



American Romney Breeders Association

New Board Meeting, September 9, 2017 – HUNTERDON County Fairground

Meeting called to order at 12:09 EDT by President, Chris Posbergh.

Sec/Treas reports same as presented at Old Board meeting. Reports will be forwarded to Emma Morton Rogers, newly elected District 1 Director.

Roll Call: Chris, Randy Thompson, Charlene Carlisle, Sue Kalina, Anne McIntyre Lahner, Emma Rogers, Allison Seyfert, Betsy McPherson - Scott Culver and JoAnn Mast on phone. Don Burgess unable to attend, District 5 position vacant. Guest in attendance, Meghan Higgins.

Old Business:

Secretary's report was presented by Chris.

Annual meeting 2018 to be held in western region. Regional shows will be hosted by Districts 1,3 and 5.

Previous discussion had focused on using the Black Sheep Gathering in Eugene, OR as the site for the annual meeting. Randy suggested that it would work, but that members in WA have also requested the meeting be held in conjunction with the Dist. 5 Regional Show during the Evergreen State Fair in Monroe, WA. Sue expressed concern that it overlaps the Oregon State Fair. Sue suggested the District 5 show could be held during the Black Sheep Gathering. Scott reported a change in venue for the BSG, indicating it would be held at the Linn County Expo and Fair Grounds in Albany, OR. The date will be changed to the last weekend, which will be June 29 – July 1, 2018.

Chris outlined the changes that would need to be considered if the annual meeting were moved to earlier in the year. The date of the annual meeting has typically been set to follow the annual election and provide time for newly elected officers to arrange transport to attend. Currently, the annual meeting is at least 50 days after the election is conducted. In order to hold an annual meeting the end of June, the nominating committee would be engaged in February/March, self-nominations would be due February 10, reports from the nominating committees would be due to the secretary on March 1, ballots would be mailed to eligible voters by March 25 and returned by April 10. The vote count would be completed and reported to the President by May 1.

Following discussion, Sue suggested the rewrite of procedures be done with number of days, not dates. This will allow for setting the timeline for each year as needed, or allowing it to remain the same as the previous year. Betsy asked if the meeting needs to be held during the BSG, and as options were discussed it still appeared to be one of the better options. Conflicts with shows around the country

become an issue when dates later in the year are considered. Randy was able to confirm the later date of the BSG, change to Albany from Eugene, and the entry of Blue Face Leicesters for their National Show. Chris suggested the procedure for elections and annual meeting dates be modified as discussed. This will be done by the Policy and Procedures Committee and Anne offered to assist and edit as needed. Motion to modify the election procedure was made by Sue and seconded by Charlene. Motion carried.

The 2018 annual meeting of ARBA will be held during the Black Sheep Gathering, June 29-July 1 at the Linn County Expo and Fair Grounds in Albany, OR. Sue will make arrangements for lodging, meeting sites and a location for the annual meeting and dinner.

Other Old Business: Board Meeting Attendance was tabled for later discussion. Chris will work with Anne and Scott on possible options to be considered.

New Business

Appointment of a secretary/treasurer for the 2017-18 fiscal year. Chris indicated JoAnn is willing to continue. Motion to accept JoAnn for the position was made by Betsy, seconded by Allison. Motion carried.

National Show Rotation

Sue reported for the committee, reviewing the current rotation and a suggestion to retain this schedule. Committee will review and recommend a schedule.

National Shows: 2017 East 2019 Mid-West 2021 West (\$750 budgeted for each show)

Regional Shows: 2018 Districts 1,3,5 2020 Districts 1,4,6 (\$350 per district funded)

Annual District Budget (\$100 per district OR \$350 per district hosting regional shows)

Discussion on the annual meeting and show rotation focused on the need to combine events, fund raising, support for open and junior shows, funding regional shows, silent auction, recognition of donors, finding alternatives to the current process. Chris will prepare a zip drive for distribution to board members that outlines the current process.

Branding: Randy indicated work completed by Carolynn will not be made available to ARBA. Chris will contact Rick Trojanoski to discuss his ideas on branding the Romney breed and begin to move forward on finding common methods of promoting ARBA registered sheep and sheep products. Questions regarding whether or not ARBA members would be protected/promoted, if products and sheep must be 100% Romney, would a trademark be filed, and how will wool and fiber products be certified as Romney?

District 5 Director: Allison asked how the process works for filling the vacancy. Chris indicated the position will not be filled immediately, but within the next month or so. Randy has names of interested members and he requested a special election for the filling of the position. No names shared at this time. Suggestions will be taken by the board and a decision made by the board to fill the position. Charlene expressed a need to follow the current procedure for filling the vacancy, in which a committee submits names to the President and a new director is selected.

Charlene moved that the board proceed to fill the vacant director position and submit a pool of candidates within 30 days and have a decision to announce the new director within 60 days. Motion seconded by Randy. Motion carried. Anne requested all members in District 5 receive notification and

an option to serve as Regional Director. After discussion of process, a motion by Charlene and second by Betsy stated that “candidates will be eligible members, able to serve and willing to accept the responsibilities of the board position”. Motion carried.

Tail Docking: Anne requested follow up on her action taken to inform the membership of issues related to tails docked too short. Articles in The Shepherd magazine and several industry publications indicate a correlation between tail length and rectal prolapses. ARBA encourages members to be as informed as possible on topics related to animal health and management. Understanding that multiple factors contribute to prolapses is important, and information on tail docking practices can help breeders make decisions. The ARBA website will include a link to the articles referenced on tail docking. Randy will prepare information for posting on the website.

Scott off meeting call from 1:03 – 1:16 pm EDT.

Committee Assignments:

Advertising – Don, Betsy, Ethan, Hilary, Charlene

Education – Anne, Hilary, JoAnn, Betsy, Chris (Margaret VanCamp?)

Website – Randy, JoAnn, Charlene, Ethan Kennedy

Youth – Charlene, Hilary, Emma, Allison (Al Schwider?)

AI-ET - Scott, Karen, Randy

By-Laws – Scott, Karen, Anne, Melissa Higgins

Policy & Procedures – Anne, Chris, Allison, Sue

National Show Rotation: Sue, Charlene, Rick Trojanoski, Willis Plank

Discussion regarding the committee assignments also offered the need to confirm participation by some previously serving or names offered as potential members. Need to contact members wanting to serve was also addressed, Chris will follow up. The need to distribute the tasks associated with the committees was discussed and information will be forwarded to committee members and posted for others who might consider serving.

AI-ET reporting process was reviewed and it was determined Scott and committee should review the requirements and application, and report back at the next board meeting.

Chris encouraged committee chairs and members to invite members to serve on committees and have information to help them understand the work of the committee.

Member Presentation:

Ron Andress addressed the board and recounted Charlene’s twenty plus years of service to the organization on a national basis, with special focus on the youth committee. He suggested to the board that Charlene be considered for an ARBA Lifetime Membership. Motion by Anne, second by Allison and unanimous approval (with the exception of Charlene who abstained).

District Reports

District 2 will have the Southern Adirondack Romney Show and Rhinebeck, New York show and sale later.

No other reports.

Other News:

JoAnn reported the information from Utah State University in search of Romney ewes to use in research projects. Randy provided the ewes and Allison provided information regarding the research. Most research has been done with Dorsets, so this allows an opening for Romneys. Work focuses on research associated with cystic fibrosis.

Approval of minutes: Process will be send out drafts, offer edits or approval, send edited minutes for approval by board, post to web after vote of approval or additional corrections. One week timeline for each vote.

Silent Auction Fund Dispersal: JoAnn will locate current method of dispersal and include in report for November meeting of the board.

ASR – Fee for services increased September 1, 2017 from \$2.85 to \$3.15. This amount is charged to each membership, transfer and registration, plus any specialty request made by those using the service.

Next Meeting: Conference Call

November 18, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. EST

Motion to adjourn by Anne at 2:30 p.m. EDT, second by Charlene. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary