



BOARD MINUTES

18 February 2018

Present: Cinde Moore, Jamie Sorum, Tim Hardy, Ruth Higdon, Greg Dike, Grant Pound

Cinde Moore called the meeting was to order at 7:06pm

Minutes from the 4 February 2018 meeting were approved (Higdon, Sorum, 4-0)

Discussion continued on the topic of an USYAKS pledge to its members. Tim had presented a draft, several changes were suggested. It was decided that Tim would post the document to Google Docs on February 19, and discussions and editing could commence.

There are currently a number of animals that have already been GeneSeek tested, but have not yet been registered with USYAKS. The Board discussed how the registrations for these animals should be priced. **Motion:** USYAKS will charge \$20 to register the USYAKS member owned yaks that have already been tested at GeneSeek. The yak owner will also need to have the yak tested and be BVD-PI negative if this has not already been done. (Dike, Sorum, Passed 4-0)

Motion: Yaks that are GeneSeek tested (through IYAK for example), will be eligible for \$20 registration in USYAKS provided that test data presented is complete (call rate, introgression, COI, mtDNA, prion, individual SNPs, etc), and the owner demonstrates a negative BVD test result. (Hardy, Dike, Passed 4-0)

Grant Pound reported that research microbiologist Dr. Michael Heaton (USDA Agricultural Research Service) and ruminant veterinarian Dr, Michelle Arnold (University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory) have agreed to serve on USYAKS Science Committee.

Cinde suggested that it might be time to initiate a password protected portion of the website that is only available to USYAKS members. Discussion ensued. Those favoring creating a member's only portion of the website believed that USYAKS is trying to increase its membership, and should not give away member benefits to people who shun the association. Those opposed believed that the guiding spirit behind USYAKS was transparency and integrity; placing items behind a member firewall reduced transparency. A hybrid model was suggested whereby some articles, all titles, and some teasers would be placed in the public area and the rest would be located behind the member firewall. It became clear that the issue was not going to be resolved quickly; the matter was tabled.

Grant continues to explore the costs associated with adopting the software suite used by one of the horse associations. The creator of the software suite has been identified, it is believed that our ultimate costs could be considerably lower than the expense that USYAKS was first quoted.

The Financial Committee made suggestions for vendors fees and individual farm advertising on the USYAKS website.

The Financial Committee also suggested that it was time to move away from having a full time paid Directors position and to move to a contract model. The Board decided to meet again at 7pm on Wednesday February 21 to discuss some of the specifics involved in the conversion.