



BOARD MINUTES

10 February 2019

Present: Greg Dike, Tim Hardy, Erin Harlacher, Ruth Higdon, Cinde Moore, Grant Pound, Brad Peterson

Presenting Visitors: Rick Tunney, Robert Cissell

Other Visitors: Tim and Uschi Platt, Philip Hall, Caryn DeRochie, Robert Stuplich, Gene Fuehrer, Jamie Sorum

Technical Difficulties delayed Greg Dike's ability to open the meeting. Erin Harlacher called the meeting to order at 7:05.

The December 2018 and January 2019 minutes were approved (Harlacher, Higdon 6-0). Cinde Moore reported that she is in the process of preparing the August 2018 minutes, these will be distributed to the Board prior to the March 2019 Board meeting.

Ruth Higdon reported that we have \$4801.33 in the bank and a due a \$500 deposit back soon from the VRBO.

Motion: The Treasurers Report is accepted (Hardy, Moore, 6-0).

Robert Cissell demonstrated the on-line registration forms which are now functional. He also demonstrated use of the on-line Registry. The USYAKS official registration certificate is the on-line version, which requires completeness. The official registration certificate is also the public "face" of each registrant, which requires clarity. There was a discussion concerning these competing virtues of completeness and clarity.

Motion: The SNP data and the call rate test data will be made available on the certificate by a clickable link that brings up a pdf file. (passed: Hardy, Peterson, 6-0)

Ruth Higdon reported that there are now 346 yaks registered in USYAKS. This is a slow period, it is expected that submission of registrations will increase in the spring. She reported that GeneSeek is currently taking about two weeks to process DNA and that Dr. Ted Kalbfleisch has been processing the GeneSeek DNA reports within 24 hours. There are now 59 members in USYAKS.

Brad Peterson and Ruth Higdon have prepared a member "Profile Form". This will be mailed to current members and will be used to construct on-line USYAKS member profiles.

Rick Tunney was charged with the new member packet design. He indicated that welcome packet is to include some resources to get new members up and running quickly. He is developing and including Marketing samples and USYAKS website navigation videos. All members should look for an email in the next week or two soliciting ideas for what else this packet should contain.

Greg Dike provided the Board with copies of the welcome letter to be mailed to new members. Greg Dike also provided a written copy of the Trace Mineral Collection Plan and a written report on progress on a yak reproduction study being done in cooperation with Morehead State University.



Cinde Moore has completed her work establishing an USYAKS facebook group and instagram hashtag.

Action Item: Newsletter should remind members that first-time purchasers of USYAKS registered animals are afforded a free annual membership.

Action Item: Board members should check to see if they are listed accurately in the Working Group memberships that were distributed in the agenda for this meeting. The current membership lists are currently as follows:

Membership and Events: Rick Tunney, Erin Harlacher, Cinde Moore, Ruth Higdon, Brad Peterson, Grant Pound, Tim Hardy

Marketing: Cinde Moore, Erin Harlacher, Brad Peterson, Ruth Higdon, Grant Pound, Rick Tunney

Science and Health: Peter Hackett, Tim Hardy, Michael Jobin, Michelle Arnold, Jessica Petersen, Michael Heaton, Greg Dike, Rick Tunney, Erin Harlacher

All USYAKS members will be contacted by a Board member to solicit participation in the Trace Mineral Study.

Action Item: Before the March Board meeting the membership list will be distributed to Board members so that the work can be divided equitably.

Cinde Moore Suggested that USYAKS begin a mentorship program. The Board discussed some of the difficulties involved such as matching participants and making sure that only dedicated mentors participate. It was determined that the suggestion needed to be fleshed out a bit specifically in formalizing guidelines. Action Item: Cinde Moore will present a more complete model to the Board at a future Board meeting.

Tim Hardy reminded everyone that the Board had previously decided that herd lists would be updated by each USYAKS member at the time of their annual membership renewal. It was originally anticipated that the annual renewal notifications with herd membership update requests were to have been automated before January 2019. This has not happened yet. The Board asks members to update their herd list by notifying Ruth Higdon (of transfers and deaths) via email when they renew their annual membership.

Greg Dike announced that the 2019 East of the Mississippi Yak Exhibition is scheduled for September 21, 2019.

Action Item: Grant Pound will update the structure of the USYAKS webpage to allow for some sort of a "Show/Exhibition/Events" tab, Erin Harlacher will update the content for that page.

The meeting was ended at 8:45.