

American Romney Breeders Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 7:30 pm Eastern

Call to order and roll call.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Anne McIntyre-Lahner-President Charlene Carlisle-Vice President Marianne DiTaranto-District 1 Scarlet Lamphier-District 2 Penny Swearingen-District 3 Sue Kalina-District 4 Tracy Haslem-District 5 Jeff Stump-District 6 Melissa Wubben-At Large Stephanie Booren-At Large Rick Trojanoski-At Large	

Note: The secretary/treasurer left the meeting just before the vote to accept the treasurer's report. The building she was working in was evacuated due to an emergency.

Review of minutes from October 26, 2022 ARBA BOD Meeting. Minutes were edited to add Sue Kalina to the Bylaws Committee. Stephanie moved to accept as Minutes as edited. Melissa seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Secretary's report.

- Membership renewals. ARBA currently has 201 active members in total, including the regular members, juniors, lifetime and honorary members. As of today, approximately 40 memberships have been extended through 1/31/2024 (about 20%). The secretary sent a list of members who have not renewed their membership yet to the directors of each region. While the membership database on the website seems to be working well, there has been one glitch noted that we are in the process of resolving. The glitch seems to be only impacting one member at this time, so it's a minor issue. If you see or hear about anything unexpected with the membership database on the website, please let the secretary know.
- Google Workspace. We're in the steep part of the learning curve, but so far it seems like the Google Meets feature is a major benefit already. Video calls are definitely clearer and less laggy. The paid account also gives us noise reduction features, the videos are stored in the cloud rather than taking up excessive memory in a physical device, and transcripts of meetings can be generated automatically. Anyone with an americanromneybreeders.org login will be able to set up Google Meets video calls. The secretary is available to go through a practice run of a video call prior to any meetings—just let her know. Google Drive will be used to house all the ARBA documents going forward. We are in the process of determining appropriate access/permissions to different files.

- NAILE entry fees. The secretary is working with Willis Plank to get these wrapped up.
- Romney banner sales. The invoice for banners was just received and paid. The secretary is working with Rick to get his wrapped up as well.
- Please contact the secretary using ga2 at email dot sc dot edu or secretary at americanromneyreeders dot org. If something urgent comes up, please use the ga2 email address or text the secretary.
- Rick moved to accept the secretary's report as read. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's report.

Wells Fargo Checking Account:	\$8874.45
Well Fargo CD:	\$15,840.08
Wells Fargo Savings Account:	\$3,447.87
Paypal Balance:	\$2,098.58
Total:	\$30,260.98

- Anne McIntyre-Lahner and Charlene Carlisle have been added as Key Individuals with Control to the Wells Fargo ARBA accounts.
- Wells Fargo Savings Account has been opened to allow ARBA Junior's funds to be separate from general funds. This account has an APY of 0.15%.
- Wells Fargo CD has been opened. The maturity date is 2/11/2024. The APY of the CD is 3.75%.
- Treasurer requested a Ways and Means Committee video call meeting.
- Melissa moved to accept the treasurer's report as read. Sue seconded the motion. The motion passed.

District Reports.

District 1. Upcoming District 1 events can be found on the ARBA Facebook page, and these events include shearing workshops, lambing clinics, spring festivals, health workshops and the Northeast Youth Sheep Show. The details about the fundraising campaign for the NYSS are available on Facebook as well. Marianne is planning to send personalized emails to District 1 members to start getting to know those individuals better. A living document of upcoming events for all districts was discussed. The document could be housed in Google Drive and the events added to the ARBA website by the secretary.

District 2. Nothing to report at this time.

District 3. The 2023 ARBA Annual Meeting will be in Novi, Michigan over Labor Day weekend. Penny is working on getting confirmation of the show schedule, and then working out the meeting schedule from there. The Romney Junior Show will be on Friday, the Fleece Show is scheduled for Saturday and the Romney Open Show will be on Sunday. The conference rooms for meetings will be very close to the show area, and logistics of reserving the meeting spaces are in progress. There are many hotels in the area for directors to stay in, and information about that will be coming soon as well. Penny will work on getting a room block with discounted

pricing that extends from Thursday to Sunday. Penny is working with other District 3 ARBA members to find a suitable restaurant for the Annual Meeting. It was brought up that when the ARBA Annual Meeting was in Michigan previously, the Annual Meeting was catered, and that may be an option to consider for this coming year.

District 4. There's an upcoming ORBA Board Meeting. ORBA will be considering where the ARBA regional show in District 4 will take place and other 2023 events.

District 5. The weather has been especially challenging for District 5 Romney breeders. There are some fiber festivals in District 5 coming up, and Romney people are looking forward to the Shepherd's Extravaganza and the Puyallup Spring Fair in the coming months.

District 6. NAILE was a great show, and the Romney breed was well-represented. The Supreme Ram was a natural colored Romney.

Committee Reports.

Advertising. Nothing to report at this time.

AI/ET. The AI/ET Committee met recently and is reviewing the drafts of the AI/ET documents. Another meeting is planned for January 25, 2023. The ARBA logo needs to be added to the forms. There was discussion about scheduling a meeting for February to approve the AI/ET forms. It was decided that the AI/ET meeting would work to the proposed documents to the Board in February so they can be reviewed and voted on in March.

Bylaws. There has been a lot of discussion about how to move forward in structuring the Bylaws Committee and the Policy and Procedure Committee, and another meeting is planned for January 31, 2023. Pros and cons of combining the two committees with various leadership structures was discussed. Rick moved to combine the Bylaws and Policy and Procedures Committees. Jeff seconded the motion. Sue moved to amend the motion to specify that the combined committee would have one chairperson, and each document (Bylaws and Policies) would have a designated Lead. The motion as amended carried.

Education. The Education Committee has not met. The next task is to decide a new discussion topic for the Ramblings.

Membership. The dues renewal campaign is underway. There will be a meeting soon to discuss the new Membership Directory. The mass email reminding members to pay dues went out on January 5, 2023, though some directors stated they did not receive it. Rick moved that there be no late fees added to 2023 dues. Stephanie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

National Show. The National Show committee hasn't had a meeting yet, but some discussion took place in Louisville. Topics that have been discussed and will continue to be discussed include: whether that national show and sale should be an annual or biannual event, if the

national show and national sale need to be held at the same time, or could they be stand-alone events, and possibly having a national sale in conjunction with the Junior All-American Show. The committee would like to discuss an online sale for 2023, so there's an outlet for breeders even in a year without an ARBA National Sale. Jeff moved for ARBA to host an online sale in spring 2023. Rick seconded the motion. The motion carried. In further discussion of holding a National Show annually, the cost and effort associated with fundraising was discussed.

Ways and Means. The Ways and Means Committee has not met and is waiting for the 2021-2022 financial data.

Website. The committee discussed the tasks the website committee/secretary is able to do with updating the website versus what the webmaster needs to do. The Events calendar is not showing up properly on the website, and that is a problem the webmaster needs to fix. The membership directory on the website seems to be working fine with the exception of one small glitch that is being investigated. It would be great if the website were more mobile-friendly, and if banners could be added to show timely reminders such as for renewing memberships, information about upcoming events such as the National Show.

Youth. The Youth Raffle was a huge success and the prizes have been sent to the winners. The Futurity was not very successful in 2022, and the Youth Committee has several ideas for improving in 2023, including contacting each youth participant directly to remind them about participating and the importance of reflecting well on the breeders who sponsored the Futurity entries. Selfie Sundays will start in February. There are discussions with the National Show committee about holding a Romney sale in conjunction with the Junior All American Show to get more youth involved in Romneys via that route as well.

New Business.

2023 Elections. Directorships in Districts 1, 3 and 5 will be up for election in 2023. The at-large director up for re-election is Melissa. The nominating committee for the at-large directorship would be the directors from Districts 2, 4 and 6.

ARBA Non-Profit Number. The previous secretary has stated that ARBA has a non-profit number, and the status of that non-profit number needs to be considered. Filing with the IRS will need to be double checked and updated as necessary.

Next ARBA BOD Meeting date. March 7, 2023 at 7:30 pm eastern time.

Adjournment. Rick moved to adjourn the meeting. Charlene seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.