



## Minutes of the American Romney Breeders Association

ARBA Board Conference Call: Saturday, March 17, 2018

President Chris Posbergh called the spring board meeting of the American Romney Breeders Association to order at 1:02 p.m. EDT on Saturday, March 17, 2018. Roll was taken with the following board members in attendance: Posbergh, Randy Thompson, Scott Culver, Anne McIntyre Lahner, Charlene Carlisle, Emma Rogers, Don Burgess, Sue Kalina, Carol Pasheilich, Betsy McPherson and JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary/Treasurer. Not available for the conference call was Allison Seyfert.

The secretary's report was distributed prior to the meeting. Follow up to the report was provided, focusing on the bulk mail permit being cancelled, progress on the Membership Directory, time line for distribution of ballots and the publication of the Ramblings. A motion by Anne McIntyre Lahner and second by Charlene Carlisle was followed by a vote of approval.

A financial report was forwarded to board members prior to the meeting and the current bank balances were provided during the meeting. The junior checking account has been closed and monies will be tracked from the general checking account, saving a monthly service fee attached to the junior account. Account balances on March 1, 2018:

General Checking - \$13,595.65 (\$1,093.43 junior included)

CD - \$15,753.94

One accounting variant was discussed. Associated Registries received a large work order which was paid with a credit card. That prevented the normal method of depositing and crediting to take place. To balance the monthly account, a check for ARBA was sent with the monthly statement. The usual means of transfer is to make deposits throughout the month, assess the fees and create a statement that shows total account activity, fees and deposits.

A motion by Sue Kalina, second by Anne McIntyre Lahner and vote by the board approved the financial report distributed by the treasurer.

Old Business – None presented.

### New Business

1. 2018 Elections (Director at Large, District Directors for Regions 2, 4, 6.) Candidates submitted by the nominating committees include: Charlene Carlisle, Director at Large; Allison Seyfert and Ethan Kennedy, District 2; Sue Kalina and Nicole Murray, District 4; Betsy McPherson and Phillip Simmonds, District 6. Committee members reported there were difficulties getting positive

responses to serve and that some potential candidates were not currently ARBA members. The work of the committees was accepted and the ballots will be prepared with the listed candidates.

2. Annual Meeting (Friday, June 29 in Albany, OR)

Sue Kalina reported that all meeting times and locations have been confirmed and that two hotels close to the fairgrounds and annual meeting site have reserved a block of rooms for our use. The rooms are listed under Black Sheep Gathering at a rate of \$129 or \$139. Holiday Inn and Comfort Inn are the two options, both very close to the fairgrounds and restaurant.

The Friday meeting of the current board will be held at Willamette Community Bank, with lunch provided. The annual meeting and dinner will be held at the Cascade Grill, next to the hotels and the new board meeting will be at the Kalina Farm. Sue and JoAnn will provide a cost for the meal, to include entrée selections, dessert and gratuity. (\$30 determined)

3. Strategic Plan discussions will continue during the current and newly elected board meetings.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Advertising – No activity to report, Don will be devoting time in the near future. Betsy asked about our efforts to follow through on the Branding concept presented at several previous meetings. Chris explained that it would become part of the strategic plan, but that efforts to create a logo, advertising pieces and uniform signs should continue. In the long term, the strategic plan should drive the branding decisions and act as a guideline for a cohesive approach to advertising all Romney products.
- b. Education – Anne is finishing an outline to present to committee members. JoAnn indicated the number of brochures is declining and that there are no natural color Romney brochures to distribute. Strategy may be to create a single educational piece that combines the current general brochure, junior member brochure and natural color brochure. Carol indicated she has the general brochure on file and will forward to Anne. JoAnn asked that the procedure for registration, transfers and membership be included in the new documents.
- c. Website – Randy reported that information has been added to the website. The Reference Link now contains information for new and seasoned shepherds. A shepherd's list provides an overview of what supplies are needed to be prepared for sheep management throughout the year; a lambing time list of supplies is provided; pasture management tips are given, and board members were reminded to send the secretary items for the calendar of events to be posted on the website.
- d. Youth – Charlene reminded the board to sell Ewe Lamb Raffle tickets. Money from the raffle will be used to support the All American Youth Show in Indiana and the Junior Show at NAILE. Tickets can be sold through September 24, the date of the drawing. This will be done during the Big E show in Massachusetts. Applications are currently being accepted for the youth futurity program, and will be collected through October 1, 2018. Forms are on the ARBA website.
- e. AI-ET – Scott reported the committee has had a conference call and have been trying to determine how the tracking of semen and embryos should be done and is currently being done. A listing of AI rams used over the years and rams imported for breeding has been compiled by Chris and is available for review. Scott indicated there is a need to work with Associated Registries to understand the filing and paper trail, and to work with breeders to educate them on the requirements of ARBA. Randy indicated that using semen is the same as

having a ram breeding ewes, so the protocol for filing information on breeding ewes outside of the owner's flock should be the same. Scott and the committee will continue to work on the issue, having policies and procedures ready to discuss at the June meetings.

- f. By-Laws - Scott has held conference calls with committee members, but has not been successful in having all members on the same call. This makes it more difficult to provide direction and come to an agreement on proposals. Board meeting attendance continues to be the topic of discussion. A question regarding approval by the membership, not just the board, was also raised. Anne suggested having questions for board consideration and discussion at the next meeting.
- g. Policy and Procedure – Anne reported she has not had an opportunity to reschedule a meeting of the committee following a cancelled meeting. She has requested help with this committee, specifically a chair to take over and move discussions forward. Chris will contact Allison to see if she would serve as chair of the committee. Anne will remain until that contact is made.
- h. National Show Rotation – Sue reported no new action. A report will be presented at the next meeting.

District Reports:

District 1: No report

District 2: Allison reported to Chris, trying to survive the weather and working on show at MDSWF in early May.

District 3: Don had nothing additional to report.

District 4: Sue reported that the Oregon Romney Breeders Association will be meeting April 7 at the home of Mast and Zappelli to take part in a potluck lunch, business meeting, craft, sheep viewing and a dinner together. She also indicated Anne Nichols, junior member of ARBA, will be attending the All American Youth Show and that board members are reminded to provide raffle items for the annual meeting.

District 5: Carol had nothing additional to report.

District 6: Betsy reported on the upcoming Powhatan's Fiber Festival to be held April 28. She will have the display board, brochures, ewes with lambs, pelts, and a display of Romney wool products provided by Solitude Yarn.

Other Business:

JoAnn reported that there have been calls and emails requesting names of breeders to contact with sheep to sell. The membership directory is used to help shoppers locate breeders in their area.

Banner Magazine Articles: Sue (April issue) Emma (May) Betsy (June).

The next meeting of the board will be Friday, June 29, 2018.

A motion to adjourn was provided by Charlene, seconded by Betsy, and approved by the board at 2:14 p.m. EDT.

Submitted by  
JoAnn Mast, Secretary