

**United Suffolk Sheep Association  
Conference Call  
February 27, 2014**

**Board Member Present:** President, Rob Zelinsky, Vice-President, Bill MacCauley, Treasurer, Rex Quam, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Keith Pumphrey, Donna Mays, Virginia Gergen, Paul Skartvedt, Bill Royer, Diane Russell and Lisa Webster. Board Members Absent: Amanda Dobson and Larry Pauly.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

President Zelinsky called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the 2012/2013 November USSA Board Meeting, 2013/2014 November USSA Board Meeting and 2013 USSA Annual Meeting; there were none. Donna Mays made a motion approve the minutes of 2012/2013 November USSA Board Meeting, 2013/2014 November USSA Board Meeting and 2013 USSA Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded by Keith Pumphrey. The motion passed.

**Secretary's Report**

Amanda Everts reported that the office had moved to Michigan and she is currently working to finalize a few administrative tasks related to taxes in the state of Michigan. She has begun working on the 2014 USSA Breeders Directory and updating the membership database. The March Newsletter will be emailed out the first week of March.

Amanda reported that the current USSA checking account balance was \$10,671.96 and the investment fund balance was \$195,093.86.

Bill Royer made motion to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The motion carried.

**UJSSA Report**

Connor Vincent, UJSSA President, reported that plans are going well for the upcoming junior show this summer in Kansas. The juniors will be having a fundraiser at the Ohio Sale in May, proceeds will go towards the junior show.

**Committee Reports**

**By-Laws**

No changes at this time. Keith and Bill will look at the bylaws of other breed associations to see if there are items that need to be addressed in the USSA Bylaws.

**Futurity**

Chairman, Rex Quam discussed the possibility of the futurity winner being announced at NAILE, rather than December. Amanda Everts reported that there had been a request from a member to nominate ewes that would be sold off the farm rather through an organized sale due to special circumstances with the member's health. The committee will discuss these two items at a later date during their committee and report during the next meeting.

**Marketing/Promotion**

Chair, Diane Russell, reported that she would like to begin work on a tri-fold brochure but would like to have input from the board. She also reported that there will be some changes in which publication the USSA will advertise – changes include a small association listing in the Shepherd and a smaller ad in the Midwest Stud Ram Sale Catalog. There was a brief discussion in regards to advertising in smaller, regional publications as well as youth focused publications. Diane also reported that a response hasn't been drafted in regards to strategic planning and the survey; she asked for input from the board.

**Budget**

No report.

**Scholarship**

No report, just a reminder that the application deadline was moved to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Hospitality**

Amanda Everts reported on behalf of Amanda Dobson on the updates for upcoming hospitality events. This year the Ohio Association will be hosting a breakfast instead of a lunch. The board will need to determine when a USSA event will be held. There was a brief discussion in regards to two sales in Reno this year. A decision will be made closer to the sale dates on details of hospitality events. There was brief discussion about hosting a Suffolk social at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. It was determined that a lunch will be provided before the Suffolk Sale, similar to last year.

## **NAILE Market Lamb**

No report.

## **Hall of Fame**

Chairman Paul Skartvedt, reported that all individuals, except for Steve George, have agreed to help again this year with the Hall of Fame. He also mentioned that there will be a note in the upcoming issue of *The Banner* and newsletter that members can suggest individuals to the Hall of Fame Committee for future consideration. Suggestions should be provided to the USSA Office by May 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered in this year's selection.

## **Ambassador**

There was no committee report. Ambassador, Taylor Peck, discussed upcoming Suffolk socials. Taylor noted that she plans to attend the Ohio Sale, Bob Kimm's Sale, the Midwest Stud Ram Sale and the National Junior Suffolk Show.

## **Old Business**

### **2014 NAILE Premium Book Changes**

The board was provided with proposed changes for the 2014 NAILE Premium Book. There was a lengthy discussion about the proposed changes. Diane Russell made a motion to approve the changes. The motion was seconded by Keith Pumphrey. There was one director opposed to the motion. The motion passed.

Amanda Everts reported on the outcome of the membership vote for 2014 NAILE open show judges; fitted show, first choice Steve Paasch, second choice Jeff Repasky, third choice Brad Angus; slick shorn show, first choice Brad Angus, second choice Jeff Repasky, third choice Steve Paasch.

## **Sedalia Suffolk Mixer**

Taylor Peck reported on plans for the Sedalia Suffolk Social. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the social will be held at Ohio after the Suffolk Show rather than Sedalia. Taylor will work with Amanda on the details.

## **New Business**

### **Upcoming Reno Sales**

There was a brief discussion about the two upcoming sales in Reno. More details will be discussed closer to the event in regards to Suffolk hospitality events.

## **Request for Junior Show in the Pacific Northwest**

Keith Pumphrey requested a \$250 regional junior show sponsorship for a show in Moses Lake, Washington. Virginia Gergen made motion to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Bill MacCauley. The motion passed. The \$250 will be paid out the junior fund.

## **NAILE Open Suffolk Show Awards**

President Zelinsky reported that two of the NAILE Open Show awards have not been sponsored. There was a commitment by individuals two years ago to sponsor these awards and no new awards have been purchased. Virginia Gergen made a motion of open up sponsorship of these two awards (Champion Fitted Ewe and Best Headed Ram). The motion was seconded by Lisa Webster. The motion passed. This information will be included in the next newsletter to

seek new sponsorship (24-plate traveling award) for these awards as well as a few champions in the NAILE slick shorn show.

#### **Percentage Registry**

Diane Russell suggested the board take into consideration that Suffolks who are 88% be considered pure through the percentage registry, rather than 94%. The topic was tabled and will be discussed during the next board meeting.

#### **NAILE Junior Show Judge**

President Zelinsky asked for judge recommendations for the 2014 NAILE junior breeding sheep show. After a short discussion, the board will suggest Eric Bruns to the NAILE Sheep Advisory Committee a junior breeding show judge.

#### **Northeast Junior Show Sponsorship**

Amanda Everts reported that Janet Hukowicz requested a \$250 sponsorship for a Northeast Junior show. Bill MacCauley made motion to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Keith Pumphrey. The motion passed.

#### **USSA Newsletter**

Amanda Everts asked the board if the USSA Newsletter should be a publication only available to members or if should be a publication posted on the USSA website. Rex Quam made a motion that the USSA Newsletter available on the USSA website. The motion was seconded by Keith Pumphrey. The motion passed.

#### **Amnesty Program**

Amanda Everts reported that there have been a few members asking if the USSA board will reinstate the amnesty program again. Donna Mays made motion that the amnesty program go into effect immediately until July 1<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded by Diane Russell. The motion passed.

#### **Survey**

An updated survey analysis was provided to the board – with the responses weighted by number of sheep registered each year (response to question 8). A brief discussion followed.

Motion was made by Bill MacCauley to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The meeting was adjourned.