



USYAKS March 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Present: Carlice, Melissa, Ursula, Bob S., Jeff L., Eric, Susan, Greg, Caryn, Brad, Sonya, Bob S., Jeffree S, Jeff L.

Excused: Sunshine, Ruth

- Minutes from February 1, 2023 were approved with corrections.
- Jeffree asked questions regarding the new website and work is progressing on it.
- The newsletter will be published quarterly.
- Greg would like a series of articles relating to fiber for the newsletter. Susan explained there is a Facebook page "Pasture to Product" relating to this topic so the link will be included in the newsletter.
- Greg is wondering if Kat would evaluate fiber outside of the stock show and she would be paid directly.
- Ruth and Susan will send a brochure to ever register ranch with an insert containing information about the upcoming elections, calving books and the annual meeting.
- Elections will be held in July for new board members in July so active recruitment needs to begin now.
- The annual meeting will be held on the first Wednesday of June with a 90-day notice to members. Notice needs to be sent out ASAP.
- Melissa will get with Stephanie from IYaks and her family, Ruth's ranch, Bob and Shannon's ranches to promote a USYAKS event as a fundraiser in Vallecito CO. It will take place August 5, 2023 in the Vallecito Community Center. Melissa plans to get 4H, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the agriculture extension service involved.
- Jeff presented on the educational conference in October and on the webinars he will be presenting this year. They should have the first AI calves born about that time!
- The topic of yak health and the lack of knowledge of the veterinary community pertaining to yaks was brought up. Should there be a vet on retainer to help the yak community? Have Michelle Arnold and Jessica Peterson train vets on yak health and how they are different than cattle?
- A motion was passed to form a committee to pursue the idea of joining USYAKS and Iyaks. Brad, Bob and Ursula will be on this committee.