



Draft BOARD MINUTES

2 September 2020

Present: Carlice Cutright, Caryn DeRochie, Greg Dike, Tim Hardy, Vance Hawk, Brad Peterson, Erin Powell, Brenda Winter

Absent: Ruth Higdon

Visitors: Sonja Cutright, Robert Stuplich, Rick Tunney

New Board member Brenda Winter was welcomed.

The minutes of the August 2020 Board meeting were unanimously approved (Peterson, Hawk).

Work on the new website and database continues. The Association asked for member input on the website, but contributions have been limited. Hardy is to mail a letter to the membership asking for additional input. The database issues involve a large number of decisions some of which are quite minute, and do not deserve the attention of the entire Board. The Board unanimously approved a subgroup to deal with the ongoing database decisions. The group consists of Tim Hardy, Ruth Higdon, and Jamie Sorum. (Cutright, Peterson)

The Board considered some specific concerns of importance to the entire Association. Peterson made a motion outlining these decisions.

The certification form will be considerably shorter than the registration form. A yak that is submitted for possible approval in the Certification program will need only to the following information supplied on the certification form:

Ranch Name

Current ear tag

DNA sample type

DNA sample number

A yak approved for certification will have its identification (in the form Ranch Prefix, ear tag) appear on the new website's meat page – it's exact location at the webmaster's discretion. The identification and the date of certification are to both appear. The date of certification is the date appearing on the DNA report prepared by Dr. Ted Kalbfleisch. A yak is either approved or not approved for participation. SNP data for certified yaks will not appear on the website.

The on-line Registration Certificate will have four clickable buttons at the bottom. These four buttons include parentage, progeny, SNP Report, and Owner Supplied Information. The information provided by the owner should be objective and factual. Such information might include recent photos, or awards that the yak has won. The website instructions to the yak owner will clearly state that the information provided is not to be subjective or opinion. At the top of each owner supplied information page will be an USYAKS disclaimer indicating that the information on the page is not Official USYAKS information.



This resolution regarding the certification program and owner supplied information on the Registration Certificate was unanimously approved. (Peterson, Hawk)

Hawk will check with USDA to determine if the USYAKS ID for certified yaks can be panned directly onto the Certification medallion.

The Board discussed restructuring registration fees. Discussion focused on reducing registration fees for new members, and the possibility of offering reduced fees for bulk registrations. The Board unanimously approved reducing registration fees for new members. The reduced registration fee will be \$45. This reduced fee will be in effect for one year after the member registers their first yak. (Hardy, Powell)

The Association will make a \$200 donation to National Western Stock Show to defray expenses in the stock yards remodeling project. Higdon is to mail the check to Erin Dorsey. (Hardy, Winter, unanimous)

Carlice Cutright reported on yak participation at the Wyoming State Fair. Board members commented that this sort of participation is important for the marketing of yaks, and the marketing of USYAKS.

The Board approved two deadlines for NWSS. The last day to accept registrations for NWSS will be December 30. All yaks that appear at the show must be USYAKS registered. It is the owner's responsibility to make sure that their USYAKS registration materials are processed in time to make this happen. The Association believes that if an USYAKS Registration application is completed by December first, the registration will be completed in time for the yak to participate in NWSS. It is impossible for the Association to make a guarantee. Yaks that do not have a completed DNA report from Dr. Ted Kalbfleisch prior to the show are not eligible to participate in the show. USYAKS disseminated information will reflect these two dates and the caveat. Hardy is to convey these deadlines to the database manager.

Vance Hawk provided the Board with possible medallions that could be used as part of a ranch label to identify meat from USYAKS certified yaks. The Board selected one of the medallions.

The Board approved offering professional memberships to four people: CSU Judging Team Coordinator Kyndal Reitzenstein, Exotic Animal Trainer Terri Bowen Lindley, UK Professor of Bioinformatics Dr. Ted Kalbfleisch, CSU Professor of Veterinary Medicine Dr. Robert Callan. Hardy will write the letter.

The Board created a new membership type: Honorary Lifetime Member. Dave and Ruth Saunders, and Grant Pound were immediately awarded this membership as a token of their lifetime contributions to the yak community and to USYAKS specifically.

Agenda items for the October meeting will include: Director position, Membership fees, Registration fees, NWSS.