



BOARD MINUTES

18 March 2018

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

Minutes of February 18 meeting were approved (Dike, Higdon, 4-0)

The Treasurer's report was accepted (Dike, Sorum, 4-0)

These minutes include notes from informal meetings that were required during the intervening period from February 18.

Cinde suggested that we offer a business-card-sized website ads to vendors for \$250. If the ad is not website-ready Grant is free to charge/negotiate an appropriate additional fee to make the ad website ready. Jamie **MOVED** to accept the suggestion. (Sorum, Higdon, 4-0)

It was suggested that the newsletter offer links to articles on the website and feature individual ranches/members particularly new members. Greg **MOVED** that we accept the suggestion. (Dike, Sorum, 4-0)

Motion: (February 21, 2018) Ranch/Farm Membership numbers (and first individual) will be of the form 18-OHY. The second individual member of the ranch will have membership number of the form 18-OHY-2, the third of the form 18-OHY-3, etc. (Dike, Higdon, 4-0)

Motion: (February 21, 2018) Registration certificates will include all GeneSeek generated statistics printed on the certificate. The individual SNP data will not be printed on the certificate. The certificate will include a statement to the effect that the official registration certificate only appears online. (Sorum, Higdon, 4-0)

Grant's status as paid full time Director will end on March 1, 2018. The Board will revisit the idea of having a paid Director at the end of April 2018. The Board began the process of dividing the work among volunteers. The proposed division of labor follows:

Newsletter (Dike/Sorum)

Blog Harasser (Dike)

Web Link Checkers (as assigned by Pound)

Web Development (Pound)

Membership (Moore, Sorum)

Registration (Higdon, Sorum, with two back-ups, Hardy will be one of them)

Grant Pound has added web analytics to the USYAKS website. Boosts in traffic to the website have been noted following announcement of new website content: working chutes, meat, newsletter, etc.

The discussion regarding what genetic information will appear on the USYAKS registration certificates continued. It seemed to be the unanimous conclusion (no motions were made) that



negative BVD-PI status was a requirement for registration, but the registration certificates would not need to make reference to the BVD status. The certificates should have: % yak alleles, COI, and mtDNA status. The Board did not discuss if the call rate should be included on each certificate.

Ruth reported that there were currently 68 registration applications pending.

A possible restaurant contract with USYAKS led to a discussion of possibly establishing or publishing a list of meat standards. There were some reservations expressed about whether the association should establish standards at all. Standards could be advisory or mandatory. Standards might lead to some sort of USYAKS stamp of approval. It seemed to be universally believed that many yak producers lack needed knowledge and experience in meat production and processing. This information vacuum should be addressed by the association. The matter of establishing standards was tabled.

The registration division of labor has been accomplished. Ruth Higdon will initiate the registration process by assigning registration numbers, submitting DNA to GeneSeek, updating Dr. Kalbfleisch, and uploading the associated files to GeneSeek using LIMS. Jamie Sorum will download results from GeneSeek using LIMS, and post the new registrations to the website. Tim Hardy will mail the ear tags.

Peter Hackett, Tim Hardy, and Grant Pound will be travelling to GeneSeek and USMARC for meetings on March 20 and March 21. One purpose of the trip is to iron out all possible remaining glitches in the DNA testing at GeneSeek. The second purpose is to explore possible future yak genetic science collaborations. During the trip Hackett, Hardy, and Pound were given authority to make commitments on behalf of USYAKS, regarding procedural matters, for the purpose of expediting the processing of genetic material necessary for registrations. (Dike, Higdon, 4-0)

Next meeting is scheduled for April 8.