

**United Suffolk Sheep Association
July Board of Directors Meeting – Spencer, Iowa
July 26, 2019**

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

Absent: Gayle Lucas, Bill Gergen, and Gary Hoskins.

President Beals called the meeting to order at 8:11am.

Approval of the Agenda

Tom Burke made motion to adopt the July meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Everts reported that office is busy with registry work. Generally July is when the association goes in the black but at this time, financially the association is in the red. The checking account balance is \$13,480. Part time employee hours will be down this year compared to last year.

Bill Royer moved to accept the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Royer reported that the finance team met, primarily focused on the development of next fiscal year's budget. Expenses have been reviewed, general conclusion is that we will be okay this year as expenses have been held down. There's concerns about registration and transfer income as that is a primary source of the association's income. The investment account balance is approximately \$236,800.

Brenda Reau moved to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. All were in favor, motion carried.

Junior Report

Alison Knutson reported that this year's junior show with the All-American was a successful show with many new exhibitors. However, there are concerns about the show setup, scattered penning and the loss of past exhibitors. The junior directors missed running the show and participating in their contests, being penned by and interacting with other Suffolk exhibitors and Tom Burke announcing. The cost of the show was less this year but the number of sponsors were down as well. A Suffolk banquet was held and was successful. At the banquet bylaw changes were presented and voted on by the members. The vote was passed unanimously but it was determined the vote was null because of how the changes were presented and voted on. There's concern about this outcome. Nancy Burton is the new Junior Coordinator. Goals for this year's junior show include putting together a webinar, informational packets about sheep or Suffolks and create member spotlights.

Bill Royer reported that he was very involved with the juniors at the show. Nancy Burton took over as Junior Coordinator will be a good coordinator and has some good ideas. He agreed with Alison's reported but clarified that the bylaw changes were put together in an unannounced meeting and the Junior Coordinators or USSA Board was not aware of these changes.

There was discussion on how bylaws should be considered, proper procedure to make changes to bylaws and voted on. It was also discussed if the previous bylaws were not amended and ratified by a legal vote – the passing vote was made at the junior board meeting at NAILE, not the Junior Show (meeting stated in bylaws where a vote can be held to change the bylaws).

Tom Burke made a motion that the junior board, coordinator and advisors decide how and where they want to have the 2020 Jr. Show. There was no second to the motion.

Jeremy Geske made a motion that a subcommittee of the USSA board is formed to meet with the UJSSA and Jr. Coordinator to discuss and come up with a compromise solution regarding the junior show. The committee will report back to USSA board. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. A roll call vote was taken: yes - Ahart, Geske, Royer, Reau and Hodges; no – Summey, Henderson and Burke. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

By-Laws – No report.

Youth Promotion – No report.

Budget – The board was provided a drafted budget to review. There's a decrease in total expenses by about \$11,000 from reducing Hall of Fame Dinner costs (gain of sponsorships), NAILE premium decreases, credit card convenience fees implemented and part-time payroll. A revenue decrease of \$4500 due to decrease in registrations, transfers and memberships. There was concern that the projected registration and transfer numbers will not be met in the next fiscal year, and revenue will be less than projected. Tom Burke moved that we accept the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor – Ahart, Summey, Geske, Henderson, Royer, Burke, Reau and Hodges. Budget adopted.

Ambassador/Queen – Tom Burke reported that Katherine Parsley will serve as the National Suffolk Queen again this year.

Breed Improvement – Brenda Reau reported that the committee's time has been spent preparing for the Spencer program. Evaluations will be done at the conclusion of the program. The committee will look for new topics moving forward for the committee to work on.

Hall of Fame – The committee is still trying to contact 2 of the inductees.

Scholarship – Blair Summey reported that the scholarship recipients were announced at the junior show.

Hospitality – Blair Summey reported on the root beer float gathering at Sedalia, the event was successful but a few things will be changed next year for the event to be a larger success.

Online Sale – Jeremy Geske reported there is an online fall bred ewe sale schedule, pending interest.

GAP – No report. Brenda Reau reported there is a flock from Montana that will be participating.

Old Business

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Bill Royer reported the Foundation's board members will be Tom Burke, Brenda Reau, Jeremy Geske and himself will serve as board members. Amanda Everts will serve as the Secretary. It was discovered that the National Association did have a Foundation but is listed as inactive due to annual paperwork not being filed some time ago. The first board meeting will be held in the next week to ten days. Bill Royer asked the board for \$1000 for initial setup cost for the foundation. Tom Burke made that motion, the motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All were in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

Treasurer's Post – Tom Burke discussed the idea that of having the Treasurer of the association become a more permanent position as the association is about a \$350,000 organization. A lengthy discussion followed. Tom Burke moved that bylaw changes are drafted by the bylaws committee and this change will be mailed out with the September election mailing. The motion was seconded by Brenda Reau. All were in favor – Ahart, Geske, Henderson, Royer, Burke, Reau and Hodges. Some talking points will be included along with the current and proposed language.

Audit - An audit committee will be formed and perform an audit this fall.

NAILE Meeting Schedule - Matt Beals proposed the following meeting schedule for NAILE: old board meeting, membership meeting and then new board meeting to follow. The evening event will be a Hall of Fame recognition and will include some association updates. This will allow for more of an actual business meeting for members participate in discussion. All directors were in agreement.

District 3 Ballot – Amanda presented a proposed ballot for district 3 if only two individuals run and would not result in a tie. Randy Hodges made motion to use this ballot if only 2 candidates run in district 3. The motion was seconded by Brenda Reau. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Suffolk Gain Program – Bill Royer reminded the board of the Suffolk Gain Committee/Program as he will be no longer serving on the board and wanted directors to be reminded of that program for future consideration.

Hall of Fame dinner sponsorship letters are ready to go. Bill Royer shared the names of the companies that letters have been written to. He asked for the Directors to choose who they personally send this letter to along with a personal note.

Tom Burke reported that the plaque has been completed for the Suffolk Hall of Fame at NAILE.

Tom Burke made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12pm. Motion was seconded by Randy Hodges. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Approved 10.23.19.