

**United Suffolk Sheep Association  
Board of Directors Meeting – 2017/2018 Board  
North American International Livestock Expo  
November 10, 2018**

**Board Member Present:** President, Matt Beals, Vice-President, Randy Hodges (phone), Treasurer, Bill Royer, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Ron Alves, Gayle Lucas (phone), Blair Summey, Bill Gergen, Paul Skartvedt (phone) and Bret Henderson.

**Absent:** Tom Burke Jeremy Geske and Joe Emenheiser.

The meeting was conducted by President, Matt Beals.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Amanda Everts reported that the GAP committee report has been omitted from the agenda and that it needed to be added.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Ron Alves made motion to approve the October conference all meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Blair Summey. The motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Everts reported that registry work submission has slowed down. Since the October meeting she has been working on preparation for NAILE activities and the Hall of Fame banquet. Bill Royer made motion to accept the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Paul Skartvedt. All were in favor, the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Bill Royer reported that each director should have received a copy of the 2018/2019 financial statements. The board approved using investment funds to cover the costs associated with rebranding and the new website. Treasurer Royer reported that those funds have not yet been withdrawn but will be to cover those expenses. The investment fund balance is approximately \$233,000. Blair Summey made motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Bret Henderson. All were in favor, the motion carried.

**UJSSA Report**

UJSSA President, Jaclynn Knutson reported on the 2019 junior show which will be held in Hutchinson, Kansas – same venue and dates of the All-American Jr. Sheep Show. Current fundraising at NAILE includes the silent auction at the Suffolk booth, raffle and working to fill the sponsor sheet. She expressed concerns on the declining participation of junior directors and challenges of finding juniors interested in running for the junior board in the future. The junior coordinators were in agreement with Jaclynn's concerns. A lengthy discussion followed on the future of the junior show and the possibility of the junior show becoming a part of the All-American Jr. Show. Blair Summey made motion to table further discussion on the Junior Show to the 2018-2019 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was seconded by Bret Henderson. All were in favor except Ron Alves (opposed).

**Committee Reports**

**By-Laws** – No report

**Youth Promotion** – Paul Skartvedt reported that there was a good response on this year's ewe lamb giveaway program – over 40 entries. Videos were judged by the directors from each respective district. Winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting Dinner. There was discussion on possible incentives for those who submitted videos to encourage them to keep interest in the association – such as a junior membership or sale discount.

**Marketing & Promotion** – Bret Henderson reported the committee's major accomplishments for the year were the logo and website re-design. The association will need to orders more promotional items next year.

**Budget** – No report.

**Scholarship** –Blair will announce the winner at the Annual Meeting Dinner.

**Hospitality** – Setup for the Annual Meeting Dinner will begin after the junior show concludes.

**Ambassador/Queen** – No report.

**Hall of Fame** – Amanda Everts shared Tom Burke's report – there will be 3 honorees present at the 2018 USSA Hall of Fame recognition. He is in discussion with the North American to place a permanent plaque in the South Wing Hall of the Exposition Center (hall outside of where the sheep are shown/penned) that lists the Suffolk Hall of Fame Inductees. Randy Hodges reported that no selection criteria has been sent.

**Breed Improvement** – No report.

**Registration Program** – No report.

**Online Sale** – Gayle Lucas reported that the sales this past year went fine. The continuing challenge is to get consignors to submit appropriate photos and information so that the sale draws more interest.

**GAP** – Ron Alves presented the board with the GAP application. He noted that all GAP animals will have a permanent designation on their registration papers.

### **Old Business**

#### **Quality Sift at the National Sale & Judge Qualifications/Certification**

Blair Summey discussed continuing taking measurements on National Sale sheep and voiced concerns on quality (health) of sheep on some on the Suffolks are being consigned. There was discussion on how and when to sift animals at the sale. Some directors had concern that the judge should not be the individual sifting. Some directors felt that animals should be sifted as they were off loaded from the trailers. There was also discussion on DNA testing. Bret Oelke with the Midwest Sale will join the meeting later on and these concerns will be discussed with him.

### **New Business**

#### **National Junior Suffolk Show – Minimum Age to Show & Long Term Plans with All-American**

There was concerns about the age of children showing sheep and if they are truly showing sheep. There may be liabilities associated with this. Further discussion on these topics were tabled to the 2018/2019 board meeting.

Bret Henderson made motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Blair Summey.

The board went into Executive Session.

Approved 1.9.18