



BOARD MINUTES

4 April 2022

Present: Carlice Cutright, Caryn DeRochie, Tim Hardy, Vance Hawk, Ruth Higdon, Eric Mandatta, Kirk Mitchell, Sunshine Schultz, Brenda Winter

Absent: Brad Peterson

Visitors: Ted Kalbfleisch, Jessica Petersen, Uschi Platt, Peter Hackett, Phillip Hall, Jeffree Star, Greg Dike, Jamie Sorum, Bob Stuplich, Shannon Holder, Sonja Cutright, Una Taylor, Susan Mandatta, Nate Schultz

The minutes from the March 2, 2022 Board meeting were approved.

885 yaks are registered with 75 current members.

IYAK and USYAKS to share data and dual registrations was proposed.

The website has completed its migration from Wix to WordPress. Some materials, including Match-a-Yak, have been added. We can now focus on updating materials.

Una Taylor has resigned as Fiber Committee Chair. The Committee, including Una, will meet to figure out how to move forward. Brenda Winter might be considering a willingness to take on the role as Chair.

Vance Hawk has been communicating with FSIS and the reorganized Meat Committee.

Peter Hackett reported from the Science Committee and indicated that USYAKS has now received data from 80 skim-sequenced registered yaks. This has the potential of moving us to the next generation in DNA testing. He also presented a proposed revision in the DNA cut-off line between yaks and hybrids. The proposal would remove Mitochondrial DNA from consideration in the registration process. Most registered yaks were penalized for their Mitochondrial DNA type in the registration process. It is currently believed that Mitochondrial DNA is essentially meaningless for this purpose. The proposed removal of Mitochondrial DNA allows some flexibility in considering Nuclear DNA. The Science Committee believes that, under these circumstances, a better cut-off line between yaks and hybrids is 97% yak alleles, instead of the previous 95%. After Mitochondrial DNA is removed from consideration, for most yaks there is very little difference between a 95% standard that includes both types of DNA and a 97% standard that only considers Nuclear DNA.

The Board approved the revision in this Standard with six votes in favor, one against, and one abstention. Revising the registration standard has an effect on most members of the



Association, so the Bylaws say that the membership has a right to overturn the Board's decision. Peter Hackett and Eric Mandatta will cooperate in writing a description of the proposed change. Their description, notice of a Zoom meeting to explain the revision to interested members, and the date of the on-line vote will be mailed to the membership (by the Secretary), shortly after they have finished their written description of the revision. The Board unanimously approved this plan.

The Board determined to create additional agents beyond those of Registrar. The website needs regular updating and GeneSeek needs constant attention.

The agents of the Board are now:

GeneSeek Coordinator: Una Taylor
Newsletter Editor: Una Taylor
Registrars: Ruth Higdon, Jamie Sorum
Website Coordinator: Kirk Mitchell
Parliamentarian: Carlise Cutright

Jeffree Star proposed a visit to GeneSeek to revive our cordial relationship.

The website update should include:

- update of Board Minutes,
- update of Board members,
- vehicle on the front page of the website for announcements
- cross-reference table, sortable on at least three fields: Herd ID, Ranch Name, Owner (Last?) Name
- update of committees,
- repairs of broken link
- future additional informative content for potential buyers (Sunshine and possibly Eric to help Kirk)

In the short term, email regarding needed corrections should be sent to Tim and Kirk. In the very near future Tim, after bringing Kirk up to speed, will step down as website coordinator, and the task will be completely taken up by Kirk and his committee. The committee includes Sunshine.

The need for an on-line calendar was discussed. It should be present on the website for the public, possibly a different version can appear behind the membership wall. The calendar will include information on Board meetings, NWSS, elections, etc. Carlise Cutright has some familiarity with on-line calendars and will share with the Board.



Carlise will contact the NWSS post-mortem committee to meet for at least one more time. She will do this using an on-line calendar so that a meeting can be scheduled with all in attendance.

There will be a summer newsletter in June.

Brenda and Kirk need to submit pictures for the website.

There was a discussion regarding the EDH vaccine, both pros and cons to giving it to yaks.