

**United Suffolk Sheep Association  
January Board of Directors Conference Call  
January 9, 2019**

**Board Member Present:** Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Blair Summey, Greg Ahart, Tom Burke, Matt Beals, Bill Gergen, Bill Royer, Jeremy Geske, Randy Hodges, Brenda Reau and Bret Henderson.  
**Absent:** Gayle Lucas

**Approval of the Agenda**

Jeremy Geske made motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. The motion carried.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Randy Hodges made motion to approve the November meeting minutes of the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 board of directors. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Geske. The motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Everts reported that registrations and transfers are down compared to last year at the same time. Work has begun on the 2019 Suffolk U Webinar Series schedule; the board was asked for topics suggestions. The checking account balance is \$8498.69. Randy Hodges moved to approve the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Geske. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Bill Royer reported investment balance is about \$218,000. That balance is after a withdrawal of a little over \$5000, which was by the board to cover the costs of a new website and rebranding. Jeremy Geske moved to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor, motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

**By-Laws** – Randy Hodges reported that the committee may revisit voting eligibility.

**Youth Promotion** – Bret Henderson reported that futurity participation was down in 2018. Futurity premiums have been paid to participants.

**Budget** – Bill Royer reported that he expects the budget to be tight this year, he'll continue to keep the report up-to-date.

**Ambassador/Queen** – Tom Burke reported applications will be available in March and selection will be this summer.

**Breed Improvement** – Brenda Reau reported that the committee has submitted a proposal to Let's Grow which would extend our grant until the end of August. This would continue the data entry assistance and to fund an event that will take place at the Center of the Nation Sale. An event will be directed to purebred producers and one to commercial producers.

**Hall of Fame** – Tom Burke reported that Kentucky Fair Board will in February to review the proposal and determine if there can be a permanent plaque posted in the South Wing Hall, near to where the USSA Annual Meeting Dinner is held that will honor those inducted into the Suffolk Hall of Fame. Carol Herden will create a hand sculpted plaque in which the association can continue to add names to; the cost for the plaque will be \$200 to \$300.

**Scholarship** – Blair Summey reported that committee will be meeting in the next month or two.

**Hospitality** – No report.

**Online Sale** – Jeremy Geske presented the different options for possible online sale hosts – Willoughby Sales has a 10% commission, the association receives 3% of that commission and is billed \$25 per head for no sales. Show Stock Planet will charge up to 15% commission, SSP receives 7.5% of that and the association can charge up to 7.5% and does not have a no sale fee. There was a lengthy discussion. Randy Hodges moved to have an elite futurity nominated ewe lamb sale with the committee selecting the consignors, a second sale will be open to any members and the association will move to Show Stock Planet to host the sale. Jeremy Geske seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken; Yes: Greg Ahart, Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Randy Hodges, Bill Royer, Jeremy Geske, Bret Henderson and Brenda Reau, abstain: Blair Summey. Motion passed.

**GAP** – Bill Royer reported that he had spoken with Ron Alves and Ron will be meeting with the first breeder to enroll in the GAP program later this week to view the ewes in consideration.

## **Old Business**

### **Junior Show**

Bret Henderson and Bill Royer reported that there has been a conference call with the UJSSA. The board received two documents to review that were emailed the UJSSA Directors – Opportunities for the UJSSA and Notes from the All-American Junior Show-UJSSA meeting at NAILE. There was a discussion on the junior show and that it will continue to be a part of the All-American. The directors discussed the letter that was sent from the UJSSA on their concerns. Greg Ahart made motion that the board has investigated and found that it is unfounded. The board has full confidence in job the coordinators have been doing. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. A roll call vote was take, all were in favor. The motion passed.

### **Rules of Board Meetings**

Matt Beals presented the board with a proposed set of rules for future board meetings. There was a brief discussion. Randy Hodges moved to adopt the meeting rules. The motion was seconded by Bill Royer. A roll call vote was take; yes- Bill Royer, Jeremy Geske, Randy Hodges and Brenda Reau; no- Blair Summey, Bill Gergen, Tom Burke, Bret Henderson; abstain – Greg Ahart. Motion failed. Rules were not adopted.

### **Hall of Fame**

A proposed selection criteria and potential inductee names were provided to the board for review. Matt Beals reported that the Hall of Fame committee will be made up of Randy Hodges (chair), Greg Deakin, Tom Burke, Wayne Skartvedt and a past inductee from the west. Greg Ahart suggested Brenda Miller to serve on that committee. Randy Hodges discussed the proposed criteria and asked directors to review it along with the list of names. Directors were asked to email Randy or Amanda with any concerns on the criteria and any names they would like to see added to the name list.

### **Midwest Sale Suffolk Special Rules**

Jeremy Geske presented the board with proposed Suffolk rules for the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. There was a short discussion on the proposed rules and the possibility of implementing a sifting committee. Randy Hodges made motion that the USSA form a sifting committee to evaluate sale sheep for unsoundness and continue to measure yearling rams for scrotal circumference. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Geske. A roll call vote was taken; yes- Greg Ahart, Blair Summey, Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Jeremy Geske, Bret Henderson, Randy Hodges and Brenda Reau; no – Bill Royer. Motion passed.

## **New Business**

### **District 3 Director Seat Opening**

Bill Gergen discussed the open District 3 Director vacancy. Blair Summey made a motion to fill the vacant District 3 Director seat until the next election. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. A role call vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed. There was a brief discussion on who will fill the vacancy. Jeremy Geske made a motion that Gary Hoskins fill the District 3 Director vacancy. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. A role call vote was taken; yes – Greg Ahart,

Blair Summey, Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Jeremy Geske, Bill Royer, Bret Henderson and Brenda Reau, abstain – Randy Hodges. The motion passed.

### **Finance Charges**

Bill Royer discussed past due accounts. He made a motion that the USSA board implement a finance charge on accounts that are greater than 90 days past due at a rate of 1.5% per month. Effective March 1<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded by Blair Summey. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion carried.

### **2019 NAILE Judge**

There was a short discussion on the 2019 NAILE Suffolk open show judge. Tom Burke made a motion that the 2019 show will have the same individual judging both divisions and will continue with the same division rotation as last year. The motion was seconded by Blair Summey. There was a roll vote; yes- Greg Ahart, Blair Summey, Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Bill Royer, Jeremy Geske, Randy Hodges and Brenda Reau, no – Bret Henderson. The motion passed.

There was as lengthy discussion about the process of the NAILE open show judge selection. Bill – made a motion that the USSA Board of Directors selects 4 names from the list provided by the exhibitors. Ballots will be sent to each exhibitor who entered sheep in the previous year's open show. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Geske. A roll call vote was taken; yes- Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Bill Royer, and Randy Hodges, no – Greg Ahart, Blair Summey, Jeremy Geske, Bret Henderson and Brenda Reau. The motion failed.

Bill Gergen made a motion that the board will provide names for the open show judge. Exhibitors will be polled with the names and the board will take poll results under advisement to make the final decision. The motion was seconded by Greg Ahart. A roll call vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed.

Judge suggestions received from exhibitors will be narrowed down by the board via email vote. Polls will then be sent exhibitors.

Bill Gergen made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:43pm. Motion was seconded by Greg Ahart. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Approved 2.13.19