



BOARD MINUTES

3 February, 2021

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

Absent:

Visitors: Sonja Cutright, Peter Hackett, Una Taylor and Kat Tylee,

The minutes for the January 2021 Board meeting were unanimously approved. (Cutright, Hawk)

Ruth Higdon gave a brief update on finances and membership.

Tim Hardy gave an update on the USDA meat certification, required medallion and the need for a signed affidavit. USYaks is working on the criteria and Tim will have more information at the next board meeting.

It was decided that a list of certified yaks does not need to be on the website.

Tim requested that members look at the new website and send comments to the board. The website should be up in 5-6 weeks.

Kat Tylee spoke to the board regarding the fiber study she is conducting. She sent 23 samples to the lab in Texas but desires a sample size of at least 100 yaks. She would like to follow the yaks from year to year to study how environment, breeding, weather, elevation and nutrition affect their fiber. Kat needs about a 2" sample sent in a snack bag. There is a new genetic test that scales a comfort level so a new rubric might be needed for judging in the future. Kat's information can be found on the website.

Greg Dike explained his marketing ideas and marketing needs to be set up by regions. There needs to be a new market for yaks beyond each other. He suggested county and state fairs, shows and publications. A network for needs to be set up also, an example is if a restaurant needs two yaks a month the ranchers sign up to fill that need. A group will work with Greg for marketing and for setting up standard printed materials so all members have advertising materials.

Tim proposed the Vision and Values of USYaks be edited and updated. The board will review the proposed changes and send comments back through Google Docs. One changed already approved was to add the word "international" to the Vision and Values. (Higdon, Cutright) Once the document is edited it will be sent out to the members for approval. Comments are due before the 12th by board members.



The newsletter will be published every three months by Brenda and the next newsletter will contain the new fee structure on the website, new officers, marketing committee volunteers, an article from Kat and the new “For Sale” page created by Amber on the new website.

Ruth adjoined the meeting.

