



BOARD MINUTES

6 October 2019

Present: Caryn DeRochie, Greg Dike, Tim Hardy, Erin Harlacher, Vance Hawk, Ruth Higdon, Brad Peterson, Grant Pound (Director)

Visitors: Robert Stuplich

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

The Board election results were announced: Caryn DeRochie, Vance Hawk, and Carlice Cutright have been elected to the Board.

The two sets of August minutes were approved (Higdon, Hardy, 6-0). The September Board minutes were approved (Higdon, Harlacher, 6-0)

Ruth Higdon reported that there are now 70 members in USYAKS, and there are 493 yaks in the USYAKS registry. The January-July financial report is attached to these minutes.

The Board voted to authorize the release of USYAKS SNP data and data of DNA sample type for the purpose of improving the GeneSeek Genetic panel. (Hardy, Peterson, 6-0) Hardy is to write a description that is suitable for the newsletter.

Hardy said that he'd bring whole-genome sequenced Molly to Yakspo 2020 at NWSS. Hardy will write a brief description that Greg Dike will post at Yakzz.

Yakspo logistics were discussed. The cut-off date for the group rate at Embassy Suites will be December 24. Only DNA tested yaks can be shown at Yakspo; DNA samples for yaks that are expected to be shown must have arrived to the Registrar by December 1. Steers do not need to be registered, but they must have completed DNA reports from Dr. Ted Kalbfleisch. The final Yakspo signup date will be January 2. To facilitate registration, Grant Pound will link the Yakspo and USYAKS websites.

To avoid conflict with halter, pen and fiber shows, the three seminars are currently scheduled for Saturday.

Ruth Higdon and Peter Hackett will explore the possibility of bringing two of the world's experts in yak artificial insemination to lecture at Yakspo. These research scientists hold positions at India's National Research Centre on Yak.

The Fiber Committee has not yet identified a fiber judge, or finalized age division for the two yak fiber classes. Caryn DeRochie will write up a description of the Yakspo fiber events.

Due to the planned Stock Yard remodeling, many specifics of the venue are still unknown. We do not yet know pen sizes or pen organization. We do not know if electricity will be available in



all pens. We do not know if NWSS will allow us to serve our own banquet in an enclosed area of the Stock Yards. We do not know if a banquet tent will fit in a pen.

If permitted by NWSS rules, USYAKS plans on offering cooked yak meat samples during some of Yakspo. Meat donations from members is being solicited. It may be possible to sell yak meat products during the show.

Erin Harlacher has volunteered to photograph events for the association and Brad Peterson has volunteered to help the judges.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 20. It is hoped that Stock Show will have answers to our logistics questions by that time.