meeting, 11 members joined the AB-WRSA.

It was noted that most of the members in attendance were Spanish speakers so the discussion was translated so all could participate.

President's Report

The President reported that prior to the meeting, the membership included 33 members. He then proceeded to discuss the many activities carried out by the branch including the current congress in Cuba and the 2006 AB-WRSA conference to be held in Brazil. In addition:

- The AB-WRSA will host the WRSA congress in 2004 in Puebla, Mexico;
- The branch has an active web site with announcements being made in both English and Spanish. In addition, the listserve has continued;
- Members of the AB-WRSA have actively been publishing papers in World Rabbit Science, and in other journals and conference proceedings;
- The branch also provides English editing for papers to be published in World Rabbit Science;
- Members of the branch are involved in a number of international collaborative research programs including Cuba and Spain, Mexico and USA, Mexico and Spain, Uruguay and Spain and Trinidad and USA; and
- A section in the Professional Meat Rabbit Association Journal is devoted to research papers from members of the branch.

Vice Presidents Report

The Vice President reported that the local committee had been working on organizing the 8th World Rabbit Congress since the last World Congress when it was decided to meet in Mexico in 2004. The Congress will take place September 8-10, 2004 in Puebla, Mexico.

All members of the AB-WRSA were invited to assist with the planning and operation of the Congress.

A letter was received from Walter Motta in Brazil indicating that the Brazilians would be interested in hosting the 3rd Congress of the American Branch.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary noted that the minutes of the previous meeting of the AB-WRSA held July 6, 2000 had been posted on the listserve. The minutes were approved as posted.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer provided a report of income and expenditures since the last meeting (copy attached). The report was accepted as presented.

Old Business

The Secretary had found a website called PayPal that allowed credit card payment of annual dues and subscriptions to World Rabbit Science for a small fee. This year, several members renewed their memberships by that method. It was agreed to keep that payment option open for persons having problems paying in US funds.

A brochure describing AB-WRSA has been produced and translated into Spanish. That has been posted on the website as well as being published in the PRMA Journal.

Contacts with other organizations have included contacts made at the Congress and with other branches.

The 8th World Rabbit Congress will be held September 7-10, 2004 in Puebla, Mexico. The President of the local association is Dr. Carlos Becerril and the Secretary is Dr. Arturo Pro. Host institutions include Colegio de Postgraduados, Universidad Autonoma Chapingo, FES Cuatitlan UNAM, SAGARPA and Centro Nacional de Cunicultura.

New Business

It was agreed to accept the Brazilian offer and hold the 3rd Congress of the American Branch in Brazil in 2006.

The Secretary distributed a table of costs for re-mailing World Rabbit Science. For the US, Mexico and Canada, the rates currently charged cover the costs of mailing. For other countries, there is some short fall. It was agreed that the rates should remain as they are (\$8 for the US and \$12 for other countries).

There was some discussion of journal options for publication of rabbit research papers. The following were suggested as possible options.

- The **Cuban Journal of Agriculture** is recognized by ICI (Index Cientifica Internationale), is in English and Spanish and has no page charges.
- The **Cuban Animal Production Journal** is producer oriented and has no page charges.
- **Livestock Research for Rural Development** is an on-line, refereed journal that is edited by Thomas Preston and is based in Colombia. There is no charge for publication.
- **Animal Reproduction Science** is recognized by ICI, is published in the Netherlands and has no page charges.
- **Livestock Production Science** is recognized by ICI, is published in the Netherlands and has no page charges.

It was reported that the President of the WRSA (Dr. Agustin Blasco) was working to get World Rabbit Science listed with ICI. The journal is acceptable, but must publish six issues on time before approval can be given. Dr. Blasco asked all members to provide manuscripts as soon as possible so this requirement can be met.

Dr. Lukefahr, on behalf of the AB-WRSA, presented Sergio Riveron, Chair of the Organizing Committee, and Raquel Ponce de Leon, Scientific Secretary, with plaques recognizing their efforts in organizing an excellent congress. In addition, they each were presented with a signed copy of the book "Rabbit Production" for inclusion in the libraries of the Sociedad Cubana de Cunicultura and Instituto de Ciencia Animal, respectively.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

AB-WRSA MEETING
June 19, 2002
Members in Attendance

*Steven Lukefahr - President	USA
*Carlos M. Becerril - Vice President	Mexico
*James McNitt - Secretary/Treasurer	USA
*Ismael Berrios	Cuba
Asuncion Consuelo	Mexico
Reinter A. Diaz Peseda	Cuba
*Jesus Elias Gonzalez	Cuba
*Luis Enrique	Cuba
*Ramon Estevez	Cuba
*Manuel F. Ferreiro	Cuba
*Luis M. Fraga	Cuba
*Griselda Gomez	Mexico
Elisa Gutierrez	Mexico
*Jose Mendoza	Mexico
*Raquel Ponce De Leon	Cuba
*Sergio Riveron	Cuba
*Raymundo Rodriguez	Mexico
Lourdes L. Savon	Cuba
Martha Segundo	Mexico
*Glafiro Torres	Mexico
*Magdalena Zamora	Mexico

Financial Report -July 1, 2000 to May 31, 2002

Opening Balance July 1, 2000	\$1,261.02
Income	
Memberships and World Rabbit Science Subscriptions	\$3,251.41
Interest	<u>68.43</u>
	\$3,319.84
Expenses	
World Rabbit Science Association dues*	\$ 290.00
World Rabbit Science subscriptions	2,303.19
Postage	<u>235.33</u>
	\$2,828.52
Closing Balance May 31, 2002	\$1,752.34

* Of the \$10 annual fee, \$5 is paid to WRSA and \$5 is kept by the American Branch.

POSTAGE RATES FOR WORLD RABBIT SCIENCE

Country	Vol. 9 No. 4	Vol. 9 No. 3	Vol. 9 French Rabbit Days
USA	\$1.49	\$1.49	\$1.26
ARGENTINA	\$4.55	\$4.55	\$3.80
BRAZIL	\$4.55	\$4.55	\$3.80
CANADA	\$1.85	\$1.85	
MEXICO	\$2.45	\$2.45	\$2.02
TRINIDAD	\$4.55	\$4.55	\$3.80

There are four issues of World Rabbit Science and the abstracts of the French Rabbit Days each year i.e. five mailings. For this, we charge US residents \$8 (\$1.60/mailing) and those outside the US \$12 (\$2.40/mailing). The mailing for Volume 9, #4 included 17 to the US, 2 to Mexico and 1 each to Argentina, Canada and Brazil for a total cost of \$44.24. The dues collected for this mailing were equivalent to \$39.20.