



ARBA Board Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2019

The board meeting of the American Romney Breeders Association was called to order by President, Chris Posbergh, at 1:04 p.m. EDT. Participating in the conference call were Posbergh, Randy Thompson, Charlene Carlisle, Scott Culver, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Emma Rogers, Allison Seyfert, Don Burgess, Carol Pasheilich, Betsy McPherson and ARBA secretary, JoAnn Mast. Unable to participate was Nicole Murray.

The secretary's report was reviewed and comments provided by the secretary to clarify and update the notes distributed prior to the meeting. Discussion associated with the report included a review of how to encourage sheep sellers to process transfer of ownership in a timely manner and to assist buyers new to the Romney breed with the process of registration, transfer and membership application. It was suggested that an article be included in the next edition of the Ramblings and send a posting of the information to Doug for the website. Randy and Allison will prepare the notice for the website.

It was also recommended that the secretary and/or board work with Associated Registries to assist in the transactions, and freeze the account of those sellers not responding to requests from buyers.

Chris discussed the budget proposal for 2019-2020 which had been provided to the board prior to the meeting. Topics covered included the monies dedicated to Regional and National events and the annual meeting and dinner. The proposed budget of \$18,100 was approved by the board, following a motion by Scott and second by Randy.

An update on the annual meeting was provided by Don. The annual meeting, show and sale will be held in Jefferson, Wisconsin in conjunction with the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. Don expressed his appreciation for the ease of planning and help provided by the festival coordinators. ARBA events will be held September 6-8, 2019. A block of rooms has been reserved in Jefferson and information will be posted when the meeting and dinner details are confirmed. The Festival website currently has information for 2019. Committee members to assist Don include Betsy, Charlene, Anne and Randy. Charlene has been in contact with Banner sales regarding the promotion and presentation of animals for sale, and they will provide live video streaming during the sale. Betsy and Emma have been working on collecting donations to off-set show expenses and to encourage participation in the raffle. Board meetings will be held Friday morning and Saturday morning, annual dinner/meeting will be set for Friday evening and the National Sale will be Saturday evening. Entries for the sale will be due in July and

transport west will be available to and from the sale. Contact Randy Thompson or Kirsten Holbo for transport information.

Discussion relating to the upcoming election of officers started with the need to continue the discussions held regarding meeting attendance and the current By-Laws. The main concern is the need to be available, in person, at the annual meeting. The second point of discussion is the inability to participate in three consecutive meetings, in person and/or via conference call. Concerns were presented by Carol, Don, Allison, Randy and Charlene. Issues presented included the lack of technology to participate in meetings when the By-Laws were prepared, the schedules of working parents, the lack of dedication if missing three consecutive meetings, the time needed for transportation to the annual meeting and regional events, the need to have breeders participate in the National Show and Sale, and the importance of meeting Romney breeders across the country while attending ARBA events.

Members of the By-Laws Committee, Scott, Anne and Karen Nichols, discussed and presented a list of options for the board to consider with regard to meeting attendance. The proposal is as follows:

1. Continue to work within the current By-Laws: Board members are expected to participate in all conference call and in person meetings of the board. Members traveling far enough to qualify for funds will receive a \$500 stipend. For the following options, all board members are strongly encouraged to attend all in-person meetings, but:
2. Allow board members to call-in to all meetings.
3. Allow board members to call-in to meetings, and distribute the unspent funds from those members who call-in between the board members who travel to the meetings.
4. Raise the travel stipend to be more realistic.
5. Put the question to a vote to the membership.

Board members continued to ask for clarification and offered several additional ideas that provided more input. Regarding the current election, candidates will serve under the current By-Laws, with the understanding that change may be coming. Following the presentation of a motion by Scott, withdrawn amendment by Don, and clarification on funding question from Allison, the motion was presented in two parts.

Motion by Scott and second from Randy. ARBA will accept call-in participation for all meetings of the board, and will continue to use the criteria of three consecutive missed meetings as grounds for removal from the board. An amendment by Allison and second by Scott to the previous motion addressed the proposal to distribute funds to those qualifying for stipends to off-set travel expenses not used by those connecting via call-in methods. The original motion and amendment were both passed by the board.

Using information from the board and the By-Laws Committee, the committee will continue to work on getting the details in place. Scott will be the contact for this work.

Further discussion on the election centered on the need to have candidate statements submitted early in the week so ballots can be mailed by May 24 and returned with a June 10 postmark. The name of candidates was confirmed, with two names listed for all offices except President, where one candidate is listed. All candidates were confirmed to be active, senior members.

Don reported that the Branding and Advertising Committee would be meeting before the annual meeting. Chris reminded Don of the ability to include the committee members in the tasks relating to these items.

An update on work of the Website Committee was provided by Randy. He described the need to remove out-dated information from several locations on the website and to submit upcoming events to JoAnn for posting. Old photos exist, but are not a real problem. Pamphlets are incorrect, especially regarding breed standards and location of the ARBA office. Directions for submitting registration forms are incorrect. Chris suggested working with the Education Committee to update the website, and include work of various committees that have made changes or amendments to information included on the website.

Anne offered to make the transition from pdf to html files for items being edited or added to the website.

Scott referred to the information provided the board regarding AI/ET. Changes will be included in the website edits. Two main items were expanded: ARBA secretary will receive and forward to AI/ET Committee semen collection forms for approval. If approved, secretary will contact ARBA member with results and notify the registrar of approval for registration processing. These changes were included in items 9 and 11 of Collection and Importation. A motion by Scott and second from Randy resulted in approval by the board.

Emma and Anne reported that Policy and Procedure changes need to be recorded. Emma has the documents prepared by Katherine Moore and will continue to update the Google Drive as these forms are modified, or new ones created.

Charlene provided information relating to youth activities, indicating there were youth at the MDSWF and that a futurity form would arrive soon. Numbers appear to be okay for the All-American Youth Show in Kansas over July 4th weekend, and the Stars and Stripes Show will be promoted soon. Youth are encouraged to participate in the National Show and Sale in Wisconsin.

The Education Committee will continue to work on updates. Anne indicated she will be working with Don and Randy to make changes to the website and prepare brochures for publication.

District Reports

District 1: Emma reported that the NE Junior Show is quickly approaching and that there have been and will be Fiber Festivals throughout the region.

District 2: Allison provided information on the MDSWF, indicating the show and sale went well and had new exhibitors. The sale also provided a new member the opportunity to purchase a nice starter flock of breeding stock.

District 3: Don had nothing in addition to work completed on annual meeting.

District 4: JoAnn listed upcoming events in Oregon, Scio Lamb & Fiber happening today, Black Sheep Gathering in early July, county fairs during July through September, Oregon State Fair end of August and Oregon Flock and Fiber the end of September.

District 5: Reminder of Black Sheep Gathering provided by Carol.

District 6: Betsy was participating in a Fiber Festival today, more scheduled throughout district at summer and fall events.

Other Business

Charlene asked about Banner article for April publication. Randy submitted to JoAnn. JoAnn requested he send the article and she will have it posted on website.

JoAnn received a call from Robert Cameron regarding the need for promotional items to display during a festival in Maine later this year. Charlene has the display and JoAnn can provide a few brochures. JoAnn will follow up with dates and location.

Allison indicated that some of the frustration with registrations/transfers might be reduced by looking into using GLM as our registrar. They provide a complete set of services and respond in a very timely manner. Information regarding this business was provided us when they were starting their business. JoAnn will provide to board members.

The treasurer's report, with entries through April 30, was presented prior to the meeting. The current balance of \$22,701.47 shows income from recent membership renewals, and monies collected for registrations and transfers. It also reflects the pay-out for participants in the Junior All American Show to be held in Kansas. The certificate of deposit is currently at \$15,781.42. A motion by Scott, second by Don and approval by the board resulted in acceptance of the secretary and financial reports.

Bestsy asked about reimbursement for national show awards. Chris indicated submitting the bill now and having it paid from the current budget would be helpful.

Next Meeting: Saturday, July 13 at 1:00 p.m. EDT.

Anne presented the motion to adjourn, Emma seconded, motion passed.
Meeting ended at 3:15 p.m. EDT.

Submitted by
ARBA Secretary, JoAnn Mast