

**American Dexter Cattle Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 6, 2026 - 7 pm CST**

President – Dave Cluff	Treasurer - Mark Chaney	Region 7 – Nancy Bowers
Vice Pres – Jill Gurley	* YADCA – Peyton Collins	Region 8 – Grant Collins
IPP /Youth - Laaci Louderback	Region 1 – Pam Baker	Region 9 – Rob Whitlow
Secretary - Carole Nirosky	Region 2 – Vacant	* Region 10 - Santiago Lizarraga
Registrar - Jill Delaney	Region 4 – Don Swisher	Region 11 – Bob Fenton
Registrar - Jessica Andrews	Region 6 – Patti Adams	Region 12 – Erica Lantz

**\*designates member absence.**

- 1) Dave Cluff called the meeting to order at 7:00pm CST.
- 2) Reports
  - A. Registrar's Report – Jill Delaney / Jessica Andrews
    - Membership totals: 2025 membership count on November 14, 2025: 1680  
2024 membership: 1835. The 2026 drive began early, shortening 2025's membership year. Membership renewals so far for 2026: 159 vs 61 in 2025. Jill noted that most have renewed online and only 11 members have paid by check.
    - Registrations December 2025 = 217: females: 165 / bulls: 41 / steers: 11  
Registrations December 2024 = 227: females: 164 / bulls: 56 / steers: 7
    - Transfers December 2025: 199 / December 2024: 247
    - Jessica Andrews highlighted an issue with new members submitting transfers but often failing to complete the PayPal payment in the current system, requiring her to manually follow up and invoice the member. Jill Delaney also noted that some members do not like or have a PayPal account. Mark Chaney suggested blocking the completion of a submission in the new Digital Beef software until payment is made. Carole Nirosky clarified that in the Digital Beef system, the registration process for a member will not be complete until payment is made, but it will go into an uncompleted task list. Dave Cluff advised against spending time fixing the old system since the transition to Digital Beef is imminent.
    - Jill Delaney confirmed that the registrars are 100% caught up on application processing. The only exception is her pending file of applications waiting for genotyping or problem solving.
  - B. Treasurer Report – Mark Chaney
    - November 30, 2025, Financial Statement balance: \$302,638.
    - December account activity: revenue \$16,245 / expenses \$16,402.
    - Large Expense Items for December – Credit Card \$2,227, Digital Beef \$5,500, Staats \$1515.
    - Mark Chaney provided an explanation of the ADCA financial accounts and processing for the benefit of the new directors.
- 3) Region Updates
  - Region 1 – Pam Baker - Plans to have Region 1 monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. She received several emails, texts or calls on testing and registrations.
  - Region 7 – Nancy Bowers is looking at having a regional meeting now that the holidays are behind us. Frequency will be based on the amount of interest. I continue to have members and non-members reach out to me, mostly with registration questions. I have a lot of communication with people through FB messenger as much or more than email/phone, based off of my being admin for the Central Texas Dexter Breeders page. Our sales lists continue to be successful and well utilized by our members.
  - Region 11 – Bob Fenton says his region has been quiet and he will send out the monthly email when I get a chance.

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- Region 12 – Erica Lantz will be hosting a regional meeting on January 25, 2026, via google meet.
  - Nancy Bowers (region 7) raised a question regarding the process for registering a farm and obtaining 840 tags. It was clarified that a Premise ID, often obtained through the USDA or state agriculture extension agents, is required to order the 840 tags. Jessica Andrews and Grant Collins noted that some states have cost-free RFID programs or vets who provide 840 tags for free.
  - Grant Collins (region 8) inquired about the existence of a national database or listing of all Dexter shows, including state fairs. Laaci Louderback confirmed that a full comprehensive list does not exist; the ADCA website only lists shows on the “Happenings Page” if people inform the association. Jill Gurley agreed to coordinate with the show committee to pull a list, potentially linking the information on the website. Grant Collins also proposed utilizing the existing Dexter marketplace for free advertising for paid members instead of the current monthly sale list email, which Dave Cluff confirmed is something being built into the Digital Beef system. Carole Nirosky suggested that directors send their regional lists to her to be placed on the ADCA marketplace for everyone to utilize.
- 4) Finance – 2026 Budget Proposal
- Mark Chaney previously sent out the proposed 2026 budget for the board to review. Patti Adams raised concerns that the descriptions of line items in the 2026 budget proposal did not correspond to the financial activity statement categories, making it difficult to reconcile and track actual spending. She noted that the "2025 actual amounts spent" column was all zeros. Mark Chaney confirmed that alignment between the budget and QuickBooks accounting has been a long-standing issue he has not had time to fix. He explained that they did not include 2025 actuals because the budget was started before having data for October, November, and December, and estimates were used. Mark stated that the actual 2025 revenue was \$215,000 and expenses were \$229,000, resulting in a \$15,000 deficit. Dave Cluff clarified that the negative figure on line 85 of the budget proposal is the projected deficit (budgeted expenses exceeding anticipated revenue) and not the actual cash flow deficit. Dave explained that the organization is a nonprofit that should be spending resources to benefit members, and they intentionally budget to spend more than they take in. He noted that the organization has a \$200,000 "rainy day fund" in CDs and over \$100,000 in the checking account, providing a financial cushion. Dave highlighted that the planned deficit spending covers significant investments like the onboarding and ongoing costs of Digital Beef and hiring a second registrar to help Jill and improve turnaround time. He emphasized that the resources should be spent on membership noting that the organization rarely spends the full budgeted amount. Pam Baker noted that advertising is expensive and the allocated \$6,800 could be spent immediately due to those high expenses. The M&A committee is exploring creative cost-effective advertising methods to help reduce spending.
  - Patti Adams suggested postponing the vote for approval of the 2026 budget until February so the board could review the 2025 actual figures. Others suggested that the board could move forward with the budget and amend it later if revenue targets are missed. Mark Chaney confirmed that the accounting company offered a solution to align the budget with the chart

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of accounts, but it involved additional costs or self-building a spreadsheet. Dave Cluff acknowledged that aligning the budget with the chart of accounts should be a goal for the next budget year.

- Erica Lantz made a motion for the board to approve the 2026 budget as presented, and Laaci Louderback seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Yes votes included: Pam Baker, Don Swisher, Nancy Bowers, Grant Collins, Robert Whitlow, Bob Fenton, Erica Lantz, and Laaci Louderback. No votes included: Patti Adams. The motion passed by a majority vote.

5) Committee Updates

A. Marketing and Advertising - Pam Baker

- The M&A committee is looking into more options and seeing how far the budget will go. They plan to advertise more on Dexter beef, the Expo and to branch out into some of the commercial breed magazines.

B. Expo Committee – Dave Cluff reviewed the report submitted by Santiago. The online store is open for sponsors and entries, the tentative agenda is being finalized, and two judges have been confirmed. Expo will feature Temple Grandin facility tours at the Ohio State University. A hoof trimmer will be on-site. The T-shirt design is complete. The auction is also announced and open for entries.

- Nancy Bowers inquired if Regional Directors are required to attend the Expo. Dave Cluff stated that attendance is strongly recommended but not required, as the organization only budgets a \$500 stipend, which does not cover all expenses. Regional Directors are expected to participate in the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will take place at the expo. Attendance may be either in person or via Google Meet.
- Jill Delaney suggested advertising the Dexter auction sale early so potential sellers and buyers are aware. Pam Baker confirmed that the marketing committee plans to create an ad for the sale. Nancy Bowers proposed adding a "buy it now" or online bidding option for people who cannot attend in person.

C. Pedigree & Genetics

- The board held an executive session from 8:35 pm to 8:49 pm to review a registration request from a member. Dave Cluff announced that the board found the bull eligible for registration and voted to approve the registration in the ADCA pedigree.

D. Registration & Data Software – Dave reviewed the Digital Beef report submitted by Kimberly Jepsen.

- We have been actively working on the birth-of-record functionality and ensuring that certificates do not display a full pedigree, so they are not confused with official registration papers. The search engine has been cleaned up and is now functioning properly. Registration specifications and requirements have been finalized, and we have been running practice registrations to test workflows. Digital Beef is also adding probability specifications for statistical outcomes, including traits such as chondro, PHA, polled status, A2, color, and more. VGL case numbers have been located and are now listed on the new pedigree display.
- Overall progress continues to move along well. We are still hopeful of having the member view available for the board to review later this month. One item the board will need to discuss and decide at some point is whether the pedigree should be visible to the public or restricted to members only.
- Mark Chaney discussed his meeting with Jaye from Digital Beef regarding some of the financial aspects. They talked about financial integration, sharing the chart of accounts, and

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researching payment platforms like Zelle and Square. Jaye will be following up with Mark once she gains more insight into these options. Dave Cluff emphasized the importance of aligning financial transactions directly with QuickBooks to eliminate manual work.

E. Bylaws & Standard Operating Procedures

- Dave Cluff requested an update on the bylaws and SOP committee to ensure all changes are published and attorney involvement is sought for necessary bylaw updates. Laaci Louderback confirmed online updates and noted that two items need to be double checked for the attorney, one of the items includes eliminating the parliamentarian position.

F. Lifetime Membership Proposal

- Don Swisher discussed the proposal for a lifetime membership, with Dave suggesting tiered options (bronze, silver, gold, platinum) instead of the "lifetime" terminology. Don observed that 25% of ADCA members have maintained their membership for twenty years or longer and recommended that appropriate recognition be considered for these longstanding members. Carole Nirosky suggested reorganizing the Member Retention Committee to develop membership options, with Don Swisher agreeing to chair. The new committee will include Don Swisher, Patti Adams, Jill Delaney, and Nancy Bowers as volunteers. Additionally, Don plans to recruit more members to serve on the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm CST / Next BOD meeting: February 3, 2026, 7:00 pm CST.

Submitted by Carole Nirosky