

**United Suffolk Sheep Association
Board of Directors Conference Call
October 19, 2015
8pm central**

Board Member Present: President, Diane Russell, Vice President, Rob Zelinsky, Treasurer, Bill Royer, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Keith Pumphrey, Larry Pauly, Paul Skartvedt, Dale Dobberpuhl and Bret Henderson and UJSSA President Jaclynn Knutson. Newly elected 2015/2016 board members present: Ron Alves, Matt Beals, Joe Emenheiser and Randy Hodges. Board Members Absent: Kip Kuntz, Virginia Gergen and Amanda Dobson.

Meeting was called to order at 8:01pm central. President Russell welcomed everyone to the USSA board of director's conference call and called for the Secretary's report.

Secretary's Report & Treasurer's Report

Secretary Everts reported that registry work has begun to slow down and time has been spent preparing for NAILE meetings, Hall of Fame banquet and finalizing fiscal year end reports. Amanda reported that the association registered 6,386 Suffolk in this fiscal year, down from about 7100 last year. There were 2296 Suffolks transferred, down from 2944 last year. Membership was down about 40 members, with 607 members for the year.

It was also noted that the association was profitable this year but those figures did not include accountant adjustments such as depreciation. There was less expenses for staff travel for the year and increased income due to the price increase for transfers and from sales of newsletter ads and email blasts. There was a brief discussion on the juniors net negative income for the fiscal year; the junior show was more expensive and had less entries compared to previous years (location) and the juniors purchased several new traveling trophies and ribbons for the next several years.

Secretary Everts reported the current checking account balance is \$30,384.39 and the investment account balance is \$194,267.76.

There was a brief discussion on loss on the investment funds for the past fiscal. Treasurer Royer reported that those funds are invested in very conservative stocks and bonds which have not performed well this year, similar many other investments.

UJSSA Report

Jaclynn Knutson, UJSSA President, thanked the senior board for their support of the UJSSA. She reported that plans are well underway for the 2016 National Junior Suffolk Show to be held in Spencer, Iowa. The UJSSA will continue to make plans for the 2016 show during their November meetings. The UJSSA will be in contact with the All-American for the 2017 show. UJSSA fundraisers at NAILE include the silent auction and asking for support from members to fill the sponsorsheet.

Committee Reports

By-Laws

Keith Pumphrey reported that there are some areas of the bylaws that need to be updated. He suggested that next year's committee reviews all the bylaws to look for articles that need to be updated or clarification may be needed.

Futurity

Bret Henderson reported the points posted on the website are up-to-date. Participation this year is down compared to last year. The committee is seeking suggestions to get more individuals to participate.

Marketing/Promotion

Bret Henderson reported that there was a column ad included in the October issue Sheep Industry News. The committee has scaled back on advertising. Promotional items have been purchased and will be received by NAILE.

Budget

Bill Royer reported that the 2015/2016 fiscal year budget was presented and approved at the June meeting. Registrations were lower this year than what are predicted for next year, however the ratio of lamb and late registrations are off as more late registrations are processed than what the budget reflects, generating more revenue. Also, the association is generating a good stream of income from purchased email blasts and newsletter ads.

Scholarship

There were 3 applications submitted for the Let's Grow Suffolks Scholarship and 6 applications submitted for the USSA Scholarship. The applications have been sent to the committee for review. Interviews will be held and the winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Hospitality

Amanda Everts and Diane reported that they may need some help with Annual Meeting set-up on Sunday afternoon.

Ambassador

Amanda Everts reported on behalf of Amanda Dobson; Amanda is checking with Tayler on what her plans are at NAILE.

NAILE Market Lamb

Paul Skartvedt reported that there are 4 to 6 juniors who will be available to help with the market lamb certificates. Rob Zelinsky will be there to help set-up.

Hall of Fame

Paul Skartvedt reported that the Hall of Fame inductees or family members have been notified via letter and phone call. Amanda reported that 4 of the inductees will be attending the banquet. Paul has secured one sponsorship for the event and is waiting to hear back from a few more. Tom Burke has agreed to be the announcer during the program.

Performance

Dale Dobberpuhl reported that there is some grant money that the association may be able to apply for through ASI. Dale invited Matt Beals to discuss the Let's Grow grant. The association could apply for funds that may be used to create an interface between the USSA and NSIP for data submission. The deadline for the grant is November 11th. Matt suggested that the proposal be written, asking for \$8,000 to \$10,000. Larry Pauly made a motion that the grant be written and shared to the USSA board via email for approval. The motion was seconded by Keith Pumphrey. Roll Call Vote: Yes- Keith Pumphrey, Larry Pauly, Rob Zelinsky, Paul Skartvedt, Bill Royer, Dale Dobberpuhl and Bret Henderson. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Old Business

Annual Meeting/Banquet

The annual meeting and Hall of Fame banquet will be on Sunday, Nov. 15th, 5:30pm social hour, 6:30pm dinner. Set-up will not be as involved as last year but will need a little time to set-up that afternoon before the dinner. The menu will be finalized in the next week or so; Amanda is waiting to hear from the chef to see if a lamb dish is available. It was noted that the food is a little more expensive than the previous caterer. Amanda will contact Greg Deakin to take photos at the event again this year.

NAILE Board Meeting

The USSA board meetings will be held on Sunday, Nov. 15th beginning at 1pm.

Junior Coordinator/Board Committee Update

Bill Royer reported that the committee had a good meeting with the junior coordinators and Amanda Everts; the junior coordinators have the senior board's support. Detailed outcomes from the task force committee and conference call will be discussed at the November board meeting.

Super Suffolk Online Sales

Keith Pumphrey will ask Dan Willoughby to attend the November board meeting to further discuss these sales.

Registration Certificates – NSIP notation

Amanda Everts reported that the programming cost to include a notation on a registration paper would be about \$50. There was discussion if this notation would have meaning as all lambs have EBVs, there's just no performance behind it. It was suggested that it may be a better to include a Lamb Plan ID on the registration certificates instead. This topic was table for the next performance committee to discuss.

USSA Website

Amanda Everts reported that redesign of the USSA website and design of the registration site will begin this winter.

New Business

2016 National Show & Sale

There was discussion about rotation of the National Show and Sale location and confirming that Reno is next in the rotation. Keith Pumphrey made a motion to keep the rotation the same – Ohio, Sedalia and Reno. The motion was seconded by Larry Pauly. Roll call vote: Yes – Keith Pumphrey, Larry Pauly, Rob Zelinsky, Paul Skartvedt, Bill Royer, Dale Dobberpuhl, Bret Henderson. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed. Motion passed.

NAILE Suffolk Sale

Amanda Everts reported that the 2015 NAILE Suffolk Sale will be held on Saturday, November 14th but the time of the sale has changed to 2pm.

Directors Election

Diane Russell reported that Joe Emenheiser will fill the 3 year term and Randy Hodges will fill the 1 year term.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm central.