

American Romney Breeders Association  
Board of Directors Meeting, September 21, 2021

**Call to order.**

- The meeting of the American Romney Breeders Association (ARBA) Board of Directors was called to order by Anne McIntyre-Lahner at 7:34 pm Eastern time. This meeting was held over Zoom and recorded.

**Roll call.**

Present

Anne McIntyre-Lahner—President  
Charlene Carlisle—Vice President/At Large  
Emma Rogers—District 1  
Amy Miller—District 2  
Penelope Swearingen—District 3  
Sue Kalina—District 4  
Carol Pasheilich—District 5  
Betsy McPherson—District 6  
Melissa Wubben—At Large  
Rick Trojanoski—At Large  
Georgina Anderson—Secretary/Treasurer

**Secretary Report**

- The secretary was advised that names and specific details will be included in minutes. Minutes will be written in a transparent and objective manner and Board members should review before approving.
- **Sue moved to table approval of the August meeting minutes. Emma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.**
- **Action step: In the interest of time, Board members should email any changes to the minutes of the September meeting to Georgina by this weekend.**

**Discussion of mis-registered rams situation.**

- The Directors investigated the accusations against Tawanda Farms and Oak Creek Farms and found them to be without merit. The BOD has put this finding in writing.
- There was a question whether the mis-registrations came to light before or after the letter regarding Tawanda Farms and Oak Creek Farms was sent. It was stated the two events happened in a very close timeframe. The mis-registration was found when the semen import list was reviewed, and then the issue came to the BOD's attention.
- Anne had a conversation with Jeff at AR regarding the mis-registration of rams. Jeff forwarded to Anne an email which AR received from the ARBA president in 2018. This email instructed Jeff to register the rams in question as part of the amnesty program. Anne reached out to that former president regarding the email but he said he doesn't remember it and was not interested in having a conversation about it. That former president stated if he did send that email he either made a mistake or mis-spoke.
- Iron Water Ranch was sent a letter in 2016 stating the rams in question could not be registered as Romneys unless more documentation was provided by Iron Water Ranch.
- The President does not have authority to unilaterally override decisions of the BOD.
- Healing the organization should be a priority at this time.

- A letter will be sent to all ARBA members with Moorit Romneys with details regarding registerable descendants of the rams in question.
- Members may have heard conflicting information about this situation.
- A letter will be drafted to send to all people who received the letter from Iron Water Ranch that accused Tawanda Farms and Oak Creek Farms of wrongdoing. The Directors indicated they would like to review the letter.
- **Action Item: Emma will add the information about the semen list to the timeline of events related to the mis-registration of rams.**
- **Action Item: Anne will try to locate a copy of the original letter and make it available for the BOD to review.**
- **Action Item: Anne will draft a letter to all people who received letter from Iron Water Ranch regarding meritless accusations against Tawanda Farms and Oak Creek Farms.**

#### **Transfer of bank accounts.**

- Georgina has been working on this project for a month with several dead-ends and hold ups. Chris Posbergh took several months to send materials to Anne, who then sent them on to Georgina.
- Sue suggested working with Wells Fargo Bank.
- Anne and Charlene should be added to the account once it's set up.
- Checks received by Georgina will be deposited as soon as possible. Bills and reimbursements will be paid as soon as possible as well.

#### **Old Board Meeting: Friday, October 15, 2021 in Poughkeepsie, NY.**

- Meeting will start at 10:00 am eastern and will be set so Directors can attend virtually.

#### **Annual Meeting: Friday, October 15, 2021 at CJs Restaurant.**

- Only three people have RSVP'ed so far, but it's still early.
- Arrangements for items for the silent auction are in the works.
- Trivia games will be played, and it's probably best their played for fun, not prizes.
- Educational program will be a presentation by Susan Schoenian and will be available to remote attendees. Getting a large screen was discussed. Alternatively, we may be able to get a projector and screen?
- It would be great if remote Directors could attend all or part of the annual meeting via Zoom, but it's not absolutely necessary.
- Previously, new Directors may have had an induction ceremony at the annual meeting, but no written process can be located. This year, Directors will be introduced more informally. Introductions can also be make in the next newsletter.
- **Action Item: Emma will put together a schedule of events for the Annual Meeting.**
- **Action Item: Anne will plan the introduction of new Directors at the Annual Meeting.**

#### **New Board Meeting: Saturday, October 16, 2021.**

- Meeting will start at 10:00 am eastern time and will be set so Directors can attend virtually.
- We need to make sure that new Directors are up-to-date on the situation with mis-registration of rams.
- Things new Directors should be provided:
  - Hardcopy of members in their district
  - Latest breed standard
  - Links to or published policy documents

- Regional and National Show Rotations
- Location of annual meeting
- There needs to be communication between the outgoing and incoming Directors for a region.

#### **Meeting agendas.**

- It would be helpful to get meeting agendas earlier.

#### **2022 National Show.**

- The National Romney Show was supposed to be on the west coast last year at the Puyallup Show, but was postponed due to COVID.
- Sue suggested that the 2022 National Romney Show be held at the Oregon State Fair in August 2022.
- The people who had been working on planning the Puyallup show indicated they are in favor of having the 2022 National Romney Show at the Oregon State Fair.
- Sue has previously assisted with shows at the Oregon State Fair and is willing to help again.
- Members of the Oregon Romney Breeders' Association are willing to support the show.
- The superintendent of the Oregon State Fair Sheep Shows is enthusiastic about hosting the Romney National Show.
- **Carol moved to have the 2022 National Romney Show at the Oregon State Fair. Charlene seconded the motion.**
  - **Carol moved to amend the motion to state "move the 2022 National Romney show from Puyallup to the Oregon State Fair." Charlene seconded the motion. The amendment passed unanimously.**
- **The motion as amended passed unanimously.**

#### **Communication with members.**

- The ARBA website needs to be updated, especially upcoming events on the calendar. Latest meeting minutes also need to be added to the website.
- Currently, Don Burgess and Randy Thompson are administrators of the ARBA Facebook page and several people are editors. Don will probably need to change the permissions on the page.
- Emma has the Instagram username and password and will share it.
- We'll need to get the deadline for the next newsletter.

#### **Adjournment.**

- **Betsy moved to adjourn the meeting. Emma seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.**