

**United Suffolk Sheep Association  
Board of Directors Meeting – 2018/2019 Board  
North American International Livestock Expo  
November 18, 2019**

**Board Member Present:** Vice-President, Randy Hodges, Treasurer, Bill Royer, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Greg Ahart (phone), Blair Summey, Bill Gergen, Tom Burke, Jeremy Geske, Gary Hoskins, Brenda Reau and Bret Henderson.

Absent: Gayle Lucas.

The meeting was conducted by Vice President, Randy Hodges and called to order at 8:03am eastern time.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Bret Henderson moved to approve the October meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Everts reported there was not a lot new to report since the October meeting. The checking account balance is \$12,679. Journal entries and account write-offs are not on the profit and loss and balance sheet provided but are accounted for in the financial statement prepared by the CPA firm and provided to the board.

**Treasurer's Report**

Bill Royer reported that the investment fund balance is \$237,135.67. A financial audit was performed in October by Wayne Skartvedt and Jeanie Royer; the only concerns were that the Treasurer should be provided the information to review the checking account and the Treasurer should sign into the investment account periodically. An audit report was provided to the board meetings. There was a brief discussion as to who should perform an audit in the future and if that should be done by individuals connected to the board or the association.

For the closing fiscal year revenue is down and expenses are down significantly. Assets are down about \$3000 compared to last year.

Jeremy Geske made motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. Motion carried.

**UJSSA Report**

UJSSA Coordinator, Nancy Burton reported that the juniors met at NAILE over the weekend. They will be changing their sponsor sheet to a tier system. The juniors have come up with a new way to promote breeders who have sponsored the junior association. The junior discussed the survey results and discussed what they could implement from that information. They created several new contests, running each quarter in the new year, to allow all junior members throughout the country to participate. They plan to have a Suffolk get together on Saturday evening. They would like to see if they can add a yearling ram class at the All American. The root beer float social which was held on Saturday afternoon at NAILE went over well.

**Committee Reports**

**ByLaws** – Amanda Everts reported on the outcome of the bylaws vote. Article VI. Officers. Section 1 General passed (70%). Article VII. Committees. Section 1 Executive Committees did not pass (66.3%). Article XII. Affiliated organization (updating the name of the organizations) passed (80%). Amanda suggested that next year the bylaws committee evaluate the time frame that voting on bylaws changes ends as it runs very close to NAILE and if the outcome is close this could cause issues.

**Youth Promotion** – Bret Henderson reported that there was a good response on this year's ewe lamb giveaway program – 52 entries. Videos were judged by the directors from each respective district. Winners will be announced at the Hall of Fame

recognition evening. There was discussion on possibly expanding the number of winners in each district – next year's committee will look into this. One of the outcomes from the junior association survey was that members were not familiar or how the futurity program works –this would be a webinar topic for next year.

**Budget** – No report. Bill Royer reported that the association's fiscal year is October 1 to September 30.

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

**Hospitality** – Setup for the Hall of Fame dinner begins the morning meetings.

**Ambassador/Queen** – Tom Burke reported that the Suffolk Queen is doing a good job.

**Hall of Fame** – Randy Hodges reported that the Hall of Fame recognition evening is that evening and there will be representatives from 3 of the 4 inductees. There will be an unveiling of the Suffolk Hall of Fame plaque by Mr. Bob Hall, this year's Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Honoree.

**Breed Improvement** – Brenda Reau mentioned that one topic that the committee should look into next year is the parasite issue.

**Online Sale** – Jeremy Geske reported that there were 3 spring sales this year that went well. There was a fall bred ewe sale was offered but there was not enough interest to have it. Suggests that we use the same format again next spring.

**GAP** – Bill Royer reported that 4 flocks have applied/accepted and sheep have been registered. The program remains open next year.

**Junior Assn/Show** – Greg Ahart reported he was sure how much longer the committee needs to continue. It was put together to facilitate a cleaner communication process between the junior board and senior board. The survey allowed the juniors to engage junior members who may not necessarily go to the junior show. Greg will defer to Allison's leadership to determine what the next steps are with the data. The committee will be supportive of what those next steps are.

### **Old Business**

**Association Attorney** – Blair Summey shared concerned that the association should have an attorney and who we choose to audit the association's financials. There was a lengthy discussion. The association currently seeks an attorney when needed who specializes in the area in question and the accounting firm when questions arise. Tom Burke made a motion that we continue under the same procedures we follow now. The motion was seconded by Bill Royer. All were in favor. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

**District 2 Vacancy** – There was a lengthy discussion regarding which board votes to fill the District 2 director vacancy. Blair Summey made motion that the position be filled in the old board meeting prior to the new board meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill Gergen. A roll call vote was taken; yes – Blair Summey, Gary Hoskins, Bill Gergen, Brenda Reau and Jeremy Geske, no – Greg Ahart, Bret Henderson, Tom Burke and Bill Royer. Motion passed. Members who submitted bios for the opening were Bill Gergen (NE), Carol Heupel (CO) and Jeff Baumann (MO) – these individual's bios were provided to the board. A vote was taken – Carol Heupel 6, Bill Gergen 3 and Jeff Baumann 1. Carol Heupel will fill the director opening.

**Association Efficiency** – Bill Gergen stated that will be covered in the next meeting.

**Suffolk Analysis** – Bill Royer shared some final comments.

**Midwest Sale** Bret Oelke and Millie Moore reported on behalf of the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. There were 92 breeding sheep and 15 wether sire and dams sold – average was \$1035/head. In 2021 the sale will be moved to one week earlier in June, two weeks after Memorial Day weekend. Sale management is willing to add slick shorn or production data.

Jeremy Geske made motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Bill Royer. Meeting adjourned.