

United Suffolk Sheep Association
March Board of Directors Call
March 14, 2022

Attendance: President Jeremy Geske, Vice President Randy Hodges, Treasurer Carol Heupel, Secretary Amanda Everts and the following Directors: Greg Ahart, Cynthia Huckins, Jim Van Dyke, Tom Burke, Randy Dombek, Dennis Sorensen, Brenda Reau and Bill Zwyers. Others in attendance: UJSSA Coordinator Nancy Burton. Not in attendance: Matt Wolf and Tom Burke.

President Geske called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

Additions/Approval of the Agenda

Bill Zwyers made motion to accept the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Randy Dombek. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Amanda Everts reported that meeting minutes will be emailed out for approval.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Everts reported that current office projects include finalizing membership renewals and Suffolk directory. She is currently testing the new registration program, processing registry work in both programs to work out bugs. Randy Hodges made motion to accept the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Brenda Reau. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Carol Heupel reported the investment account balance was \$279,317 with \$8,166 in cash. The checking account balance is \$23,414. Randy Hodges moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Dennis Sorensen. All in favor, motion carried.

Junior Report

Nancy Burton reported that the juniors have finalized a May webinar covering Show Lamb Nutrition. The junior board is finalizing awards and fundraising for 2022 show and events. On behalf of the Suffolk Foundation, Bill Royer invited the junior board to request funding for leadership awards for the junior show. The AAJS Semen Fundraiser Auction is in May and junior directors will be looking for breeders to donate to that sale.

Ambassador Report

No report.

Foundation Report

Brenda Reau reported that the Foundation had a successful webinar on March 8th and reminded the board of the Foundation's new program – a Young Producers Travel Grant to attend Lamb Summit. Entry deadline is May 1.

Committee Reports

By-Laws

No report.

Youth Promotion

Jim Van Dyke discussed the Ambassador position and asked the board for feedback on having the Ambassador take on a special project. The board had no concerns about this change.

There was a brief discussion on the futurity and if the points submission deadline for the yearling ewe division should be extended to March 25th similar to the ewe lamb futurity. The board had no concerns with moving the submission deadline from December to March.

Budget

No report

Hall of Fame

Randy Hodges reported that the inductees have been notified.

Breed Improvement

Brenda Reau reported the committee is gathering research that involves Suffolk sheep. The committee will review this information and discuss at their next meeting.

Online Sales

Randy Dombek reported the 2022 online Suffolk sale dates have been set.

Strategic Planning

Greg Ahart reported the committee will meet soon.

Education

No new information.

Directory

Amanda Everts reported there about 85 ads, similar to last year. Unsure of the printing costs this year but the goal is to breakeven or make some money on the directory. Content is coming together, asked the board to promptly respond to correspondence pertaining to the directory.

Digital Beef/New Registration Program

Amanda Everts reported that registry work is getting processed in the old and new registration program. As of now, the plan is for the Office to go live April 1st and members go live May 1. During April registry work will still be processed in both systems. If directors are interested in helping to test the program they are to contact Amanda for sign-in information.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Amanda Everts reported on the webinars topics for 2022 – Show Lamb Nutrition (Jr. Webinar), Commercial Ram Panel, Heritability Traits, Ewe Selection, Productivity and Flock Retainment, Lamb Consumption, Cooking and Preparation, and Identifying Contemporary Groups. She asked the board for speaker suggestions for a few of the webinars.

Randy Hodges moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. The motion was seconded by Dennis Sorensen, meeting was adjourned.