



## BOARD MINUTES

19 December 2017

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

Grant informed the Board that he had located software that would automatically keep track of expiring memberships and automatically remind members to remain current. This will enable each member to have their own personal annual renewal date. The overall database issues remain too complicated to have been yet resolved.

Discussion proceeded to topics needed for Grant to file IRS form 1024.

### Membership:

- 1) Persons who purchase yaks from a USYAKS member will be eligible for a one-year free membership in USYAKS. The USYAKS member who sells the yaks to the non-member is encouraged to reimburse USYAKS for the opportunity cost of the free membership.  
(Greg Moved, Tim Seconded, motion passed)
- 2) The remainder of Cinde's proposal to the Board was passed unanimously subsequent to some clarifying discussion. (Ruth Moved, Jamie Seconded).
  - Standard Annual Renewal Fee \$80/ranch. Each \$80 membership entitles the ranch to one vote. Ranches may be considered to have more than one "member" associated with the one-vote \$80 membership fee.
  - A non-voting youth membership, not associated with a ranch membership is available for \$10/yr. Children of USYAKS members are considered to be included in the \$80/yr ranch membership.
  - (College/University) Student non-voting memberships are available for \$15/yr.
  - The Board may grant Professional Memberships free of charge to scientists or other professionals whenever the Board believes such memberships will serve the Association.

### By-Laws:

Greg and Ruth had submitted proposed By-Laws to the Board. Tim had edited the proposed By-Laws and sent his edits to Greg and Ruth. The By-Laws need to be approved for Grant to submit IRS form 1024.

Some portions of the current By-Law version must be altered. Specifically, the IRS expects the organization to be as written US Yaks, not as USYAKS, Article 3 of the By-Laws will need to be altered to reflect the decisions that were made earlier in this meeting regarding Membership.



All members of the Board now have a copy of the current version of the By-Laws and are asked to submit any concerns to Greg and Ruth immediately. Greg and Ruth shall edit the By-Laws as needed and submit the “final” version for approval. It is hoped that Board approval can be accomplished by email and not require a meeting.

Registration Recommendations to the Board following the meeting of Peter Hackett, December 5 by Peter Hackett, Greg Dike, and Tim Hardy were distributed to the Board before December 10, and are attached at the end of these minutes.

Expectations for all:

All Board members shall read the IRS form 1024 that Grant distributed earlier. Concerns shall be directed to Grant.

All Board members shall read the Final By-Laws and comment as needed.

All Board members shall look at Grant’s submitted ear-tag mock up and comment as they choose.

All Board members shall read these Minutes. Concerns should first be addressed to Tim.

Registration meeting December 5, 2017

Present: Greg Dike, Peter Hackett, Tim Hardy

Recommendation 1: There should be two distinct books: a registry for yaks and a registry for hybrids. There should be no appendix registry.

Recommendation 2: Entry into the registry for yaks should be based on genetic testing. With the current GeneSeek test we recommend using both Nuclear and Mitochondrial DNA. Cattle mitochondrial DNA shall count the same as two cattle alleles of Nuclear DNA. Using this counting method, if the tested animal has 10 or fewer cattle alleles of the 190 tested alleles, the animal shall be considered a yak. If the animal scores above 10 cattle alleles, it shall be considered a hybrid.

Recommendation 3: Every yak registered with USYAKS must pass the DNA test of recommendation 2 if it is to appear in the registry for yaks. If a calf is born to two registered yaks, but fails the genetic test, it shall be registered as a hybrid.

Recommendation 4: Official registration certificates shall appear online, and belong to USYAKS. The certificates shall include a statement to this effect. Owners may print copies of the certificate if they wish.



Recommendation 5: All yaks registered with USYAKS shall be issued ear tags by USYAKS. It was generally believed desirable to have custom made ear tags for each yak, which would include the yak's name, Ranch ID, registration number, and the USYAKS logo.

Recommendation 6: The alphanumeric USYAKS identifier for an individual yak should be assigned when the owner registers the yak, not after DNA results are returned. Assigning the identifier at this stage in the registration process will speed the work of GeneSeek and Ted Kalbfleisch.

The group does not make a recommendation concerning the nature of the alphanumeric identifier. It was the general consensus that the identifier should minimally include a ranch identifier and the alphanumeric assigned by USYAKS. A name chosen by the owner should be allowed. The group considered various options:

HSY Mollie A110

Mollie HSY 110

HSY A110 Mollie

US HSY Mollie A110, etc. This group believes this decision belongs directly with the Board.

Recommendation 7: The owner shall be required to submit a photograph of each registered animal at the time of registration. There was discussion concerning whether the photo could be used to exclude an animal from the registry. If the photo showed an animal with obvious genetic defects it was believed that the animal should not have been submitted for registration. On the other hand, USYAKS claims to have a strictly science based registry, the examination of photographs is inherently subjective, and thus opens the door to the possible abuses that we saw in IYAK.

Other: Greg will meet with Ted Kalbfleisch in an attempt to iron out some of the turnover problems that we have been encountering in the processing of GeneSeek DNA results.