

**United Suffolk Sheep Association
Conference Call
October 29, 2013**

Roll Call: President, Rob Zelinsky, Treasurer, Rex Quam, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Donna Mays, Kim Ketcham, Diane Russell, Virginia Gergen, Amanda Dobson and Paul Skartvedt were in attendance. Larry Pauly, Bill MacCauley, Lisa Webster and Keith Pumphrey were not in attendance. Others in attendance included Josh Miller and Bill Royer.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

President Zelinsky called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of August 2013 conference call. Paul Skartvedt made a motion approve the minutes of the August conference call. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The motion passed.

Secretary's Report

Amanda Everts that fiscal year end numbers were as follows, 698 members (similar to past years), 7,439 registrations (down approximately 1300 from last FY) and 2,871 transfers (down approximately 200 from last FY). It should be noted that these numbers do include some amnesty registrations and transfers. Amanda also reported that the checking account balance is \$20,000 and the investment fund balance is \$193,580.39. Kim Ketcham made motion to approve the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Diane Russell. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Rex Quam reported the associations financials were in good shape and that one big positive at this point is that the registration program has be paid off. One downfall is that registration numbers are down and need to find a way to get more enthusiasm to get sheep registered. Diane Russell made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Amanda Dobson. The motion carried.

UJSSA Report

Taylor Peck reported that junior board is looking forward to NAILE and will be having a silent auction, junior social with a pizza party, and an ongoing silent auction. Taylor also noted that if any wanted to bring items for the silent auction they would be appreciated.

Committee Reports

By-Laws

No report

Futurity

Chairman, Rex Quam, reported that he recommends the association should continue to offer the yearling ewe futurity and keep the futurity payout by districts for the next year.

Marketing/Promotion

No report

Budget

Chairman, Rex Quam, noted that the 2013/2014 Fiscal Year Budget was emailed out and felt that the within the budget were very conservative. Rex projects that next year the association will be higher on revenue compared to expenses. Rex made a motion to increase Amanda's contract pay for the use of her home from \$100 per month to \$200 per month. Virginia Gergen asked about what falls into the category of administrative fees. Amanda Everts stated that the administrative fees include accounting costs and the fees associated with accepting credit cards. Amanda stated that the last year there were more fees because there was delay by the past accounting firm to compile and bill for the previous fiscal years - year end financials. There was also a brief discussion about credit card fees and website maintenance fees.

Rex made a motion Approve the budget as is in addition to the additional \$100 per month paid to Amanda for the use of her home. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The motion passed.

Scholarship

Amanda Everts reported that there were 3 applicants for the USSA scholarship, in which one of the applicants was disqualified as not all of the requirements were met. The applicants will be interviewed next week.

Hospitality

Amanda Dobson reported the she will be helping with the set-up and decorating of the room for the Annual Meeting Dinner.

Ambassador

No report.

NAILE Market Lamb Program

Chairman, Paul Skartvedt, reported that everything is ready for the market lamb program for NAILE. He mentioned that we will have to purchase another vanity check for the Champion Market Lamb as the check was given to last year's winner. The cost of a new check is \$95.00. Some UJSSA members will work with Paul Friday morning to sign-up juniors for this program.

Hall of Fame

Amanda Everts reported that her and Kim had been able to get in contact with the almost all the inductees or the families of the inductees. Many of the inductees and/or families will be attending the Annual Meeting.

Old Business

Updates on Strategic Planning

There was a short discussion in regards to the number of surveys returned – 227, a little over 30%. There was no further discussion about the survey. Amanda Everts noted that she will finish entering the data from the junior survey and send that out to the board members.

Hall of Fame/ Annual Meeting/NAILE Events

President Zelinsky briefly reviewed the schedule of Suffolk events during NAILE. There was a brief discussion about the having a board member or association representative available during the junior show to help organize juniors for the show and Amanda Everts reported that she had lined up a few individuals to help with this.

Land of Lincoln Certificates

There was a brief discussion about the Land of Lincoln certificates. Kim Ketcham made a motion to charge \$8 per Land of Lincoln certificate - rush fees apply the same as other registry work. The motion was seconded by Paul Skartvedt. The motion passed. A formal letter will be mailed to the Illinois Club Lamb Association discussing this issue.

New Business

2013/2014 USSA Director Election

It was reported that the directors elected to serve a three year term beginning at NAILE are Larry Pauly (District 1), Amanda Dobson (District 2), Bill Royer (District 3) and Bill MacCauley (District 4).

Letter from Larry Mead

A letter was received from Larry Mead concerning how to address breed type for Suffolk lambs consigned at the Midwest Sale. After discussion, it was determined that the board needed to gather more information and re-address this topic at the NAILE board meetings.

\$250 Show Sponsorship for District 1

This topic was tabled till the November board meetings so that Keith Pumphrey could discuss.

NAILE Junior Show

Amanda Everts reported that she has had a few member ask if the slick shorn classes in the junior show at NAILE can be divided by age rather than grouped the general birth time (i.e., spring ewe lambs). After a short discussion, Diane Russell made a motion to have the ewe lamb classes in the NAILE Junior Breeding Show by split by age. The motion was seconded by Kim Ketcham. The motion passed. Amanda Everts discuss this information with NAILE.

Commercial Producer Letter

President Zelinsky mentioned that, in line with the association's strategic planning, that work should be started on a commercial producer survey this spring.

President Zelinsky stated that upon the resignation of Virginia Gergen as Chairwoman of the Hall of Fame Committee, the board hadn't formally made a motion for Kim Ketcham to be the Chairman. Donna Mays made a motion for Kim Ketcham to be the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee. The motion was seconded by Paul Skartvedt. The motion passed.

Paul Skartvedt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Dobson seconded the motion. The motion passed.