President Darrell Johnson opened the meeting and announced the ARPAS symposium that would follow the Business Meeting, then called for the Secretary’s Report.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Secretary Randy Shaver said that minutes from both the July 2007 Governing Council and the Business Meeting were available on the ARPAS website and were approved at the January 2008 Mid-Year Conference call. The minutes from the Conference Call were approved by the Governing Council at its meeting on July 7, 2008. Minutes on the ARPAS website go back to 1998. Recent year’s minutes also contain a full set of addenda with the minutes.

TREASURER’S REPORT
Treasurer Keith Lusby said that ARPAS fiscal year coincides with the calendar year. He stated that ARPAS ended December 2007 with total revenue and support of approximately $249,000, compared to a budgeted amount of about $219,000. Both membership and revenue from the PAS Journal exceeded expectations. The size of the Journal has increased significantly, which caused revenues to increase due to additional pages charges. ARPAS ended the fiscal year 2007 with a net change in assets of $16,307 compared to budgeted amount of $7,745. As of May 31, 2008 ARPAS had $128,000 in cash and $209,000 in investments. Revenues from corporate sponsorship have exceeded expectations. ARPAS should end the year with a strong financial position. The Governing Council will make any needed budget adjustments at its meeting in January.

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report: Made by Ray Hinders
Seconded by: Warren Gill
Approved unanimously by voice vote.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT
FASS Office Manager Jamie Ritter said she has seen a lot of changes in the six months of 2008. Administrative structure has changed as Jerry Baker left in April to pursue other avenues in his career. Ritter was hired prior to Baker’s departure to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Savoy office. She said the FASS Board will not replace the CEO position at this time, but will focus on the Scientific Liaison (SL) side. She described additions to FASS support staff, changes to the FASS Board, a change in editorial processes through the XML transition, and this provides ease for editors and authors in how journals are published. She mentioned the new XML migration and its affect on the Professional Animal Scientist Journal. Changes have taken place in how the FASS mission is accomplished, and FASS is in the process of the 2nd revision of the Ag Guide, which should be available in January 2009 and will be posted on the FASS website for free download. Founding members are taking on the responsibility of the scientific advisory committee and hosting seminars and are publishing scientific materials.

Ritter said that change is good for FASS – it produces many positive strides. A strong effort has been made to increase communication between the board members, FASS staff, and clients we serve. She said she looks forward to working with ARPAS and seeing its continued success.
Executive Vice President’s Report

President Johnson stated that last year at this meeting, Dr. Richard Frahm announced that he would be retiring as Executive Vice President. A national search was conducted and Dr. Kenneth Cummings was selected for the position. Johnson invited attendees to give a round of applause in appreciation for Dr. Frahm’s service to ARPAS.

Cummings began by expressing thanks to Dr Frahm for working with him through the transition period, expressed appreciation for the work of Susie Rahn from the FASS office, thanked Bill Baumgardt for representing ARPAS at a recent conference, and expressed appreciation to President Johnson for his support.

He started his activities in December 2007 and continued the work begun by Dr. Frahm with a major feed company that administered ARPAS exams at the end of training it offers. So far more than 150 exams have been given to employees of this company, and this shows the opportunity ARPAS has to work with organizations to develop new ARPAS members and increase certification levels of employees. Efforts toward development of an assessment exam have been positive and will continue as continued requests come from educational institutions for this type exam. Evaluation for CEUs of programs and seminars continues. Many of these conferences also result in opportunities to administer ARPAS exams.

He summarized efforts with PAACO and said that ARPAS should continue involvement with the organization. He stated that the College Board system has been revised and updated with the formation of the American College of Animal Sciences. An MOU with NRCS has been updated, allowing ARPAS to do training and certification in Feed Management. He encouraged attendees to get involved and encouraged members to contact him or Rahn about any questions or issues.

PAS Editor Report

Wayne Kellogg stated that this has been a good year with an increase in Journal pages published from 742 pages compared to 480. A new section was started in the December issue, “Commentary” with the publication of an article by Dr. Stanley Curtis of UIUC. Kellogg said the Journal is now on Manuscript Central, which has saved considerable money and time required for review and publication. The Journal is scheduled to go onto HighWire on August 19, which will give it a new website and search engine. This will give the PAS Journal world-wide recognition. Changes are taking place in the editorial board as 4 members complete their term and 4 new members have been approved by the Governing Council. He expressed appreciation to FASS staff for their efforts. President Johnson expressed appreciation to Dr. Kellogg for the changes he has instituted in the Journal.

Membership Committee Report

President Johnson reported on behalf of Membership Committee Chairman Warren Gill. Johnson said that ARPAS has a total of 1521 members, with 1450 renewed for 2008, which is a 95% renewal rate. There was a net gain in members of 66 over the past year. A total of 119 completed new memberships were received, and 32 are pending. Governing Council members will encourage lapsed members to renew, and Johnson said that personal contact is very important.

Governing Council Report
President Johnson said that much of what was done in the Governing Council is what is being presented today. A lot of good discussion took place about a possible assessment exam from ARPAS for universities for student evaluation or for employers to evaluate a potential employee. He said that current ARPAS exam results are provided only to the person who took the exam and not to companies who employ them. A totally different reporting process will need to be developed to meet university and industry needs.

Johnson described the process followed as ARPAS worked to develop a new logo that would be suitable to embroider on clothing. A logo contest was held, followed by voting by a large number of ARPAS members. He invited Dr. Bill Price, logo committee chair, to explain the process followed. Price described the process and said that after the voting took place, one logo stood out as the top vote getter, and he mentioned that one member suggested the addition of a small ruminant to the original logo design. The FASS graphic artist will now enhance the logo and legal issues such as copyright will be checked.

Johnson continued discussion of Governing Council decisions.

- Requests had been received to advertise in the *Professional Animal Scientist Journal* (PAS) but advertising in the Journal is exclusively the right of ARPAS sponsors. Advertising from non-sponsors will not be sanctioned.
- Regarding the online ARPAS Membership Directory, the Governing Council has decided to have members’ names, state, and certifications accessible to the general public. No other contact information will be available except to ARPAS members who have logged onto the website. Non-members can contact the ARPAS business office if they want additional contact information.
- Efforts will now be made to develop an ARPAS strategic plan to help determine the course of the society, plans for new member recruitment, and determination about the development of an assessment exam. Johnson encouraged members to participate in the process if asked.
- The Governing Council approved a new reduced fee structure for students who wish to become ARPAS members. In addition to the $25 exam fee, graduate students will pay an additional $10 and post-docs will pay $42.50 per year. (Susie – wasn’t the $42.50 actually based on the dues for Emeritus members?)

Johnson further noted that many local training/conference opportunities are listed on the ARPAS website which can assist members in fulfilling their CEU requirements without attending a national meeting, and he encouraged attendees to submit their local meetings to Kenneth Cummings or Susie Rahn for evaluation and listing on the ARPAS website. He also stated that ARPAS exams are offered at regional and state meetings and that any ARPAS member can administer ARPAS exams. ARPAS members can contact Susie Rahn to receive exams to administer to their colleagues.

**Feed Management Certification (FMC) Report**

Dr. Randy Shaver briefly explained the collaboration with NRCS and development of the Feed Management Certification. ARPAS is involved at the national level in preparing and offering the training and exam process. Participation in a four-hour training session is required to take the exam, and the ARPAS website lists upcoming workshops. Seventy-three exams have been administered, 66 passed, and 54 persons have followed through to become ARPAS members, fully certified in FMC. Shaver said further growth is expected over the next year and it is anticipated that NRCS will use this as their screening tool for those who write feed management plans.
A question from the floor was asked about making the workshop an online training course. Shaver responded that he feels this is possible and he will look into the possibility. He also noted that Feed Management may be the topic for next year’s ARPAS symposium.

**Examining Board Report**

Examining Board Chair Steve Schmidt reported that over the past year, subcommittee chairs for each ARPAS species had been appointed. Each subcommittee chair has, in turn, appointed subcommittee members that either have reviewed or are reviewing existing exam questions and are submitting new questions. Questions are being categorized so that exams can be composed of a balance of topics and duplicate questions can be eliminated. A system is being put into place so that questions can be evaluated based on pass/fail results for individual questions. Another major undertaking is having each subcommittee determine available information for study guides appropriate to the exam’s questions. Lists of study materials will be made available on the ARPAS website for each species exams. Potential exam-takers can brush up on topics as needed and increase comfort levels in taking an ARPAS species exam, and this should help increase ARPAS membership. He invited All ARPAS members to recommend study guides materials.

President Johnson said ARPAS does not want to set up a system that “teaches to the test,” but rather give information that could assist in broadening the knowledge base, materials that could potentially be used in academic classes.

**Chapter Reports**

Dr. Andy Cole reported on the activities of the Southern Great Plains Chapter, and Tim Riordan reported on the California ARPAS Chapter. President Johnson said ARPAS currently has seven or eight Chapters and added that Chapters are a valuable tool for growing the organization and its membership. A Chapter with 50 members can have a seat on the Governing Council.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no Unfinished Business for discussion.

**New Business**

PAS Journal Editor Wayne Kellogg said one of the capabilities provided by the new online journal will be to link sponsors’ advertisements to their websites.

**Election Results**

Dr. Wayne Greene described the process followed by the Nominating Committee as they sought candidates to run for ARPAS President-Elect and Secretary. Dr. Carl Hunt and Dr. Randy Shaver ran for President-Elect, and Dr. Benjy Mikel and Dr. Andy Cole ran for Secretary. Shaver and Cole were elected and will take office at the end of this meeting.

**Installation of Officers**

Darrell Johnson said he is proud of this organization and has been proud to serve. He called forward Dr. Marit Arana, Dr. Randy Shaver, and Dr. Andy Cole, mentioned their past involvement in ARPAS, and welcomed the new incoming officers. They received a round of applause from attendees. Johnson turned the meeting over to Marit Arana, and she presented Johnson with a plaque of appreciation for his many years of service to ARPAS.
Adjourn

President Arana encouraged ARPAS members to becoming involved in the future of ARPAS and adjourned the meeting.