

**ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA
CHENNAI – 41**

Minutes of the 42nd General Meeting of the Animal Welfare Board of India held on 16th May, 2015 at Chennai.

PRESENT

1. Maj. Gen. Dr. R.M. Kharb, AVSM (Retd.)	-	Chairman
2. Dr. S. Chinny Krishna	-	Vice Chairman
3. Shri Anil Sant, IAS Joint Secretary, MOEF & CC	}	
4. Shri S. Shankar Deputy Secretary (HE) Representing Ministry of HRD	}	
5. Shri Jai Raj, IFS Addl. PCCF, Uttarakhand	}	
6. Shri A.J. Anandan, IPS (Retd)	}	
7. Shri Doulat Jain	}	Members
8. Dr. Sandeep K. Jain	}	
9. Shri N.G. Jayasimha	}	
10. Shri Anil Sancheti	}	
11. Shri Vinod Bam	}	
12. Shri Shivayya Swamy Kamthana	}	
12. Ms. Norma Alvares	}	
13. Ms. Sowmya Reddy	}	
14. Dr. (Mrs.) Vasanthamma	}	
15. Ms. Anjali Sharma	}	
16. Shri S. Vinod Kumar	}	Assistant Secretary

Prof. Suresh S. Honnappagol, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Dr. Arun Sirkeck, Representative of Municipal Corporation of Shimla, Brig. S.S. Chohan (Retd) requested for leave of absence and the same was granted.

Chairman AWBI welcomed the Board Members present and requested the Members to self introduce themselves and it was done. Shri Vijay Shankar, Deputy Secretary, representing Ministry of HRD informed the Board that the Government is coming out with new education policy soon and requested the Board to send inputs to the Ministry of HRD.

Shri Anil Sant, IAS, Joint Secretary, MOEF & CC stated that whatever rights human beings have should be given to animals too and we should strive to achieve that. Chairman, AWBI stated that the challenges before the Board are several of which the man animal conflict challenge is important and the main reasons for such conflicts is the increasing human and animal population, less tolerance in society for animals. Strong animal protection laws can act as a deterrent. The effective enforcement of animal protection laws is very much required. Non functional District SPCAs are making the situation worse.

Chairman informed the Board about his meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister Haryana on implementation of National Rabies Control Programme – Animal component and related animal welfare matters. The Haryana State Animal Welfare Board has since been constituted. Chairman informed that the Courts have been giving good judgements in favour of animals and cited the Supreme Court order of May 2014 in the Jallikattu case and the recent judgement of Rajasthan High Court at Jodhpur in May 2015. Chairman expressed hope that the draft animal welfare bill 2014 which has been forwarded by the Board to the Ministry will be accepted by the Government and the new animal welfare act would be enacted soon.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting held on 19.12.2014 & 20.12.2014

The Board confirmed the Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting held on 19.12.2014 & 20.12.2014.

Item No.2: Report on action taken on the minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting held on 19.12.2014 & 20.12.2014

The decisions and actions taken on the minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting held on 19.12.2014 & 20.12.2014 were reviewed and noted by the Board.

Item No.3: Ratification of Minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of the Board held on 20.12.2014.

The Minutes of Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of the Board held on 20.12.2014 were approved and ratified by the Board.

Item No.4: Discussion on the matter relating to decrease in Budget allocation for the year 2015-16 and sanctioned grant amount pending for release to AWOs under Regular Grant and CSS schemes.

Chairman informed the Board Members about his letter to the Hon'ble Minister MOEF & CC in April 2015 to increase the budgetary allocation of funds.

The Board noted the reduction in the allocation of budget by the Ministry for the financial year 2015-16 and decided that the AWBI Regular Grant criteria for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 is to be reduced by 40% of the previous grant amount prescribed in the criteria since the funds available will not be sufficient to release the pending grants for the proposals for financial year 2014-15 & 2015-16.

The Board decided to request the Ministry to write to the State Governments to provide grants to animal welfare organizations for animal welfare schemes as Government of India has devolved more funds to the State Governments and Central Govt. has consequently reduced the budgetary grant of the Central Sector Schemes.

The Board requested the Sub-Committee constituted for fund raising to take appropriate action to raise funds for animal welfare from donors. The Board also noted that animal welfare subject is now included in the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility). The Board requested Shri N.G. Jayasimha Member AWBI to prepare a letter for making request for fund raising from corporate sector for animal welfare projects. Documentaries on plastic cow and transport of cattle etc. may be utilized to make a small presentation brochure. The Board directed that an appropriate and attractive brochure should be prepared for this purpose before 30th June 2015.

The Board directed the AWBI office to provide copy of the letters sent for inspection of AWOs / NGOs to the concerned Members of the Board while forwarding the letters to the Animal Husbandry / Dist. Administration and SAWBs.

Item No.5: Consideration of matter relating to latest status report of Utilization Certificate under Regular Grant and CSS Grant (Shelter, Ambulance, ABC & Natural Calamity).

The Board noted the same and directed that the pending UC details list should be send to the concerned Members of the Board of the respective States.

A final Notice should be sent to the AWOs who have not submitted UCs for a long period of time and thereafter letters should be sent to the concerned District Magistrates for initiating action to recover the amount as arrears of land revenue.

Item No.6: Consideration of the matter relating to ratification of Regular Grant to AWOs increased/decreased and others.

The Board ratified the reduction of Regular Grant to the three AWOS (RJ154, RJ664 & HR 220) listed and the sanction and the release of the initial grant to the organization of Tonk Rajasthan (RJ814/2015)

Item No.7: Consideration of Regular Grant to AWOs whose income from sale of milk is more than 20% of their total income.

The Board noted that breed improvement programme is also being implemented through Gaushalas as such decided to increase the percentage of milching animals from 10% to 20% and also decided that if an organization derives more than 20% income out of milk sales then such AWOs should not be given Regular Grant for the maintenance of animals as Board cannot fund dairy farms operating for commercial purposes. Henceforth if any AWO exceeds the figures of 20% number of milching animals or 20% milk sales out of the total income during the previous year then Regular Grant is not to be given.

Item No.8: Discussion on the opinion/comments of Dr.Sandeep K. Jain, Member on the matter regarding appointment of Ms. Kavya Chimalgi as Honorary Editor of Publications and working of various Sub-Committees constituted by the Board at its 40th General Meeting held on 27.3.2014.

The Board noted that the publications are not being brought out in time due to the inefficiency and incompetence of the Editor of Publications and also noted that the services of Ms. Kavya Chimalgi of Humane Society International (India) are being offered to the Board for no cost to the Board. Dr.Sandeep Jain, Member informed that his objection was due to finance shortage, since a substantial amount was to be spent on Publication of magazine. He opined that it is very good gesture of our Hon'ble Member Sh. Jayasimha of Humane Society International(India) and that being a member of Magazine subcommittee he assured of his cooperation, if his help is sought. The Board decided to accept the offer for the services of Ms. Kavya Chimalgi for bringing out the English Publication Animal Citizen and monthly Newsletter which can be translated into Hindi. Shri.Anil Sancheti has offered to provide the services of translation/editing by Shri.Mahesh Mishra of Mandsaur. The draft of the publication material should be circulated to the Editorial Sub-Committee for vetting before its publication. The services of Ms.Kavya Chimalgi will be reviewed after three months.

The Board discussed about the working of Shri R.B. Chaudhary, Editor of Publications and directed that a Committee to be formed to look into action to be taken for non performance of his assigned duties against him under FR 56 (j) and a service Lawyer is to be consulted through Ms. Anjali Sharma.

Itemno.9: Brief on matter relating to important pending court cases by Assistant Secretary.

The Board noted the matter. The Board brought on record the excellent services provided by Ms. Anjali Sharma, Member AWBI for preparing the affidavits for the various Court cases in which AWBI is involved. The Board conveyed its appreciation to Ms. Anjali Sharma.

Item No.10: Discussion on progress on implementation of National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP) in Haryana State.

The Board noted the matter on the progress of implementation of NRCP in Haryana and that the man and animal ratio in the State of Haryana is almost 1:10 as seen from the scientific survey of dog population done by HSI India. The HSI India has started the programme at Hissar and proposes to carry out 30,000 ABCs and 1,40,000 vaccinations during this year. The construction of kennels has been started by the Govt. of Haryana. WVS India will start its programme from Gurgaon Division w.e.f. June, 2015.

Item No.11: Ratification of grant-in-aid released to Humane Society International (HSI) India, Hyderabad under NRCP Programme and Permission granted by Ministry of Health for purchase of vehicles for NRCP programme.

The Board ratified the grant-in-aid released to Humane Society International India for implementing NRCP in Haryana towards the survey reports and for the programme. The HSI will be doing around 30,000 ABCs and 1,40,000 vaccinations during this year.

The WVS which would be implementing the programme for the Gurgaon Division will be carrying out approx. 10,000 ABCs and 60,000 vaccinations during the year for which the Board will be writing to the NCDC Ministry of Health for release of funds as per the MOU signed. The Ministry of Health will also be requested to release of grant for the purchase of four vehicles approved by NCDC.

Item No.12: Ratification of grant released under Humane Education programme for conduct of Animal Welfare Law Training programme to Humane Society International (HSI) India, at Odisha (Cuttack)

The Board ratified the same.

Item No.13: Discussion and ratification for withdrawing the registration certificates in respect of Circuses and rehabilitation of animals rescued from circuses.

The Board deferred the matter.

The Board noted the excellent assistance provided by organizations like FIAPO, PETA India, People for Animals and Animal activists to the Board in the matter and decided that a letter of appreciation should be issued by Chairman to FIAPO and others.

Item No.14: Consideration of matter relating to condemnation and disposal of unserviceable/obsolete furniture, computers, electronic and electrical equipments lying in AWBI office.

The Board directed the office to constitute a committee as provided in the Rules to submit the report of the obsolete items of assets which required to be condemned and obtain the approval of Chairman, AWBI for taking necessary action to auction/disposal of the items and inform the Board.

Item No.15: Discussion on the directions issued by Municipal Administration & Urban Development (B2) Department of Government of Andhra Pradesh to the Municipal Commissioners of all Urban Local Bodies in the State to mop up all the stray dogs in the ULBs and sent to Animal Welfare Shelters immediately.

The Board noted the order and Minutes issued by the Andhra Pradesh Government and directed to write to them to carry out the ABC programme intensively and within the parameters of the ABC (Dogs) Rules 2001.

Additional Agenda Item No.1

The Board decided to allot the Board Members of the following States for promoting Animal Welfare and taking necessary action to interact with the Senior Government functionaries for the establishment and effective functioning of State Animal Welfare Board and District SPCAs as under.

In view of the limited grants available the expenditure on travel will be reimbursed to the Members and restricted to maximum of AC – II Train fare.

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| 1. Shri Shivayya Swamy Kamthana | -Maharashtra,Telangana,Karnataka |
| 2. Ms. Sowmya Reddy | -Karnataka |
| 3. Shri Anil Sancheti | -Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Gujarat |
| 4. Shri Vinod Bam | -Chhattisgarh, Bihar & Jharkhand |
| 5. Ms. Norma Alvares | -Maharashtra & Goa |
| 6. Dr. Vasanthamma | -Haryana |
| 7. Ms. Anjali Sharma | -Delhi & Uttar Pradesh |
| 8. Dr. Sandeep K. Jain | -Punjab, J&K |
| 9. Shri Jai Raj, IFS | -Uttarakhand |
| 10. Shri N.G. Jayasimha | -Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, West Bengal, North East, Odisha & Kerala |
| 11. Dr. Arun Arun Sirkeck | -Himachal Pradesh |
| 12. Dr. S. Chinny Krishna | -Tamil Nadu |

Additional Item No.2

The Board decided to write to the Ministry and request the Ministry to write to the Ministry of Agriculture, Urban Development, Rural Development to find out grants-in-aid which can be extended by these Ministries for promoting proposals of animal welfare for ABC/AR programme and Gaushala development.

Additional Item No.3

The Board decided to write to ICAR for organising a joint national conference for all State Animal Welfare Boards and recognised AWOs. The Board requested Shri N.G. Jayasimha, Member to draft the letter to be sent.

Additional Item No.4

The Board noted that it has already formed the five Regional Sub-Committees and that not all SAWBs have budgetary support. However, it decided to write to the State Animal Welfare Boards which are functioning to convene meeting as proposed.

Additional Item No.5

The Board decided to direct the AWOs to forward the applications / proposals for grant through SAWBs which should be forwarded by them with the endorsement of the DM/DC and to consider only such proposals received through SAWB endorsed by DM/DC.

Additional Item No.6

The Board decided to send a copy of the permissions issued under Performing Animal Registration Rules to the concerned SAWBs and District SPCA to oversee the use of performing animals.

Additional Item No.7

The Board requested the Members of the particular Sub-Committees to send their inputs and suggestions for considering the same and take decisions. The Board noted that the Supreme Court has directed the CPCB and the respective State Governments to conduct the monitoring of the slaughter Houses in the L.N. Modi case and the constitution of the State Committees does not have a representative of Animal Welfare Board of India but only that of State Animal Welfare Board.

Additional Item No.8

The Board noted the matter.

Additional Item No.9

- i) The Board felt that all District SPCAs can apply to the Board for all the schemes that are being implemented by the Board for consideration of grants as per the parameters of the scheme.
- ii) The Board agreed to the proposal to exempt the execution of Bond by the DM/CVO of District SPCAs.
- iii) Board agreed to the proposal of listing the telephone numbers and contact details of district SPCAs and SAWBs in the website of AWBI and directed the office to get the details wherever such details are not available.
- (iv) The Board noted that it was decided to direct the AWOs to forward the applications / proposals for grant through SAWBs which should be forwarded by them with the endorsement of the DM/DC and to consider only such proposals received through SAWB endorsed by DM/DC.
- (v) The Board did not agree to delegate its powers of recognition of AWOs to SAWBs.
- (vi) The Board agreed for providing grants to District SPCAs for sensitization / awareness workshops on humane education based on case to case proposals and availability of funds.
- (vii) The Board noted that the Members are nominated/appointed by the Ministry as per the provisions of Section 5 of PCA Act. The draft animal welfare bill proposed by the Board includes representation of SAWBs in the composition of the Board.
- (viii) The Board decided to send a copy of the permissions issued under Performing Animal Registration Rules to the concerned SAWBs and District SPCA to observe the use of performing animals.
- (ix) The Board did not agree with this as training for wild life Vets can be taken up by the SAWBs directly with the Forest & Wildlife Departments of the State/Ministry.
- (x) The Board agreed to the proposal to provide few copies of the publications to the Government authorities as proposed in the agenda.
- (xi) The Board agreed to the proposal for promotion and distribution of videos on animal welfare issues.
- (xii) The Board felt that further clarification is needed regarding this point and requested to write to the SAWBs.
- (xiii) The Board agreed to the proposal for putting a special icon in the AWBI's website for putting the important judgements.

Additional Item No.10

The Board ratified the Minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee of the Board held on 15.5.2015 at Chennai and directed that the Minutes be forwarded to those Members who are not present in the meeting.

Dr.Sandeep Jain brought it to the notice of the Chairman and the Board that the Board's website contains the message about the applications sought for the Prani Mitra Award and Jeev Daya Purushkar Award and requested that the date of submission of applications for the Prani Mitra Award and Jeev Daya Purushkar Award should be extended and it was accepted and agreed by for extending the time limit for accepting applications by 3 months up to August 2015.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.
