

United Suffolk Sheep Association

October 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Roll call: President, Dennis Sorensen, Treasurer, Carol Heupel, Secretary, Amanda Everts, and the following directors: Lloyd McCabe, John Baglien, Jack Blattner, Kathy Krafka Harkema, Michael Jensen, John Scott, Bill Zwyers, Diane Russell, Chris Auville, and Isaac Swortzel. Others in attendance: Brenda Reau (Foundation) and Victoria Morris.

President Sorensen called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

President Sorensen called for any additions or corrections to the agenda, there were none. Kathy Krafka Harkema moved to approve the agenda as presented, the motion seconded by Chris Auville. All were in favor, the motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

President Sorensen called for any additions or corrections to the September meeting minutes, there were none. Kathy Krafka Harkema made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented; the motion was seconded by Chris Auville. All were in favor, the motion carried.

Secretary's Report

Amanda Everts reported on fiscal year-end financials and ongoing projects. Bill Zwyers moved to accept the Secretary's report, the motion was seconded by John Scott. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Carol Heupel reported the current investment account balance was \$254,563, after a withdrawal in mid-September. There is a meeting with the financial advisor scheduled for Thursday. Kathy Krafka Harkema moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and the motion was seconded by Bill Zwyers. All were in favor and the motion carried.

United Junior Suffolk Sheep Association Report

No report.

United Suffolk Sheep Foundation Report

Foundation President, Brenda Reau reported there is a webinar scheduled for October 15 – Scholarship Application Best Practices. The Barth Memorial Committee is working to establish and finalize new opportunities using the funds. The bylaws committee is working to draft proposed bylaw changes, which will first go to the Foundation board for approval, then to the USSA board for final review and approval.

Committee Reports

Budget

None.

Breed Improvement/Education

Updated ewe and ram renderings were provided to the board. A lengthy discussion followed. Diane Russell moved to continue to refine the images, the motion was seconded by Kathy Krafka Harkema. All were in favor and the motion carried. The judges aid document provided to the board for consideration was discussed. John Baglien moved to adopt the document, the motion was seconded by Michael Jensen. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Junior

Chris Auville reported that the committee meet and discussed the futurity program and possible changes.

Event

Chair, Diane Russell, reported that a location has been secured, Willoughby's will manage the sale, and RSG will co-host

the educational program in 2026. Additionally, progress has been made on hotel room blocks and catering. The Suffolk Event committee will meet in November.

Marketing & Outreach

Chair, Kathy Krafka Harkema reported the committee has not met but the Member Monday social media series continues.

Old Business

In-Person Joint Meeting with USSA & Foundation – There was a brief discussion, no action was taken.

October Online Sale – Amanda Everts reported on the upcoming USSA sponsored sheep, equipment and PRIME ad online auction scheduled for October 20, hosted by Integrity Livestock Sales.

New Business

Re-Registration Fees – There was discussion on cost and process to re-register sheep from outside the USSA.

NAILE Judge – Amanda Everts discussed the NAILE open show judge selection process. In the future, to streamline and expedite the communication process, Amanda will reach out to recommended names for availability/interest prior to submitting to NAILE.

Event Sale Update – Amanda Everts updated the board on the bad check written through the Suffolk Event Sale.

Annual Meeting – There was a brief discussion on the annual meeting and timeline for content submission by committee chairs.

Election Results – Amanda Everts briefly discussed the election results and director vacancy seat.

John Baglien moved to enter executive session along with Amanda Everts and Carol Heupel. The motion was seconded by Michael Jensen. All were in favor, the motion carried.

John Baglien moved to exit executive session, the motion was seconded by Michael Jensen. All were in favor, the motion carried.

John Baglien moved to authorize the executive committee, John Scott and Michael Jensen to create a proposal to KHSI for consulting options. The motion was seconded by Chris Auville. All were in favor and the motion carried.

John Baglien moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:29pm. The motion was seconded by Chris Auville. All were in favor; the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Minutes Approved 11.10.25