

Fourth Quarter Board Meetings and ACLC Graduation

The Arkansas Cattlemen's Association met for the fourth quarter Executive Committee and State Board meetings on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at Camp Couchdale near Hot Springs.

The ACA Executive Committee met prior to the ACA State Board of Representatives. The state board meeting was called to order by President Phillip DeSalvo with 37 counties in attendance.

President DeSalvo welcomed and introduced incoming ACA Executive Vice President Michelle Bufkin Horton to the meeting and the association. Michelle expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to once again serve the ACA.

ACA Secretary/Treasurer Marcus Creasy presented the financials and a proposed budget for the upcoming year.

ACA Membership Director Jamie Courtney presented a membership update and the new membership recruitment incentives for 2024 to the group. ACA CFO Randy Black presented an update from the 2023 ACA Cattlemen's Kitchen and the 2023 Cattlemen's Choice Heifer Pen Show.

Bruce Maloch, President of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Foundation (ACF) presented an update about the changes and goals of the ACF.

President DeSalvo invited incoming ACA President Scott Sullivan to preside over the remainder of the meeting. Phillip congratulated Scott and passed him the gavel. Scott accepted and thanked Phillip for his service to the ACA.



Outgoing ACA President Phillip DeSalvo & Incoming ACA President Scott Sullivan



ACA Executive Vice President Michelle Bufkin Horton & ACA President Phillip DeSalvo

Scott then announced the dates and locations for the upcoming 2024 ACA Area Spring Conferences. These dates can be found on pages 8-9 of this issue of ACB.

Arkansas Cattlemen's Leadership Course (ACLC) Co-Chairman Justin Smith provided an update on the completion of the 2023 ACLC program. He highlighted the benefits of the program and asked the board to encourage local producers from their counties to apply. ACLC is a year-long program with four sessions throughout the year covering topics from legislation, advocacy, farm tours, and meat fabrication.

Each year the ACLC program increases in quality of both participants and programming. The ACLC program would not be possible without the help of the ACLC committee and generous sponsors: the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Farm Credit Associations of Arkansas, Greenway Equipment, and the Arkansas Beef Council. The ACA would like to generously thank the ACLC sponsors, participants, and supporters.

Wrapping up the meeting was the ACLC graduation where 2023 ACLC participants were able to introduce themselves, describe their favorite part of the program, and receive a plaque and belt buckle. This year's class was full of outstanding individuals ranging from all over the state and representing multiple facets of the industry. It was a great opportunity to honor the 2023 ACLC participants for their dedication to the program.

The meeting adjourned and a lunch fellowship followed. ■



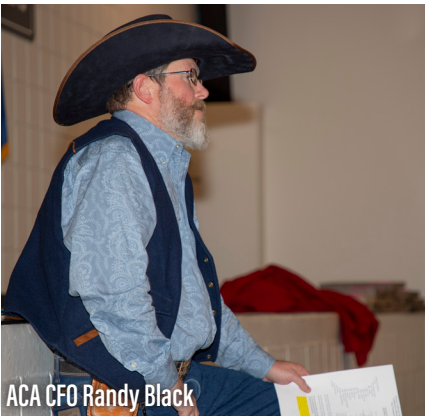
ACA Membership Director Jamie Courtney



ACA Secretary/Treasurer Marcus Creasy



ACF President Bruce Maloch



ACA CFO Randy Black



2023 Arkansas Cattlemen's Leadership Course (ACLC) graduates from left: Grant Golden, Hot Spring County; Justin Story, Scott County; Daniel Kizziar, Hot Spring County; Rocky Morgan, Johnson County; Brian Honeycutt, Lawrence County; Maybelle Castera, White County; Justin Bramall, Washington County; Jamie Lavender, Garland County; Isiah Dark, Union County; Sarah Myers, Howard County; Chad Bookout, Izard County; Madisyn Witcher, Cross County; Kailee Spickes, Stone County; and Sarah Shoup, Washington County.

