

ARBA Board Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2018

President Chris Posbergh called the ARBA board meeting to order at 1:04 EST on Saturday, January 6, 2018. Participating in the call were Randy Thompson, Scott Culver, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Charlene Carlisle, Emma Rogers, Allison Seyfert, Don Burgess, Sue Kalina, Carol Pascheilich, Betsy McPherson and JoAnn Mast.

The secretary's report was reviewed as presented prior to the meeting. It was determined that the ARBA Membership Directory would be distributed in March, and JoAnn will prepare the information and forward to Cindy Peterson for publishing. The financial report was also reviewed, with the understanding that not all income and expenses from December had been recorded. JoAnn reported on membership numbers, indicating over 80 individuals have become members or renewed memberships since December 1. Charlene moved acceptance of the secretary and financial reports, Anne seconded the motion and it was approved.

No items were discussed as Old Business.

New Business started with a review of the dates and responsibilities of the board for the 2018 election of board members. The nominating committee will begin the search for candidates at the end of this month. Sue, Betsy and Emma will work on locating candidates to serve as Director At Large. The open position is currently held by Charlene. Scott, Anne and Charlene will seek individuals to serve as District Directors in regions 2, 4 and 6. Those positions are currently held by Allison, Sue and Betsy. Chris will send information regarding the election process to those on the committees and JoAnn will be contacted to verify membership status of the candidates.

Sue reported on her work in coordinating meeting space and times for the board and annual meetings to be held June 29 – 30 in Albany, OR during the Black Sheep Gathering. The current board will meet on Friday, June 29 at 11:00 a.m. The annual membership meeting and dinner will be Friday evening, 7 p.m. at a local restaurant, and the newly elected board will meet Saturday, June 30 at 10 a.m. Lodging near the fairgrounds is being confirmed and options will be posted as that information is available. Chris inquired about help being needed to complete plans for the annual meeting. Sue indicated that she will need help closer to meeting date, but not necessary at this time.

Chris introduced the idea of creating an ARBA Strategic Plan which will place priorities for the association on results based accountability. Ideas shared with the board centered on:

What do we want to achieve?

What is the role of ARBA?

Where may we be in the future?

What is the organizations priority – registrar, educator, promoter?

How do we determine the needs of the membership and reach specific goals?

Anne offered information relating to strategic planning, answering questions and defining how strategic plans differ from mission statements which do not offer results based accountability. Strategic plans work on the premise of determining needs, impact and methods of obtaining goals. Discussion of board members indicated an interest in the topic and the board will devote time during future meetings to address and share ideas. Chris indicated that the task will be to determine if we are prepared to reach

goals and if the association has the funds to move forward with outcomes. One main idea surfaced, how can we better serve the membership and how can we identify their needs. Chris will create and distribute a rough draft regarding strategic planning and board members will be given the opportunity to begin recording ideas for future meetings.

Committee Reports

Charlene reported on advertising, indicating information was being shared on Facebook and the ARBA website as well as in the Ramblings. Directory listings are included in the Banner magazine, Shepherd magazine and Sheep! magazine as well as the ASI Industry publication. The question on the status of the branding concept was raised. Chris will follow up with Charlene on moving forward with ideas shared at previous meetings.

The education committee is in the process of actively meeting soon. Anne reports that work will continue on providing educational tools for the membership and those seeking information relating to the sheep industry. She clarified that her reference to the Dorset Sheep Association website was as a model for design, not content.

Randy reported that no changes have been made for Facebook or the website. Information will continue to be posted as received. He is continuing to work on projects to assist new producers and recognize those who have passed away. JoAnn will work on keeping the calendar of events current on the website, send her information regarding events in your region.

Youth activities were reported by Charlene. The Romney Futurity Program is in need of participants. The winner and only participant in the Romney division of the futurity was Megan Higgins. She was provided a check for \$160 for her devotion to showing and promoting Romneys throughout the summer and fall. Charlene presented an idea for expanding the program to include private treaty sales as well as sponsored sales and video sales. The board discussed the pros and cons of the private treaty sale, especially if the animal is purchased from a family member. Charlene will edit and distribute our current futurity guidelines, nomination form and reporting form. Remarks regarding the edits should be sent directly to Charlene.

Charlene also reported on NAILE, indicating the junior show was well attended and met the criteria of numbers needed to remain active. The open show did not meet the minimum entry requirement and is on probation. Youth participation at the All American Show will again be promoted and encouraged. It has become a show that brings youth from across the nation together and offers one more option for moving sheep to new owners. Kenny and Charlene are donating a ewe lamb to raise funds for junior shows at the All American and NAILE. Raffle tickets will be available soon and anyone willing to sell tickets can request them from Charlene.

AI/ET report by Scott indicated one request had been reviewed and forwarded to the ARBA secretary. Questions from JoAnn were addressed, mainly what does associated registry really need. It was determined that the semen collection form was the only document needing to be sent in, and that will be done with the \$5 processing fee. The member should receive a transfer document from associated registries indicating the filing is complete. Questions were raised about the process and how information is being collected, especially when technicians import semen or breeders collect their own rams for breeding in the future. If forms are not filed, you collect a ram, sell the ram, use the semen

later, how do you provide proof of ownership? Scott and the committee will be reviewing the current policy and providing options for discussion in the future. It was discussed that a record of AI animals had been kept by ARBA, but that the records are no longer available. JoAnn was asked to research files and try to locate information on AI rams used by ARBA members.

By-Laws Committee has not met.

Policy and Procedures Committee is meeting soon.

National Show Rotation – no report.

District Reports

#1 – Emma provided the dates for the NEYSS are July 19-11, 2018. She also confirmed the collection of \$404 from fund raising to support activities in district one.

#2 – Allison confirmed the cold weather currently impacting the northeast.

#3 – No report

#4 – Sue provided an overview of the Oregon Romney Breeders Association meeting held in December. S, he felt the meeting was one of our best and that new members attending the meeting made it an even better event.

#5 - Carol indicated she had been making phone calls to members in her district, and was gaining insight into what breeders are doing and what some of their needs might be. She also requested a funding amount for support of the Regional Show to be held in Monroe, WA. Al Schwider has offered his help in coordinating the show. Chris will provide the financial support answer for Carol. Randy suggested that a card be sent to Toni Scholder, whose husband John passed away earlier in the week. JoAnn will send a card.

#6 – No report

Other Business

Carol requested a review of the by-laws as they pertain to meeting attendance. The current policy includes participation in conference calls as set by the president and attendance at the board and annual meetings held at locations across the country each year. Carol expressed that the board and annual meeting requirement is discriminating, placing limitations on participation based on health, limited ability to travel, and inability to afford the obligation. The ability to use technology for meetings is available and should be considered as an alternative to face to face gatherings. She indicated that phone connections were used by several board members and the secretary at the 2017 meetings. Anne clarified that those members were not participating in voting and were not acknowledged as being in attendance. Sue recommended that the by-laws committee review the policy. Scott will take leadership for this concern.

Next meeting will be Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. eastern time.

A motion by Anne, second by Betsy, and approval of the board, brought the meeting to conclusion at 2:51 p.m. EST.

Recorded and Submitted by JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary

