

Teleconference March 18, 2021

President Jane Smith called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM EST.

Board members present: Jane Smith, Howard Covington, John Dyer, Cindy DeOrnellis, Larry Weeks and Dan Turner. Robert Walker joined the call at approximately 8:10 PM. Alan Culham was also present.

Jane asked the board to review the minutes of February 18. Howard moved the minutes be approved as presented. John seconded the motion and it passed 6-0. The February minutes were accepted.

Alan presented the treasurer's report which included the January profit & loss and balance sheet. Cindy moved to accept the reports as presented. Dan seconded the motion and it passed 6-0. The board also reviewed rolling annual averages for registrations, transfers and paid memberships.

Old Business

- NSIP Grant report – Dan Dan reported that 3 webinars have aired and the 4th should air next week. It will focus on the actual sampling process and how to determine which samples will provide the most value to the producer, while still meeting the requirements of the grant. Joan Burke recently submitted 96 samples. After they are processed, the first actual GEBV's will be available. Producers have committed to submitting 1,100 samples, with more likely.
- Closing of education office – Jane Jane has tried contacting Jim multiple times, with no response. She will ask Robert to try and contact Jim. She's been updating the policy manual. She and Robert noticed difficulties/differences in accessing the materials scanned to the cloud. Robert will check if there have been any changes to the software.
- Winter Hairald – Alan The winter Hairald is in the mail. Alan posted an online version because of the delay in publication and mailing. The spring edition is on schedule, with ads due this week and articles by March 29.
- Bylaws committee – Jane The committee has met twice and working to streamline the bylaws. Changes will be presented for membership approval at the annual meeting.

New Business

- Expo Sale – Jane The committee recommended the board hire Live Auction (affiliated with Superior Livestock) to handle the sale. John moved to hire Live Auction for the 2021 Expo sale. Cindy seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.
- Expo Committee – Alan & Cindy Cindy visited and obtained contact information for the hotels in Mexico and Kingdom City. Alan has reserved a block in the Mexico Best Western. speakers have committed to the event. A committee meeting will be scheduled to finalize the event. Robert feels that advertising the KatPlus program and the Expo in cooperative's newsletter would be beneficial. To do so will require KHSI to join the cooperative. Jane instructed Robert to proceed as he thought best as chair of promotions.

- Nominating Committee – Jane suggested that a nominating committee be formed to solicit nominees for the upcoming election. Cindy volunteered to chair the committee and recruit members. Howard volunteered Clifford Spraberry for the committee.
- Katahdin research grant opportunity – Dan (see attachment) Dan presented an opportunity for KHSI to support and/or help fund a grant to research the genomics to improve robustness and productive efficiency in US sheep populations. He recommended supporting the grant and providing \$20,000/year for three years to help fund a graduate assistant who would focus research on Katahdins.
- Hair coat inspection – Howard Howard requested guidance from the board on the number and purpose of the videos. Jane compiled earlier responses and the recommendation is two videos: one for training inspectors and another submitting videos/pictures for virtual inspection. Howard also recommended changes to the inspection training requirements. After discussion, Howard moved to allow KHSI members to inspect their own sheep after one training and a passing test score. A second training and passing test score after year or more would certify an inspector to inspect another member's sheep. John seconded the motion and it passed 7-0. Alan and Howard have a current list of members who are certified inspectors.

The next meeting will be April 15 at 8:00 PM EST

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy DeOrnellis