

**MINUTES OF THE 127TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOARD
HELD ON 22.11.2023 AT AWBI HQs. Sikri, Ballabgarh, Haryana**

The 127th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) of the Board held on 22.11.2023 at 12.00 Noon at AWBI Hqs. at Sikri, Ballabgarh, Haryana and the following were present in the meeting: -

1.	Sh. O. P. Chaudhary, IFS	Chairman, AWBI
2.	Shri Girish J. Shah	Member, AWBI
3.	Shri Sunil Mansinghka	Member, AWBI
4.	Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.)	Member, AWBI
5.	Dr. Hitesh Jani	Member, AWBI
6.	Shri Ram K. Raghuvanshi	Member, AWBI
7.	Dr. S.K. Dutta,	Secretary, AWBI
8.	Mrs. Prachi Jain	Asst. Secretary, AWBI

The nomination of the Representative of the Ministry of Finance is not received yet. Shri S.P. Gupta, IAS (Retd.), Member AWBI could not attend the ECM meeting due to his prior engagements.

The Chairman, AWBI welcomed all the Members of the Executive Committee of the Board and then requested the Secretary, AWBI to start the meeting. The details of the agenda items discussed are given as under: -

Item No.1: Consideration of matter regarding points suggested by Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.), Member, AWBI regarding co-ordination with the Ministries for the protection of Cattle and its progeny

The representation from Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.) Member, AWBI pertaining to co-ordination with the various Ministries for the protection of cattle and its progeny was deliberated and discussed by the ECM of the Board and the matter was deferred for further discussion in the next ECM or in the Board meeting.

Item No.2: Consideration of matter pertaining to Draft SPCA Rules

The draft Society to Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Rules, 2023 was notified by the Government of India through Department of Animal Husbandry and dairying vide GSR 527 dated 14.07.2023 published on 21.07.2023, for public suggestion and objections, the same were placed before the ECM for deliberation. The ECM after due deliberation on the draft SPCA Rules, 2023 and on the comments, the following were decided: -

- a. The district SPCAs need to be made fully functional after their constitution as per the SPCA Rules. Further the SPCAs to be made accountable for their functions and duties.
- b. Chairman, AWBI stated that the President, Vice President and the Member Secretary of the SPCAs should be made responsible for effective functioning of the SPCAs.

- c. The EC decided that the necessary provisions for the accountability of the SPCA, may be inserted in the Rules. The AWBI may review the annual reports of the SPCAs and the Chairman of the Board will send his comments to the Chief Secretary of the concerned States / UTs which will be given due weightage in the APAR/ACR of President, Vice President and the Member Secretary of the SPCAs.
- d. After official notification of the SPCA Rules, a D.O. letter may be issued to the Chief Secretaries of the States / UTs with copies to the District Collectors for proper implementation and functioning of the SPCAs. The D.O. letter shall also emphasize on the provision regarding review of the performance of the SPCA and its officials.

Item No.3: Consideration of matter pertaining to streamline the process of nominating Animal Welfare Representatives at State / District level from the Animal Husbandry Department

The matter pertaining to the change of nomenclature of Honorary Animal Welfare Officer to Honorary Animal Welfare Representative was placed before the Board in 52nd AGM held on 13.09.2022 wherein Shri Rajeev Gupta stated that every District / Taluka should have the Animal Welfare Officer nominated by State Animal Husbandry Department as nodal officer to implement the provision of Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and to look into the cases of cruelty at grass root level. The nodal officer shall be one focal point in every district for catering the noble cause of animal welfare.

Chairman and Members of the Board decided to constitute a Committee to streamline the process of nominating Animal Welfare Officer at State / District level from the Animal Husbandry Department.

Shri Rajeev Gupta stated that he will send a proposal and the matter will be decided in the next Executive Committee Meeting. It was further decided that Shri Rajeev Gupta, Prof. R.S. Chauhan and Shri S.P. Gupta to work on the matter.

Chairman directed to issue the executive instruction after the approval of Hon'ble Minister, FAH&D for nominating of Animal Welfare Officer in every District/Taluka on finalization of the proposal of nominating District Veterinary Officer to act as the Animal Welfare Officer and State Level Officer to be nominated from State Animal Welfare Board following the statutory system.

The matter was again placed before the Executive Committee to deliberate upon the matter and Shri Rajeev Gupta, IAS (Retd.) suggested that Chief Veterinary Officers (CVO) / District Animal Husbandry Officer (DAHO) shall be nominated as Nodal Officer in every district to look in to the matters pertaining to the Animal Welfare, SPCAs and HAWRs etc.

Addl. Item No.1: Consideration of matter pertaining to the letter received from Sri Jayam Trust, Mayiladuthurai, T.N. requesting for approval for Mega Event at Chennai on “Animals Friendly Conclave”

The letter No. SJT/AWIB/SEC/DEL/JP-MJ-001-23-24, dated 18.11.2023 from Sri Jayam Trust, Mayiladuthurai, T.N. requesting for approval for Mega Event at Chennai on “Animals Friendly Conclave” on 17th December, 2023 which will be one of the big awareness events where 1000 people are expected to participate in the event. The organization has sought full support for the grand success of the event from the Animal Welfare Board of India which was placed before the ECM of the Board and after due deliberation on the matter, the ECM agreed for the same without any financial assistance to the organization for organizing this event.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to Chair.
