

**SUMMARY AND TRANSCRIPT OF CONFERENCE CALL
CFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DECEMBER 6, 2011**

Secretary's note: This index is provided only as a courtesy to the readers and is not an official part of the CFA minutes. The numbers shown for each item in the index are keyed to similar numbers shown in the body of the minutes.

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Secretary's Note: The Officers and Board of Directors of the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. met on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, via teleconference. President **Jerold Hamza** called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Mr. Jerold Hamza (President)
Ms. Joan Miller (Vice-President)
Ms. Rachel Anger (Secretary)
Mrs. Carla Bizzell (Treasurer)
Sharon Roy (NAR Director)
Ginger Meeker, Ph.D. (NWR Director)
Ms. T. Ann Caell (GSR Director)
Mrs. Loretta Baugh (GLR Director)
Mr. Michael Shelton (SWR Director)
Ms. Alene Shafnisky (MWR Director)
Mr. Mark Hannon (SOR Director)
Mrs. Kayoko Koizumi (Japan Regional Director)
Roger Brown, DVM (Director-at-Large)
George J. Eigenhauser, Esq. (Director-at-Large)
Mr. Richard Kallmeyer (Director-at-Large)
Mrs. Carol Krzanowski (Director-at-Large)
Mr. Darrell Newkirk (Director-at-Large)
Mrs. Annette Wilson (Director-at-Large)

Edward L. Raymond, Jr., Esq., CFA Legal Counsel
Donna Jean Thompson, Director of Operations
Roemann Fulkerson, Director of Marketing and Public Relations

Not Present

Mr. David White (Director-at-Large)

SUMMARY

(1) ABYSSINIAN REGISTRATION POLICY HEARING.

Following a hearing and an executive session discussion, the Board reaffirmed its previously announced Policy Regarding Abyssinian Registration Via Pedigree.

(2) ABYSSINIAN BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY RESIGNATION.

Marsha Ammons will serve until January 1, 2012. Thereafter, Darrell Newkirk will serve until an election is held and a replacement is appointed.

(3) SCORING ISSUES.

Mr. Eigenhauser will work with Show Rules Chair **Mr. Phillips** to write a show rule proposal which would allow exhibitors to correct registration number errors after a show, for a fee.

Mrs. Wilson will work with **Ms. Thompson** to write a proposal for an amnesty period which would assist in restoring points lost, due to registration delays caused by the move.

(4) BREED COUNCIL BALLOTS – FORM OF SUBMISSION.

No change in the procedure for submission by mail will occur during this voting cycle.

(5) CATTERY NAMES – PROCEDURE FOR NOTIFICATION BY CENTRAL OFFICE OF EXPIRATION.

All renewal notifications for 2011 will have been sent by December 15th.

(6) NATIONAL SHOW.

No action items were presented.

(7) JUDGING PROGRAM.

Chair Mrs. Baugh moved to approve the following action items, reserving the right to vote no:

1. To grant the following **leave of absence**:
 - *Grant a medical leave of absence from the CFA Judging Program to Pat Jacobberger until June 1, 2012. Motion Carried.*

2. To approve the following **advancements**:

Advance to Apprentice:

Anne Mathis (LH – 2nd Specialty) 16 yes; 1 no (Hannon)

Advance to Approval Pending Specialty:

Jim Dinesen (SH - 2nd Specialty) 17 yes

3. To adopt a policy of using the European “international champion” title as a counterpart to CFA’s “grand champion” for applicant qualification purposes. Seconded by **Mrs. Meeker, Motion Carried.** Shafnisky voting no.

(8) SHOW FORMAT REQUESTS.

Ms. Anger moved to approve the following action items, reserving the right to vote no:

- a) *Eastcharm Cat Fanciers Club, December 17, 2011 show in Shanghai, China, requesting permission to change show license from a 4 allbreed/1 specialty ring show to a 4 allbreed ring show. Seconded by **Mr. Kallmeyer, Motion Carried.***
- b) *Midwest TGIF Fanciers, November 3/4, 2012 show in St. Louis, Missouri, requesting permission to have a non-scored top 3 Best in Show selected from the 3 highest scoring cats in each of the kitten, championship and premiership classes, selected by a separate BOB judge on Sunday. Seconded by **Mrs. Meeker, Motion Carried.***

(9) ANFI.

No action items were presented.

(10) DELEGATE FEE INCREASE.

No action items were presented.

(11) UNPUBLISHED MINUTES.

The CFA website will add all minutes of meetings held since the discontinuation of printing of the CFA minutes in the Yearbook, so that no gap exists.

(12) OFFICIAL CFA LIST.

No action items were presented.

(13) PROTEST COMMITTEE.

No action items were presented.

TRANSCRIPT

Hamza: Legal counsel Hightower has already checked in on the call, so Rachel, why don't we call the roll, and we can address Mr. Hightower, so we can get him on his way as soon as possible. **Anger:** Sure. Jerry Hamza. **Hamza:** I'm here. **Anger:** Joan Miller. **Miller:** Here. **Anger:** Rachel Anger is here. Carla Bizzell. **Bizzell:** Here. **Anger:** Sharon Roy. **Roy:** Here. **Anger:** Ginger Meeker. **Meeker:** Here. **Anger:** Ann Caell. **Caell:** Here. **Anger:** Loretta Baugh. **Baugh:** Here. **Anger:** Mike Shelton. **Shelton:** Here. **Anger:** Alene Shafnisky. **Shafnisky:** Here. **Anger:** Mark Hannon. **Hannon:** Here. **Anger:** Kayoko Koizumi. **Koizumi:** Here. **Anger:** Roger Brown. **Brown:** Here. **Anger:** George Eigenhauser. **Eigenhauser:** Here. **Anger:** Dick Kallmeyer. **Kallmeyer:** Here. **Anger:** Carol Krzanowski. **Krzanowski:** Here. **Anger:** Annette Wilson. I don't think she will be attending. Darrell Newkirk. **Newkirk:** Here. **Anger:** David White. No David? **Hamza:** No David. **Anger:** OK. Ed Raymond. **Raymond:** Here. **Anger:** Donna Jean Thompson. **Thompson:** Here. **Anger:** Roeann Fulkerson. **Fulkerson:** Here. **Anger:** And I heard Mr. Hightower check in. **Hightower:** Yes. **Anger:** And is your client on the call, as well? **Hightower:** No, ma'am. She's not. **Anger:** OK. Is there anyone whose name I have not called, that is on the call? Great, thank you.

(1) **ABYSSINIAN REGISTRATION POLICY HEARING.**

Hamza: Welcome, Mr. Hightower. Just so you know, for background, your presence here is not our usual standard operating procedure, but we welcome you and, since you're the guest, what can we do for you tonight? **Hightower:** Well, sir, I mean, the first thing I wanted to – I was just curious. Is this conversation, is it recorded? **Hamza:** We do take minutes verbatim. **Hightower:** OK. I was not sure if there was an audio recording of it or not. **Hamza:** Rachel, did you do an audio tonight? **Anger:** I have my hand held recorder going, so I can make a transcript of it. So, we need to establish if this is going to be in open session, which I assume it will be? **Hamza:** You know, let's see how it goes. We'll assume it's in open session with the right to reconsider, if situations arise, or to put certain portions of it in closed session, if it starts to become of a personal nature. OK, Mr. Hightower, go ahead. The floor is yours.

Edwin L. Hightower: Well, sir, I have already communicated with Mr. Raymond. I believe that I did hear that he's on the line – your counsel – and I've already provided a substantial amount of documentation to him; I think a 5 page letter with attachments, and then I know that there have been some other documents requested – a copy of the Texas A&M records on the particular cat of [owner name redacted], which is, the name of that cat is [cat name redacted], so I did provide that to Mr. Raymond yesterday, along with a letter from Dr. Cothran, who is the Director of the program there at Texas A&M, explaining the findings and actually indicating that their findings now are consistent with UC-Davis. I don't know if you want me to regurgitate everything that I have provided to Mr. Raymond. I would hope that all of the members of the board have had an opportunity to look at the materials that I've provided. Really, in short, I think that my client, [owner name redacted], who for those people on the telephone call that may not be aware, I represent [owner name redacted]. I'm a Louisiana attorney and I represent [owner name redacted], who is a Louisiana resident. She actually owns an Abyssinian that was registered there with CFA and I mentioned its name. We refer to her, just for short, as Q.E. That cat was registered back October of last year and then apparently October of this year the board has decided to make some changes to the prefix number, which we believe is really discriminatory and preferential treatment, and is really going to harm [owner name redacted], and that's why we wanted to immediately contact the board. I was just looking at my notes. I believe the first time I got in touch with you, I think, was in October. I sent a letter out dated October the 19th advising of our concerns and asking the board to hold up on any action so that we can sort of lay everything out. Subsequent to that, that's when Mr. Raymond requested all of my material and I provided that to him. As far as I can tell, based on what I've reviewed, [owner name redacted], in very good faith, has complied with all of the requirements of the CFA Rules of Registration of Q.E., and that's why it was properly registered back in October of last year. Subsequent to that, she has expended a substantial amount of money, which included flying over to Italy to acquire the cat and bring that cat into her breeding program, and then subsequent to that she's had some DNA tests from two really outstanding animal genetic labs in the country; one is UC-Davis, and one is Texas A&M. Both are now indicating that the cat is a shorthaired cat that cannot produce longhair kittens, so any suggestion that it has any traits that are otherwise would be really inappropriate. So, with that, like I said, just based on the, all of the expense incurred by my client and also future damages that would be caused from this, we have approached the board to request that the decision be reconsidered, and we requested that the original registration number for the cat be maintained, and its offspring also have the appropriate registration number for an Aby that would come from that cat. **Hamza:** Mr. Hightower, one minute. I would like to state some things for the record. Ed Raymond did distribute your information to the rest of the board. Is there any board members who did not receive this? OK, I

just wanted to establish that fact. One of the other things I would like to also point out to you, because obviously I'm not sure what your familiarity is with CFA, but we – it's consistent with our 106 year old history that we sometimes assign prefixes to cats for similar reasons to this. Is [owner name redacted] denying that there is a Somali in the background of this cat's pedigree?

Hightower: Well, as in good faith she pointed out to I think the original – the CFA registration specialist, Ms. Merilee Davis – she pointed out that in the 8th generation it appears that from the FIFe documentation that there is a Somali. Of course, we don't have any other documentation on that particular cat and, based on that, the registration specialist advised that the cat could be registered for breeding purposes only, counting the 7 clean generations under your Rules of Registration. That's, in fact, how it was registered. **Hamza:** Just to make clear that if this board does go forward with giving these cats their own prefix, it in no way prejudices the cats. What it does do is identify that this cat may have something different in its background than other cats of this breed. It's not uncommon for CFA. We have a long history of these things. The best example, if you are looking for the way we do things and the way we've always done things, is to look to the Persian breed, for which we have many prefixes because of these types of things. It simply gives the breeders an opportunity to choose what they want to work with or not. I don't and have never – I'm a Persian breeder myself – I've never viewed this as a prejudicial practice. It's just a matter of helping keep our registrations clear and to give breeders – it's just information. It's just an identifier. I don't think anybody views Himalayan prefixes as detrimental, which we identify with a 3000 prefix. It actually happens over other breeds. We have your information. It is quite lengthy. We try to be consistent in our history and we will take into consideration the information that you provided the board. Is there anything else you would like to say? **Hightower:** The only thing I would know, based on your comments there, is that our concern is that this prefix really designates or suggested there is a trait in this cat that is not desirable, which would be that longhaired gene. But clearly from the DNA testing of this cat, from multiple sources now, we see that it does not have the longhair gene. It could never produce a longhaired kitten. As I understand it, it appears that CFA is interested in promoting the idea of DNA testing and [owner name redacted] has used that and tested and established that this cat does not have that gene. So, our concern is that this designation would devalue that cat and all of its kittens, and that's the major concern. Obviously, and in addition to it, the fact that the board is now going back after the fact a year later and reassigning the number also creates a problem for the entire breeding program of [owner name redacted], even those cats that may not be part of it because it really suggests nefarious actions by [owner name redacted], and so we've just gone out of our way. [owner name redacted] has provided all of the information up front before she even went to purchase the cat, and after the fact she has now established through DNA that it doesn't have that longhaired gene, so it's our position that would be inappropriate to put that prefix on. We're willing to discuss other options, other alternatives to try to establish some type of balance. I did suggest one in my letter and I'm willing to discuss that, as well. **Hamza:** The fact that you're totally missing here, and I'm going to try to help you as best I can, it's not about the longhair/shorthair gene. What we're talking about is a Somali variant. We understand that the cat does not have the longhair gene. We're talking about an entirely different breed. That's the question here. It's good that this cat does not carry the longhair gene. That's good for [owner name redacted]. It's good for the breeders, because they don't want – we will take your concerns into consideration, but we will also look out for CFA's best interests and also pursue what we've done traditionally. I assure you that if we do decide to use a different prefix, it's not prejudicial. It has happened time and again in CFA's breeds. It doesn't devalue the cats. Just like horse racing or anything else, what makes a cat valuable is how good it is. I'm sure [owner name redacted] knows this in her heart. We will take your opinions and your information into consideration when we go to decide this issue. Just so you know that we have prayed over this

decision considerably, so our actions aren't lighthearted and aren't kneejerk. So, if there's anything else you would like to add, now is the time to do it.

Eigenhauser: George would like the chance to speak, too. **Hamza:** OK George, go ahead. **Eigenhauser:** Mr. Hightower, maybe I can explain a little bit and kind of expand on what Jerry was saying. When you introduce a new line of cats from another breed into a particular breed of cat, there may be an obvious trait and we may fall into the habit of saying, "oh, that's a longhair", or when we're talking about Himalayans, we might call it the pointed gene. We call Himalayans CPC's for "Colorpoint carriers". But we really don't mean just that one gene. We mean all of the market basket of genes that comes along when you introduce an outside line into a breed of cat. The Somalis in Europe come in about 20 different colors that don't come in CFA's Somalis or in Abyssinians, so each of these colors were introduced into the Somali gene pool when somebody somewhere down the line crossbred either a Somali or an Abyssinian with a cat of a different color to get those genes in. For example, the silver gene, which doesn't exist in the American gene pool but is in the European gene pool. So, it may be obvious to think in terms of, a Somali is kind of like a longhaired Aby so we must be keeping the longhair gene out. But there are countless other genes in the Somali gene pool that are not in the Abyssinian gene pool that the Abyssinian breeders choose to keep out. Because many of these genes are unknown, you can't even test for them. We don't know when you introduce a new line of cats into an existing breed exactly what unknown genes may reside in that cat, and that's why some of our breeds have created these multi-generational import requirements, on the theory that the longer you go back, the less effect any particular gene might have. When you're talking about Persians, the Himalayans, the ones with the oddball registration numbers, the pointed Persians, actually are one of the biggest registration groups in all of CFA, so there's clearly no prejudice against the CPC's for having a separate number. There are tons of them. They are very common in CFA, so the number alone isn't necessarily a scarlet letter. It's simply a piece of information that this cat had something in its ancestry. That's all it says. A CPC doesn't say it's a bad Persian. A Himalayan doesn't say it's a bad Persian. It simply says that it has Himalayan lines somewhere in its background. That's all it says, but there really isn't – at least in that breed, there's not a lot of prejudice against the CPC's. You see a lot of them. What exactly an individual breeder might choose to keep out, they would ultimately find by line chasing anyway. There are plenty of databases out on the internet that if there is a Somali back in the 8th generation, if somebody was so uptight they didn't want a Somali in their 8th generation, they wouldn't breed to the cat anyway, either with or without the registration number. So, all the registration number is, is a convenience to identify that a specific thing may be somewhere back in the pedigree, but it's not a value judgment on the cat. It's not necessarily about a particular gene, even though it may seem, "well, it's obvious, it must be the longhair gene". It can be the silver gene they're trying to keep out. It could be any of a number of other genes they're keeping out. It could be a disease gene in a particular line that a breed has worked to get rid of and they don't want to see be reintroduced. There are a number of things to keep out, and anytime you bring in cats of a different breed, you're bringing in not only the obvious traits, but the non-obvious traits. You can't rely, at least at this point, on DNA testing. Simply because it doesn't have the longhair gene doesn't make it an Abyssinian. There are a lot of shorthaired cats that are not Abyssinians. **Hightower:** I wouldn't, I certainly wouldn't disagree with that, but ultimately what we're talking about is whether or not it is a Somali or if it has a Somali trait. In fact, at least from all of the research that I've done, the Somali has the mutation of longhair from Abyssinian, and so apparently for some reason someone has decided that this one cat of [owner name redacted], you now want to put this prefix on it. The question I have is, if you are going to – if you're concerned about these traits in the background, then why wouldn't you, CFA, make the

decision, “OK, we’re going to go back and look at *all* Abyssinians that are registered and look at *all* of their backgrounds.” In fact, in the announcement that was put out that I was looking at, I noticed as I was looking at it today, it specifically says, in the future we are not going to go back and research any other Abyssinians. We’re just going to look at this specific one. I would also agree with you that certainly anyone can research the pedigree of the cat and decide if this is one that they want to breed with or not, but if that’s the case then I still don’t appreciate why it would be necessary to put this specific prefix on this cat and all of its descendants, all of its offspring, from this point forward. There’s no real reasonable explanation for that. Clearly, when [owner name redacted] complied with all of your rules to begin with, and even before she spent any money or incurred any expense in this, she laid all of this information out to CFA, and CFA made the decision at that point that it was appropriate that this was a cat that could be designated “for breeding purposes only” and go forward, and offspring would be able to have the appropriate Aby number and would be able to show. That’s the concern that we have if this cat is going to have that prefix. **Hamza:** Mr. Hightower, first of all, this is not the only cat. We have identified at least one other cat with a similar situation. Also, just for your information, that in this situation there is a case that could be made that this cat and its offspring could be deregistered. That would be another option. **Hightower:** If you could explain that to me, I would certainly take it to my client. **Hamza:** Well, it would mean that if it was determined that this cat is indeed a Somali variant instead of an Abyssinian, you know, there’s a case to be made that this cat shouldn’t have been registered in the first place. **Hightower:** By what actions did my client cause that? She presented this to CFA in advance of doing anything, and CFA told her that it could be registered. **Hamza:** There’s the rub. As a board, we have to come up with what we feel is an appropriate action. All I can say to you is that [owner name redacted] needs to wait and see what the board decides to do, with the preponderance of the evidence. Right now, we haven’t decided anything definitely yet.

Anger: This is Rachel. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Rachel. **Anger:** I would like to jump in and make a couple statements. The first thing I wanted to comment about was that the Policy Regarding Abyssinian Registration singled out no one— Mr. Hightower’s client or anyone. We were very careful in the wording so that we would not do that. I would say there isn’t one cat, there isn’t two cats, but there’s many cats. Nowhere in the statement does it say we’re not going to go back and research anything, although we can’t go back 106 years and research every Abyssinian that has ever been registered, but there are certain cats that we are aware of, by virtue of the owner’s own action. My second comment I wanted to make is, in the November 18th letter, there was a statement that the board *has placed on its February 2012 Meeting Agenda the consideration of standardizing the 5-Generation Pedigree for all breeds*. That’s not true at all. We don’t have a February meeting agenda yet and we’re not considering standardizing the 5-generation pedigree for all breeds. My final thing that I wanted to point out is that we have never received any sort of confirmation or proof that anyone from CFA provided that specific opinion. I’m not saying that wasn’t provided; we just have never seen it. Early on, in my conversation with your client, I asked for that and it wasn’t provided. We haven’t specifically sought it out, but that’s just something to consider. We, at this point, don’t have any paper trail or evidence of exactly what was said, if anything. That’s basically the points I wanted to make. Thank you very much.

Hamza: OK. Any other board members? Mr. Hightower, I think we’re crystal clear on your opinions and your representation of [owner name redacted]. I would like to extend the board’s gratitude for you taking your time out to come in. We will weigh your opinions in equal light with all the rest. **Hightower:** Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you. I

deal with matters similar to this, not with CFA, but I've dealt with other matters involving AKC and involved with a number of other animal law issues, so I'm very familiar with this. I appreciate the opportunity to get involved with it. **Hamza:** You have a good evening, sir. **Hightower:** Alright. Thank you. **Hamza:** Bye-bye. [**Hightower** leaves the conference]

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

Secretary's Note: After an executive session discussion, the Board reaffirmed its previously announced Policy Regarding Abyssinian Registration Via Pedigree.

(2) **ABYSSINIAN BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY RESIGNATION.**

Hamza: The second thing on the agenda if my memory is correct is the breed council secretary for the Abyssinians. **Wilson:** We're going to re-register her with a 0001 prefix. <laughter> **Hannon:** She is "for breeding only". <laughter> **Hamza:** I'm not touching that. I have talked to Marsha. She has agreed to stay on until January 1st. I feel at this time the best way to handle the situation is, no matter who I appoint, somebody is going to howl, and there is a precedent set by the Exotic people to hold another election. Does anybody have a problem with us having an election? **Hannon:** No, but the constitution states that you will appoint, so you are going to appoint the winner of the election? **Hamza:** Right. **Newkirk:** Can I say something? **Hamza:** Yes, go ahead. **Newkirk:** We're not going to be able to have an election and get a breed council secretary by January the 1st. There's no way to do it, so you're going to have to appoint someone in the interim, up until the board meeting. **Hamza:** Then that would be you. **Hannon:** Why do we have to have one? Can it be vacant? **Newkirk:** You're going to leave something this hot with no secretary? **Hamza:** No, no. Darrell, I'm going to appoint you interim until the election. **Newkirk:** OK, starting January the 1st? **Hamza:** Starting January the 1st. Ed, if you can work – and Carla, maybe you can help Ed with how we did it with the Exotics and we'll – Donna Jean will get the ballots out with Verna. **Wilson:** You have to call for nominations. **Hamza:** Right, right. **Wilson:** Or there will be nobody on the ballot. **Hamza:** No, no. We'll put everybody's name on the ballot. Anybody on the breed council will be on it. There will be a couple hundred names on it. **Hannon:** And the people who can vote were those who were on the breed council as of last August, who signed up by that August date. **Hamza:** Right. We'll work out the mechanism.

(3) **SCORING ISSUES.**

Hamza: Alright, Rachel. What's next on this lovely list? **Anger:** Our third item is the scoring issues. There's the [first exhibitor name redacted] issue and the gal from [state name redacted] with the [breed name redacted] whose name is [second exhibitor name omitted]. **Hamza:** Are these both Region 7 folks? **Hannon:** Oh. Yes. **Hamza:** OK then, Mark you're up. **Hannon:** I'm not up. Alright.

Hannon: [exhibitor name redacted]. We're aware of her situation. She's claiming illness is the reason she didn't catch the fact that her number wasn't in the catalog. She wants us to go back and give her credit for points earned at a certain show, even though the catalog didn't have her number in it. **Wilson:** Did her entry form have the number on it? **Hamza:** Yes. **Meeker:** Oh, the entry form did? **Hamza:** Yeah. Her entry form was filled out correctly, as far as I can tell. **Shafnisky:** Actually, I though the entry clerk confirmed that it was not present on the entry blank, from what Ann Caell sent out. **Hannon:** That's my understanding. **Hamza:** Oh, OK. Maybe I read it wrong. I thought she said it was. **Hannon:** But she's saying it wasn't there, she

had it on previous shows and it's clear the cat was registered and she was too sick to notice that it wasn't there and to do something about it. **Caell:** She found out about it a week later. She realized a week later. That's one of the issues I have. **Hannon:** And, "please have mercy on me and give me my points." **Anger:** This is Rachel. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Rachel. **Anger:** I did want to point out that, in this case, she had the registration number for some time, so this isn't a matter of a delay, this isn't a matter of she didn't get around to it – this is a matter of, there's some question about why the registration number wasn't there. Perhaps some people have some questions about why she didn't notice it Monday. Well, I don't know either, but to me the whole issue is, she had the number for months before this incident happened. I don't think there is any intent to deceive here whatsoever, and I'm going to support her any way I can. **Hamza:** OK. The only question I have – I have no problems doing this – I want to ask Donna Jean; does this open up a flood gate of problems for you? **Thompson:** Probably. **Wilson:** This is Annette. **Hamza:** Go ahead Annette. **Wilson:** Doesn't the show rule say that it's the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure that the number is in the catalog? **Caell:** Yes, it is. **Wilson:** I mean, I like [exhibitor name redacted] and I like her cat, and I appreciate her situation, but I can see this being a big can of worms down the road. **Anger:** This is Rachel again. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Rachel. **Anger:** To me, this is the exact reason that she is petitioning the board. She did have a reason that she didn't notice it wasn't in the catalog. She admits that it was a mistake, but to me she explained why, at the show, she didn't make a point to check that little detail. **Wilson:** Why wasn't it on the entry form? **Baugh:** This is Loretta. Can you hear me? **Hamza:** Yeah. Go ahead, Loretta. **Baugh:** OK. I have a couple points. Didn't she look at the confirmation that she got before the show? I can understand being sick at the show, but she didn't realize the cat didn't have its points until 2 weeks later. I have a real problem with opening up a can of worms. I agree, I think [exhibitor name redacted] is a lovely person and she's got a lovely cat, but she had more than one opportunity at the show to realize that the number wasn't there. She got her confirmation ahead of time and she had 2 weeks after the show to realize it wasn't there. **Eigenhauser:** George would like to speak. **Hamza:** Go ahead, George. **Eigenhauser:** I have sympathy for this kind of situation, but I'm inclined to say we should do it for everybody or nobody. If we want to create a show rule that says, if you have your registration number well before the show and you leave it off for some reason and you don't notice it, then for a \$50 fee within X number of days, we'll fix it for you, and make it available to everybody or make it available to nobody, because it isn't fair to pick out one exhibitor and say, "any other exhibitor that may have forgotten their number, for whatever other reason – they were distracted, they were going through a divorce, they had a bad day at work, the dog ate their homework – whatever their excuse, we could do it for everybody in the same situation. So, what I would like to do, if we're going to do this, if we're going to vote on it for her alone, I'm going to vote no. If we're going to vote to create an exception in the show rules that says, if you got your registration number ahead of time, the for an X dollar fee, you can still get it in within Y number of days, I would consider that kind of a change to the show rules, but I don't want to do this for just one person. **Hamza:** OK. Darrell, did you have your hand up? **Newkirk:** Yes, I did. **Hamza:** Go ahead. **Newkirk:** I think, you know, everybody makes an honest mistake every once in awhile. I realize what the rules are, but I'm in agreement with George. I think what we should do is just, you know, for cats that are registered and somebody screws up, let's just set a \$50 fee, let them pay that, let them get their points if they make an honest mistake. This is somebody who has supported CFA for many, many years and, you know, I guess she is campaigning that cat this year. I've judged it and I think it's a beautiful animal. I would hate – we're punishing the animal, we're not punishing her when we don't give the cat its due score. **Hamza:** Ed, can we do that here tonight? **Raymond:** Change the show rules? **Hamza:** It's a show rule, so we can't just – **Eigenhauser:** Why can't we? **Wilson:** Sure, we can. **Newkirk:** We've done it before. **Raymond:** The board has voted in the past to amend the show

rules or provide an exemption from the show rules for various other purposes. **Hamza:** Just to be fair, do we make it retroactive to the beginning of the season? **Newkirk:** I say yes. **Shafnisky:** I think at this point, now we really have to ask Donna Jean, because now you're saying anybody over the past 6 months can pay \$50 and make CFA pull all of these scoreboards and rescore the entire show. **Hamza:** But the caveat is, they have to have had their cat registered before the show. **Shafnisky:** I think it's dangerous. We're just flying off the cuff here and trying to pass this. **Hannon:** It doesn't have to be done tonight. Maybe we can have some people work on this and come back to us at next month's board meeting with something written out that we've had a chance to review. I'm reluctant to do something tonight, without any advance notice about a new show rule. I mean, if [exhibitor name redacted] is running this cat, she's not going to be overly concerned about this until the end of the show season, when the points accumulate to a certain win. **Hamza:** Right. Why don't I – **Hannon:** For all we know, she may replace this show. She may have already replaced the show. **Hamza:** But, it is a nice issue; you know, it would be nice. Plus, I like the idea of picking up an extra \$50 every time somebody forgets. **Hannon:** But, we don't have to do it tonight, is my point. **Hannon:** No, no. Ed and George, would you mind working on this for the next meeting? **Eigenhauser:** Why don't we give it to Monte? **Hannon:** Let's pass the buck. **Hamza:** George, why don't you work with Monte on this? **Eigenhauser:** I'll work with Monte. **Hamza:** OK. Very good. **Meeker:** Jerry? **Hamza:** Yeah. **Meeker:** Isn't there already something in the show rules, that if you forget your number and you notify CFA within I think it's 48 or 72 hours, the points can be obtained? **Hamza:** You can register a kitten after the show. **Shafnisky:** I think what Ginger might be referring to, because I've done this once in the past when I was missing something – I forget what it was – but if you contact them, CO, before the package has arrived there, in essence before they have already scored the show, then they will go ahead and make sort of administrative changes. Maybe something was spelled wrong or a different reason or what have you. **Hamza:** It's just a show rule change, Ginger. **Meeker:** My question was the time frame between when she discovered it and applied, was something like 2 or 3 weeks. **Hamza:** Anyway, I really want to move this – I would like to move this meeting along, so I think that we have at least a resolution in the works on this.

Hamza: Rachel, does the second point situation – is it the same thing? **Hannon:** No. **Anger:** No. That one is much different. **Hamza:** OK. Let's pull that one out. **Anger:** OK, this one is the gal who claims to have sent the registration in on or about August 6th, many, many phone calls and emails, and tried to leave voice mails, etc. In the meantime, she showed the cat and earned some points, and then finally she faxed the registration in, in September. The number was issued and it was sent out to her. Now, she wants to go back, because she didn't get the points while she was showing it. There are not a lot of points. It's not a regional or national win, but this is a breed-level thing that's important to the exhibitor. **Wilson:** This is Annette. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Annette. **Wilson:** I have a similar situation with a Japanese exhibitor, who tried many times to send, and has copies of the emails she sent in June to Central Office, with her registration application attached and her credit card number, and never got a response. She showed the cat a couple of times. The cat got registered in error "for breeding only" in August. That finally got resolved. The cat then actually has accumulated a number of points, enough to be a regional winner in Japan, and she has been trying desperately since June to (1) first, get the right registration number for the cat, and then she worked with Shirley to get the points consolidated, because it had the "for breeding only" number in the catalog for one of the shows, but is missing two shows worth of points. I think there's a lot of people that tried to register their cats during the move, and for whatever reason, it didn't get to anybody. **Hamza:** Alright. Well, we certainly don't want to be punitive, but we also – **Wilson:** I think we need an amnesty period. **Hamza:** OK. Well, that sounds good. We'll let you work on that for the next meeting. I like that.

OK. Donna Jean, maybe you can help Annette with dates for this amnesty period. I know the move was tough.

Hamza: Just on a side bar, today we started having conference calls with Central Office on registrations, and one of the issues we addressed was foreign registrations and how we can service them. One of the situations we came up with was to have a liaison in Asia and in Europe, and we're going to try to get Monique [Van Eyk] to help us in Europe. We've mentioned a couple names in Asia, to try to improve our customer service in these areas. OK, so, we're working to resolutions on these points and to make them fair. As George says, if we do it for one, we need to do it for everybody. I agree with that logic.

(4) **BREED COUNCIL BALLOTS – FORM OF SUBMISSION.**

Hamza: Next on the agenda, Ms. Rachel? **Anger:** Next is, Verna asked us to discuss the possibility of accepting the breed council ballots via email and fax. I believe they are due on the 15th, so I don't know if this is something we can implement for this batch, but as we are slowly progressing to electronic form of voting and declarations and what have you, I think this is the next thing to be discussed being handled in an electronic manner. **Hamza:** I like the idea. I think for this year it's too close. One of the things I would like to make sure of is that if we're going to be voting electronically, that we have some sort of control, like a PIN number or something, so we actually know that whoever is sending their vote in, that they're not sending my vote in, too. **Anger:** What she is talking about is submitting the ballots by fax or perhaps by PDF, so this would be a signed ballot. It's just coming through electronically instead of paper. **Eigenhauser:** George here. I am not for making any changes in how we vote on breed council matters retroactively, rather than do it in the middle of a vote. I mean, you don't change the rules in the middle of a vote. **Krzanowski:** This is Carol. I agree with that 100%. We are in the middle of a vote right now. It's not the time to make changes in the procedure. **Eigenhauser:** I have no objection, in the future. **Hamza:** Right. I think that's lucid. And, Donna Jean, you know, we'll deal with her on that and tell her we'll gear up to do it right next election cycle. **Thompson:** OK. No problem.

(5) **CATTERY NAMES – PROCEDURE FOR NOTIFICATION BY CENTRAL OFFICE OF EXPIRATION.**

Hamza: Next? **Anger:** Next is, discussing the procedure for notification by Central Office of expired cattery names. **Eigenhauser:** I thought they just sent us a bill. **Anger:** Some of us have permanent cattery names, and we don't understand what the problem is or what the issue is about. Ginger submitted this. Now, I know there was some follow-up that the issue has been resolved, but we wanted to get it in the minutes so that our constituents would know what the current status is. **Hamza:** Donna Jean? We missed a couple months because of the move, is that correct? **Thompson:** Right. We missed – the last time they went out, they went out from Manasquan in June. We missed July, August and September. They went out in October and they've gone out in November and they will go out in December on the 15th. It's the 15th of the month that they go out. Once this was brought to my attention, we made arrangements and the ones for the three missing months will be in tomorrow morning's first mail. What we're doing is, if someone is caught in this – we have had a couple of people who had their cats registered without cattery names. We gave them the opportunity to renew their cattery name. If they did so, we then added the cattery name to the cats they registered, without any problems. **Hamza:** Very customer service oriented. Great. **Newkirk:** This is Darrell. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Darrell. **Newkirk:** I sent you and Donna Jean one, I think yesterday. Was that one taken care of, do you

know? **Thompson:** Yepper, it was. **Newkirk:** It was, OK. **Meeker:** Donna Jean, I thought the problem was solved and then over the weekend – there’s a lot of feed-back. **Hamza:** That’s probably coming from the speaker phones. Go ahead, Ginger. **Meeker:** I had, I think, at least three people in my breed council not get ballots because their cattery name had not been renewed and they had not been notified, so there is a lot of concern within the British breed council that the ballot, that it wasn’t fair balloting. Yesterday, or this last weekend, at the Lewis and Clark show, the question arose about how people change or update their address. One gentleman was very upset that he had been unable to register kittens to his cattery name, because apparently his address wasn’t updated, but he wasn’t sure how that was supposed to happen. **Hamza:** There is a box on every registration form. **Meeker:** OK. He claims to have checked that and it wasn’t done. I think it wasn’t done back when it was still in Manasquan. There just seems to be a lot of holes in the process right now. **Hamza:** Well, I don’t think the holes that are there now are new holes. One of the things with the new computer system is that people are going to be able to have access to what their information looks like, and they are going to be able to go and update their own information as it changes. **Meeker:** I understand that, but it doesn’t help the people that are now missing services because something didn’t happen 6 months ago. **Hamza:** Let’s be specific, because we’ve addressed the – we’ve addressed the renewal. Is there anything else that Donna Jean needs to work on? **Meeker:** I’ll send the specifics to her, Jerry. **Hamza:** OK. That’s fair. **Meeker:** That’s fine.

(6) NATIONAL SHOW.

Hamza: OK, Rachel. **Anger:** We are on item #6, which is the National Show.

a) Review of the 2011 show, what went well and what can be improved

Hamza: Go ahead, Mark. **Hannon:** What I’m proposing to do is to include in the December 15th CFA newsletter a request for people to provide input on what they thought went well, and we need to keep what they thought needed to be tweaked to improve what changes we need to make. I can consolidate that and bring it to the January or February board meeting when we discuss what changes we want to make for the next show. Does that sound satisfactory? **Eigenhauser:** Good to me. **Hamza:** And we’re still waiting for all, you know. Carla, when do you figure you’ll have a clear financial picture? **Bizzell:** I should have a fairly good number next week, but I won’t know that I’ll have every last little reimbursement request in, but it should be fairly solid. **Hamza:** OK. So, within the next couple weeks, we’ll be on pretty solid ground. As soon as we have that, we’re going to give out a report to the board and the regional directors. **Hannon:** OK. At some point, you’re going to have to make some decisions on where the show is going to be held, who the show committee is, who the show manager is, etc. **Hamza:** Right now, I’m in the process of investigating. Roemann, you’re on the call? **Fulkerson:** I am. **Hamza:** Roemann and I have been in contact. We have identified some pretty nice halls, convention centers, that are a step up. One of the positive things from this last National was that we have regained the confidence of our sponsors. Roemann is confident that we probably can get a little more money to get to a little better facility. Would you say that’s accurate? **Fulkerson:** Yes. Can you hear me? **Hamza:** Yeah. **Fulkerson:** OK. Yes, that is. I believe that to be correct, yes. **Hannon:** And the halls you are looking at are Region 4/6 area? **Hamza:** I’m even looking at one in 7. I happen to know there’s a beautiful convention center in the Charlotte area. Rosemont, Illinois, which is just outside of Chicago, has got a gorgeous convention center. **Fulkerson:** Denver, Colorado, too. **Hamza:** You know, there’s one in Phoenix. These are places where I know people and some of them still like me, so let’s see what happens. **Hannon:** Can I advise against going to one extreme or the other – Phoenix, Charlotte. That’s not central. If it’s more

central, like a Region 4/Region 6 area, more people can drive to it and that was one of the nice things about Indy. So many people could drive. **Hamza:** Columbus has also got a beautiful center, too. So, that would be in the park. We have to identify certain things, like the cost of penetrating the market with advertising, and the cost of the show hall. We'll put something – Roemann, you think we can probably get something together by the next board meeting?

Fulkerson: Oh, definitely. Yes. **Hamza:** OK. Probably by the next board meeting, everything will be clear on what happened here. Once we identify a venue, then we'll see who is willing to get tortured for a year as show manager, because I don't want to do it again.

b) Plans for the 2012 show

Hamza: Alright, Rachel. **Hannon:** Judging Program. **Anger:** Well, we have a b) to discuss, or did we just talk about our plans for 2012? **Hannon:** We have to wait, it sounds like, until the next board meeting when we have an idea of where it's going to be and what kind of money can be made on this one, right? **Hamza:** Right. You know, what we need to see is what really happened. It may take some educated tweakings to make the event even better and more profitable. And it gives Roemann a chance to see how much more the sponsors – if we come up with a nice venue that's more money, it gives Roemann the opportunity to feel our sponsors out and see actually if we're dealing in reality.

(7) JUDGING PROGRAM.

Committee Chair: *Loretta Baugh – Letters of Complaint; Board of Directors Meeting Reports; General Communication and Oversight*

List of Committee Members: *Norman Auspitz – Representative on the CFA Protest Committee; Judging Program Rules and Updates; Mentor Program Administrator; Domestic Training and File Administrator; Education Chair*

Pat Jacobberger – Under Judges' Education (Breed Awareness and Orientation School)

Ellyn Honey – Domestic Training and File Administrator

Rick Hoskinson – File Administrator

Jan Stevens – File Administrator; Secretary (keeps all files/records and compiles for Board report)

Donna Isenberg – New Applicants (inquiries, queries, follow ups, counseling); May teach Judging Application Process at Breed Awareness & Orientation School, Application/Advisor Coordinator

Wayne Trevathan – Japan and International Division Trainee and File Administrator; guest judge (CFA judges in approved foreign associations, licensed judges from approved foreign associations in CFA)

Peter Vanwongerghem – European Liaison

Brief Summation of Immediate Past Committee Activities:

Thank You Messages: The Judging Program Committee has received notes of appreciation from Jacqui Bennett, Carol Fogarty, Hope Gonano and Melanie Morgan for their recent advancements.

Judging School/Breed Awareness and Orientation School: A CFA Judging School/Breed Awareness and Orientation School was held in conjunction with the CFA National Show 11/17-19/2011 in Indianapolis, IN. There were thirteen (13) attendees; 5 in Longhair and 8 in Shorthair. A full report will follow next month.

Hamza: Loretta, you want to do the Judging Program? **Baugh:** Yeah. You've got the report. I sent out a revision, simply because it had the information about Marge Collier in there that Jan Rogers wrote for us. There's not a whole lot of things to discuss. Patty will have a report on the Breed Awareness and Orientation School next month. She is planning – there's a school that's planned right now for Belgium and Patty won't be able to go to that, but she has it well covered with several people being over there. There's another school planned the end of January in San Diego. In talking with her last night, she's still trying to get that to be able to come together, but she's not sure yet.

Leave of Absence: Allbreed Judge Pat Jacobberger has requested a leave of absence from the Judging Program from 11/21/11 through ~~12/12/11~~ 06/01/12

Action Item: Grant the request of Pat Jacobberger for a leave of absence from the CFA Judging Program from 11/21/11 through ~~12/12/11~~ 06/01/12

Baugh: She is asking for a leave of absence, and the leave of absence is to be to June 1st. **Hannon:** Who is this? **Baugh:** Patty Jacobberger. **Hannon:** Patty is on leave? **Baugh:** She wants a leave until June 1st. She is having surgery toward the 3rd or 4th week in January on her back. She is going to have a 4 month recuperation, so she is asking for medical leave until that time. **Anger:** So moved. **Meeker:** Second.

Hamza called the motion. **Motion Carried.** **Hamza:** Good luck to Patty. I hope everything turns out well.

Current Happenings of Committee:

It is with deep regret that we report the death of CFA Judge, Dr. Marjorie Collier (Tanuk, Cornish Rex) on November 25, 2011.

Marjorie Collier grew up in Louisiana and returned to the family home after she and her husband had retired from teaching at university in New York. She was a professor of genetics and also did research and taught, alongside her husband's research work, at the prestigious Woods Hole Institute, in Massachusetts. After retiring, she did some additional teaching at Louisiana State University, Alexandria for 10 more years.

Before joining the CFA judging panel in 1999, she had been an allbreed judge in CFF for 25 years and had shown in that association, as well as CFA, throughout the Northeast for several decades. Her Siamese and Cornish Rex under the cattery name of Tanuk have won numerous awards in both associations.

She was diagnosed with liver cancer last December and gallantly fought the disease through chemotherapy. That battle was lost when she received the news 3 weeks ago that the cancer had metastasized throughout. She passed quietly in her sleep on November 25, 2011 with her family at her bedside.

She is survived by her husband Jack, her mother, 2 brothers, a daughter Marge, and two grandchildren in her immediate family,

The memorial mass will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2011 in her church close to home.

Jan Rogers

Baugh: And then, as I said, I do have the obituary on Marge Collier that Jan Rogers got for us. That was not unexpected, but I think she went rather quickly.

Acceptance/Advancements: *The following individuals are presented to the Board for advancement:*

Baugh: I have two people up for advancement, and then I have one other action item that I want to do before we get into an executive session.

Advance to Apprentice:

Anne Mathis (LH – 2nd Specialty) 16 yes; 1 no (Hannon)

Advance to Approval Pending Specialty:

Jim Dinesen (SH - 2nd Specialty) 17 yes

Action Item:

COMPARISON OF INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION to CFA GRAND CHAMPION

Basically there are four (4) titles in Europe:

Champion: *In order to become Champion, the cat needs to earn three CAC (Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat). It must defeat all OPN's in the same class.*

In 1 show, you can only obtain 1 title, so it will take a minimum of three shows to become a Champion.

In these classes, the numbers of entries are the highest. Peter remembers having to compete with 15 other cats for a CAC (Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat) in the black Persian male class. This is where the quality of the cats is the determining factor. With a topshow black Persian male he needed 8 shows to become a CH, simply because there were too many top show cats in the same class. (A problem we are familiar with in CFA.)

International Champion: *In order to become an International Champion, the cat has to obtain 3 CACIB (CACIB: Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat International de Beaute) titles, beating all the Champions in the same class. (In RUI 3 CAC and 6 CACIB are required to become International Champion).*

If you look at dog shows, the CACIB - International Championship status is the highest you can obtain. The difference with the cat world is that dog breeders continue showing their dogs after obtaining this title.

Cat breeders needed additional, new titles for them to bring their cats to the show. The following were added:

Grand International Champion: *First they added Grand International Champion, which just means participating in 3 more shows because the classes are very small and almost always the Int. Ch. will be alone in its class. (CAGCIB) Certificat d'Aptitude au Grand Champion International*

European Champion: *After 3 CACE (Certificat d'Aptitude au Championnat Europeen) titles, the cat becomes European Champion (I think you need to get these in different countries but I am not sure).*

So basically it will take an absolute minimum of 6 shows where you have to beat ALL the competition in your class (sometimes considerable numbers and quality) to become International Champion. This is a correct equivalent for CFA GRC.

Peter Vanwonderghem, Wayne Trevathan and the Judging Program Committee support this suggestion.

Baugh: Peter has asked us to bring this up. People that are in Europe want to apply and they want to be certain that the International Champion would be an equivalent to CFA grand. We talked about this previously and what I've written is basically Peter's explanation of what this is. We have a number of people that are interested in applying, and this is really a policy but we would like to have it in the minutes that this is something that the board will accept. Does anybody have any questions about this? **Hamza:** Does anybody have any objections to counting them as grands toward judging qualifications? **Shafnisky:** This is Alene. I do. I may be the only one, I don't know. My issue with this is that everything is within the same class. All their titles appear to be won within the same class, and I know if it's anything like over here in my breed, it's – I'm not going to say easy, but it might be easy to defeat all those champions in your class if you're the only one, or there are only two or three, so some of them might be attaining a title based only on their breed competition and what's present. There don't appear to be any numbers requirements. It seems to me that it can be a whole lot easier to attain than can the grand champion title. **Hamza:** We also have the option to revisit this policy as they operate for a longer period as a region and are able to participate. **Baugh:** I think that's something that we can address down the road. We are trying to – there are people that want to apply that just do not have CFA grand champions. Peter is confident. He has made a statement to me and to the Judging Program Committee that he has utter belief that they are comparable in the amount of competition that's required, that it's actually in some cases more difficult to get that international champion title than a CFA grand. **Hamza:** Darrell, do you have an opinion here? **Newkirk:** Yeah, I agree with this and I hope the rest of the board will support it. I'll make the motion to accept it. **Baugh:** Thank you. Second. **Roy:** I just have a question. This is Sharon. Have these people tried to grand their cats in CFA, or have they not been showing in CFA? That's what I didn't get. **Baugh:** The people that are going to be coming over definitely are showing in CFA, but they want to get themselves going on the program and it's going to take them longer and more time to take – some of these cats go back and they've been shown, and now they're in a breeding program. **Hamza:** And with Europe as a region, we definitely want to have at least some sort of a pool of local judges. **Hannon:** Can anybody familiar with the European situation address Alene's comment, though? **Miller:** I can say something about it. First of all, it isn't just the number of cats that are there in FIFe shows, it's the record, the written qualifications of the cat also that's required. Every judge has to write a report for the cat, so you can't just be there,

like we have right now for our champions where you just have to be at the show. You have to not only be there, even if you don't defeat another cat, you have to have a certain score. I don't remember what the score is, but you have to have the quality. **Shafnisky:** That's not what this says. All this says is, they have to beat all the champions in the same class to get a certificate. It doesn't say anything about numbers. I would like to see how many – break this down by breed. Yeah, it could be that a black Persian is going to have to go through unbelievable competition to obtain this title, but maybe, I don't know how popular Maine Coons are over there, but maybe a Maine Coon only has 5 other cats at a show to defeat. So, if the equivalent, it looks to me of obtaining a purple, but then there's no number or point equivalent attached to it, it's just showing up and being the best one, even if there's only two or three there. **Newkirk:** There are points allocated, based on what the certificate is. I don't remember what they are. **Miller:** I sent the exact wording from the FIFe standard. I'm trying to find it on my computer right now, but I can't get to it. I sent it out to everybody awhile back. **Hannon:** I'm just not real comfortable right now with Alene's comment and it's sort of gone unsubstantiated, one way or the other. Do they have to defeat other cats? I don't hear anybody saying yes, they do. **Eigenhauser:** Part of the reason why we put this off the last time it came up was, we wanted to see a detailed comparison of what the titles look like, and this came in kind of last minute and it doesn't seem to be complete because you're arguing points that don't appear in the written summary. So, I agree with Alene. **Hamza:** You know, Loretta, why don't we get Peter to clarify just why he feels this way, and have him address the points that were made tonight. Is this simply a glorified purple ribbon, which I don't believe it is from my understanding, but I'm not – I don't have a complete understanding of this, either. **Baugh:** And I don't either. That's why I had Peter write this. **Newkirk:** They don't have a system like we have. Their system is different than ours, and so they award these CAC's and the CAIC's. That's how they progress through the system, and that's what Peter is trying to tell you. They don't have a top 10 and grand cats. They judge a certain number of cats, usually 20 to 40, in certain classes and then they nominate these best in variety, and they nominate their cats for best in show. Then all those cats go to, at the end of the day, go to competition and certain judges handle these cats that have been nominated for best in show. They don't have a requirement to win at best in show, but they get up on the stage. All the judges, there are usually three, handle 4 or 5 cats, and at the end, all the cats, and then they nominate who best in show is. Their system is completely different than ours, and that's what Peter is trying to tell you. This is the closest equivalent we have of what a grand champion looks like. We can gum this to death. It's not going to be any more clear than what Peter has said. It's as close as it gets to qualifying as a grand champion in our system. [inaudible, multiple speakers] **Hamza:** One person at a time. Go ahead, Loretta. **Baugh:** The cat has to earn three certificates. I can only earn one at a show in order to get the title of champion. That is the equivalent of our champion. The cat then has to go to three more shows and compete at a higher level to become an international champion, which is the equivalent of our grand. That's what the different is. Then they go on to their other titles, but the [inaudible] is totally different. **Shafnisky:** But even though it's different, I think it can still be explained more fully, and more specifically I think we need to understand that basically we do need to know some numbers. We need to know if a person who breeds Maine Coons is applying for the Judging Program and is the only person who breeds Maine Coons in Europe, so every time they go to a show they get that title and they just get advanced because they're the only one at the show, I don't think that's something that we would consider comparable to a grand. **Baugh:** Well, it's not automatic. **Hamza:** I can say this. It's important for us as a presence in Europe – and we're going to be talking more about issues we have in Europe – it's important that they have judges that they can afford to employ. We all look at our own clubs and just to fly people, judges to our shows domestically is a hardship, but to have to fly the majority of your judges from across the pond is a tremendously expensive and

prohibitive issue, and so I guess, you know, it's important that we look at this as part of a business plan. We have to help these people get their judges in place so that they can afford to have local shows. You know, I can say this, that I've known Peter for a long time and if he – and I think Peter is a fine judge, and I think that Peter knows his shit, so if Peter tells me that this is comparable and this is going to give CFA desirable judges, you know, I guess I have to defer to his expertise. That doesn't mean you have to, but you need to consider it. I don't see any reason why we can't vote on this tonight. **Newkirk:** I agree, Jerry, and I think Peter has been honest with us about this. This come up the last time, and if a board member had a question, they could sure go to the FIFe website and educate themselves. **Miller:** I've got the website up right now, too. I finally found it. **Baugh:** Peter does make – he did send me a separate email. He said he [inaudible] “and when I see now that CFA cats can become a grand champion in one show, I can say with a hand on my heart that most international champions are of comparable quality, compared to our grand champions.” **Hamza:** And I've said this before, when it comes to a judge, you either got an eye or you don't. I've seen people who have graded 30,000 cats and still can't discern the standard. **Baugh:** It's getting very frustrating for the people over there because they are trying to get their applications together and the deadline is February 1st, and we're not going to have 35 people applying. It's just going to be – I know of one, maybe possibly two, but they're getting frustrated and trying to get this finalized because Peter is very adamant about the fact that he certainly doesn't want to have people apply and then have the board say, “well, we don't feel this is equal.” **Hamza:** That wouldn't be fair, either. That's like Charlie Brown and the football. **Baugh:** Yeah. So that part of why we're trying to get this through. **Hamza:** Can we get a motion on this? **Baugh:** I so move. Standing motion. **Meeker:** Second.

Hamza called the motion. **Motion Carried.** Shafnisky voting no. **Baugh:** Thank you.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Loretta Baugh, Chair*

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

[from end of meeting] **Hamza:** Alright everybody. Anybody got anything else? **Hannon:** The judges' results. **Hamza:** OK. Loretta, are you ready to roll? **Baugh:** Yeah. Can you hear me? Both of the judges were advanced. Anne had 16 yes and 1 no, and Jim had 17 yes. So, I've already sent an email out to the Judging Program Committee, and I also sent an email to Peter and he expressed his thanks for passing the international champion so the people in Europe can get going.

(8) SHOW FORMAT REQUESTS.

- a) *Eastcharm Cat Fanciers Club, December 17, 2011 show in Shanghai, China, requesting permission to change show license from a 4 allbreed/1 specialty ring show to a 4 allbreed ring show.*

Hannon: The next thing on the agenda is Midwest TGIF? **Hamza:** OK, Midwest TGIF. **Anger:** Right. This is Rachel. They want a show format change. The show is already licensed, so that's why it's coming to the board. There are 4 allbreed judges and one shorthair specialty judge. They decided to cancel the specialty judge. Oh, sorry. That's the a different one. This is the Eastcharm show in China. On December 17th, they have four allbreed judges and a shorthair specialty judge licensed. They want to cancel the specialty ring and keep the four allbreed rings.

So moved. **Hannon:** What's the name of the club? Eastcharm? **Anger:** Right, in China. **Kallmeyer:** It's a Shanghai club.

Hamza called the motion. **Motion Carried.**

b) *Midwest TGIF Fanciers, November 3/4, 2012 show in St. Louis, Missouri, requesting permission to have a non-scored top 3 Best in Show selected from the 3 highest scoring cats in each of the kitten, championship and premiership classes, selected by a separate BOB judge on Sunday.*

Hamza: OK, you ready with TGIF? **Anger:** Right. Here's TGIF, about their annual show in St. Louis next November 3rd and 4th. They are asking permission to have Best in Show. It will be the top 3 – this sounds very familiar – top 3 highest scoring cats by the unofficial count in kitten, championship and premiership, to be determined by the master clerk. They won't be scored for CFA awards. This is just part of the show to have something different. They would like to have a judge come in on Sunday and pick the best in show, a close judge. They want to have three nice rosettes to give those three cats. **Baugh:** This is Loretta. Beth had asked me about it. I told her to contact Rachel to ask permission. This is the show that's held at Purina Farms, and she would like to be able to do something a little fancier, and is hoping that Purina will sponsor it. **Hamza:** Can we get a motion? **Baugh:** I'll so move. **Meeker:** Second. **Hannon:** Wait, we're discussing it. **Hamza:** Why? It's not scored. I mean, we can. Go ahead. **Hannon:** Well, I just don't know about two weeks before the National Show. Wouldn't it be stealing their thunder, to a degree? **Hamza:** I don't know. I think anytime you can give somebody a rosette and make them happy, I'm all for it. **Shafnisky:** This is Alene. I know part of it is, because of the facility, we want to kind of foster that relationship. They are very happy with that facility and want to go with that. The Purina folks wanted to see something a little bit more. She also contacted me and I said, according to the show rules, this is something you can do but contact the board just as a "cross your T's" issue, but according to show rules they can go ahead and do it. **Anger:** This is Rachel. The best of the best in the show rules is a different philosophy in 22.03. **Baugh:** Yeah, this is a Best in Show, it's not a best of the best. I think it's a different concept. **Hamza:** I hate to tie a club's hands when it's not scored. **Anger:** I disagree. She calls it a Best in Show, but it's identical to what we had at the National. **Shafnisky:** The way it was described to me, at least the first time was, the way I read the show rules, it sounded the same. They may have altered it from there, but even still again, this is an unscored thing. They are just trying to do something nice at the end of the show. A lot of other shows do this just within breeds. I really don't see a big issue with it. **Baugh:** I know. The Southern Region had their trifecta and did something like that. I don't have a problem with it. **Newkirk:** Call the question. **Hamza:** Did somebody call the motion? **Baugh:** So moved.

Hamza called the motion. **Motion Carried.** **Hamza:** Have fun, TGIF.

(9) **ANFI.**

Hamza: OK, next up. **Anger:** Next is the ANFI discussion. Did we want to do this in closed or open session? **Hamza:** That's in closed session. There's a bunch of related things that have legal ramifications, that I'm going to want to do in closed session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

(10) DELEGATE FEE INCREASE.

Hamza: What else is there in open session? **Anger:** After that is the delegate fee increase. There is a motion that Ann has presented, to increase the delegate fee to \$30, if I'm not mistaken. Is that right, Ann? **Caell:** Yes, that's right, Rachel. **Baugh:** Are you asking for that to be a board motion, then? **Roy:** Doesn't that have to go to the delegates? **Baugh:** Yeah, but do you want the board to make the motion, or are you going to have a club make it? That's my question. **Shafnisky:** I have a question on this. This is Alene. The format we were sent was not just a \$30 delegate fee, it was a \$20 delegate fee with an additional \$10 registration fee, so is this now going to be just a straight up \$30 delegate fee? **Caell:** Yes. **Shafnisky:** OK. **Hamza:** OK. The question, Ann, to you is, who is bringing it to the floor at the annual? Do you want to board to do it, or are you going to have a club bring it up? **Caell:** We have several clubs who have, you know, I've sent out requests to just take a look at this and see if they support it or not. So far, I don't know what's happened in other regions, but in our region we have about 15 or 16 clubs that have supported it and will go onto the resolution. I have actually written up a resolution that should have been sent around to all of you, which is the final one. I know it has to be voted on with a 2/3 vote from the floor, because this is a constitutional amendment. **Hamza:** So, what do you want us to do here tonight with this? **Caell:** I just wanted you to take a look at this, to see if you thought it was acceptable, and what I had written in the resolution, if there are any changes that need to be made or anything you think we should revise. **Hamza:** Ed, do you want to take a look at that, as far as – I guess she is wanting to know if there's any technical flaws in it. **Raymond:** I've reviewed it once. This version is a little different than what I reviewed. One suggestion would be to delete the last sentence that says, *This delegate fee increase is designed to defray costs that the hosting region may incur at the Annual Meetings.* That's really part of the rationale. I don't think you want that language to actually be part of the constitution. **Caell:** That's what I was thinking, but I wanted to – that's one reason why I put this up here, OK? **Shelton:** Or at least take out the word "increase". **Caell:** What do you think, Ed? **Raymond:** Either way. I don't think you need to necessarily explain why this fee exists, as part of the language that will go in the constitution. **Caell:** OK. Other than that, is the resolution sound? **Baugh:** Yeah, it sounds good. **Raymond:** Yeah, I think it's fine. **Shelton:** This is Mike. Just as a point of information, the feed-back I have been getting from the clubs that I've heard from has been decidedly mixed. There are some people who feel that they've been nicked and dimed enough, which may or may not be true. That's a matter of personal opinion, but the general feeling I've gotten is that there might be more support for a \$5 increase than a \$10 increase. I'm not passing any judgment, I'm just letting you know what I've been hearing from the clubs. **Hamza:** A judgment on whether you've been nicked and dimed enough depends on how many nickels and dimes you have in your pocket. **Shelton:** That's probably true. **Hamza:** It's inversely proportionate. **Caell:** Thanks, Mike. Anybody else have any comments about feed-back that they've had from their regions? **Hamza:** You know, what I've gotten is what Mike has gotten. Some people think it's OK and some people don't want to give any more money. **Caell:** The other thing is that I have pulled together an Excel spreadsheet, and I have been keeping track of those regions who have sent me information on which clubs say yes, it's OK, so that I can attach those names of clubs to the rationale when I finalize this whole thing, so if anybody has clubs that are in favor of this so far, please send it to me so that I can put it in my spreadsheet. **Hamza:** Question. **Hamza:** Go ahead, Mark. **Hannon:** Because a club says they support it doesn't necessarily mean they want to co-sponsor it, though, so be careful you don't use a club's name as sponsoring this particular amendment unless they have specifically authorized that. **Caell:** That they want to co-sponsor it? **Hamza:** I think you need to ask them specifically. That's a wise

precaution. **Caell:** Good, thank you. That's fine. **Baugh:** Do we have the ballot results? **Anger:** Still waiting on a couple ballots. **Baugh:** OK. **Hamza:** Get them over.

RESOLVED: amend the CFA Constitution, Article IV, Section 4 -Delegates, second paragraph as follows:

No person ~~shall east~~ acting as a delegate and/or proxy shall carry more than two (2) votes. Only one vote per club is allowed. ~~Regardless of the number of votes carried, each~~ Each delegate or proxy to the Annual Meeting shall pay a registration fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) ~~twenty dollars (\$20.00)~~ for each vote carried ~~to help member clubs defray the costs of the Annual Meetings.~~ This delegate fee increase is designed to defray costs that the hosting region may incur at the Annual Meetings.

RATIONALE: Since this section of the CFA Constitution was amended in 2004, the delegate fee has been \$20.00 per club. The original fee (year unknown) was \$6.00 per delegate. This fee was increased to \$10.00 per delegate in 1986 and to \$20.00 per club delegate in 2004. The costs of producing the annual meetings have risen dramatically since 1986. The delegate fee paid by each club enables the host region to defray some of the ever-increasing costs incurred by the production of the annual meeting. While this is a nominal increase per club, the fees will go a long way to cover those costs.

(11) UNPUBLISHED MINUTES.

Hamza: Is there anything else that's not closed session? **Hannon:** Yes. The next item is unpublished minutes and I submitted that. **Hamza:** Go ahead. **Hannon:** Alright. For a period of time, the Yearbook included the minutes of the board meetings. Then there was a period of time where they didn't appear anywhere, and then it picked up with the website having the minutes, so there was a gap. Carol can probably tell us how long that gap was, but I'm assuming it was a couple years. There was a gap where minutes were not distributed. Obviously, the secretary produced minutes, but the constituents didn't get them. I just wanted to make it clear in the minutes that they are available upon request and the Central Office has them, both in hard copy and Carol tells me that they are in the conference room there, on the shelves. There's also a copy of them on the server. What Rachel suggested was that we convert the ones that are on the server to a PDF and also put them online, so people don't have to bother the Central Office requesting a particular set or sets of minutes. They can just go online, and it should be very simple for one of our computer folks to just convert them to PDF and send them to the web mistress to put online. **Hamza:** Donna Jean, would you pass that chore on to our computer boy? **Thompson:** OK. **Hannon:** Somebody is going to have to investigate to see which ones are affected by this. **Hamza:** Right. OK. Also have our computer boy figure out where the gap is. **Krzanowski:** This is Carol. I just want to make sure that whoever does this, if they are unfamiliar with the minutes, to be certain that the minutes that they are turning into a PDF format for the web are the ones that should be published. **Hamza:** How about this? When we get to that point, a couple of us board members will go through and make sure we're not publishing every closed minute session for the last 10 years. **Meeker:** You're taking all the fun out of it. **Hamza:** Your notion of fun is the kind I can do without.

(12) OFFICIAL CFA LIST.

Hannon: OK, the next item on the agenda is yours, Jerry. It's the CFA list. **Hamza:** Yeah. This unofficial CFA list is a – I don't know. Let me just put it this way. It causes us

problems in some areas where we've made some great gains. We had somebody on that list telling one of our sponsors that they should quit being one of our sponsors. It would seem to me, I have no problem with people and free speech and airing their laundry, I just prefer it in the backyard. I would like to investigate the ability for us to have an official CFA list where we can moderate not what's said but who comes there. It's clear that the list right now is infiltrated by non-CFA people. Even in this particular Aby situation, we have somebody who sent Rachel and I a letter saying that she has no intentions of ever being a part of CFA, but yet she has been winding that thing up every day. I guess I just wanted the board, maybe not necessarily an action item tonight, but to come up with ideas on how maybe we can approach getting a CFA list and being able to at least have a – the other thing with the list as it is, is it seems to be restricted to a few people who feel if they just talk over everybody else, they are right. I sense a silent majority who may like to actually have valuable input on issues, that are afraid to voice their opinion there because they are going to get mugged. Anyway, that's just something that I want you to keep in the back of your head. If anybody's got any ideas on a good way to approach this, I'm, just please let me know.

(13) **PROTEST COMMITTEE.**

Hannon: The only other thing on the agenda is protests. **Hamza:** Alright. Dick, that's closed session? **Kallmeyer:** Yes, it is. **Hamza:** Alright. Why don't we go into closed session now and start with protests?

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

Hamza: OK. Anything else, anybody? **Baugh:** What about the next meeting? **Hamza:** Would anybody mind if we move the next meeting back by a week? **Anger:** To January 10th? **Baugh:** Yeah, that's a little better. **Roy:** It's OK. This is Sharon. I won't be here on January 10th. **Hamza:** Wouldn't it be December – oh, no. You're right, January 10th. **Roy:** I won't be. That's presidential primary day in New Hampshire, so I have no idea what time I'll get out of the polls, but that's fine. **Hamza:** You're not going to get Newt Gingrich's autograph are you? **Roy:** No. We actually already had – several years ago when he ran for president, we had a regional awards show up here and he actually, there was a Republican dinner and he actually was there and came to the cat show and walked around and met people. Whenever it was, he thought he wanted to run for president before.

Hannon: I have something to add before we hang up. **Hamza:** OK. **Hannon:** Are you ready? **Hamza:** Yeah. **Hannon:** I just want to say that the Yearbook is scheduled to go to the printer later this month, and so it will be in the mail to those who are getting a yearbook in late January, which is the goal we tried for, and also on the White Pages, as soon as Shelly finishes the Yearbook and gets it out the door, she is going to be working on the White Pages, so anyone that has a change or they wanted to be added to the White Pages, they still have time because she hasn't started working on that yet. The form on the website gives a November deadline for submitting stuff, but she's still accepting them. Those people that want to make changes or whatever, and I'm going to put both of these in the December 15th newsletter. **Hamza:** I am excited about the Yearbook. How does it look? **Hannon:** She sent me a lot of the PDF's and it's looking great. She had some real challenges this year because she was helping with the move and she went out for a week to help train people in Ohio, and then she was at the National Show. We've pulled her off to do a number of things, so I'm real impressed that she's still on schedule. **Hamza:** You know, I'm glad we kept her. **Hannon:** Oh, yeah. **Hamza:** She is a real asset to the

organization. **Hannon:** I am sure Donna Jean's happy that Central Office isn't having to handle it in Ohio. **Thompson:** Oh, indeed I am.

Miller: Jerry, I wanted to ask something. **Hamza:** Yeah, go ahead. **Miller:** Is Shelly going to be able to man a CFA booth at the Whiskers in Wonderland? **Hamza:** We're going to ask her. I'm going to try and get her and Gwen to do it, if I can. **Hannon:** You're running out of time, though, is the problem. **Hamza:** Yeah, I know, I know. It's on my list. My short list. I'll probably – Donna Jean, just tell Shelly to call me tomorrow, would you? **Thompson:** OK. **Hannon:** But she'll have to get the booth, because it's in Ohio. **Hamza:** Yeah, or we can ship it out. It's not that heavy. Yeah, we'll figure it out. Just have her call me tomorrow. So, everybody, we're going to change the meeting to January 10th. **Miller:** When's the next meeting? **Hamza:** The next meeting is January 10th. Ginger, I'm going to start this month trying to work with your region on your annual, and then Ann in February, I mean in January, I'm going to work with you on your annual. We're going to get 2 out of the way and then we'll go to 3. **Caell:** That's great. We can start with the Sheraton/Hilton thing. **Hamza:** Yeah, and as a matter of fact, I'm going to get that started. I've got a call in to Pat Zollman already, so when she comes in I'm going to tell her that you folks absolutely want to move. **Caell:** Yeah. They're still holding that date open for us, so the sooner the better.

Hamza: Alright. Anybody else got anything? Can I get a motion to adjourn? **Anger:** So moved. **Hannon:** Second.

Hamza called the motion. **Motion Carried.** **Hamza:** Good night, everybody.

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Anger, Secretary