

# Eastern Alliance for Production Katahdins

## Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes, April 28, 2022

Present: Brad Carothers, Lisa Weeks, Roxanne Newton, Tom Hodgman, Lee Wright and Kathy Bielek

President Brad Carothers called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM EST.

### Old Business

- **Meeting Minutes March Board Meeting-** Lisa moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Robert seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

### New Business

- **KHSI Board of Directors Nominee-** Dan Turner and Robert Walker reached out to Brad recently to see if EAPK have any recommendations for the two positions that will become available this year on the KHSI BOD. It was noted that we will have our first EAPK BOD elections next year. There was discussion about the value of members gaining experience and name recognition serving on the EAPK BOD, then funneling people towards serving on the KHSI BOD in the future. Currently five of KHSI BOD members are EAPK members. Robert noted that usually only 120-125 KHSI members vote for the KHSI BOD each year so getting EAPK and NSIP backing can be significant. Brad will reach out to Zach Meinders, Jim Morgan, Michelle Canfield, and Vince Pope to determine interest. We may want to meet again in the next week or so. The deadline to submit a bio is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Committee Reports:

**Communications Committee – Kathy, Roxanne-** Roxanne reported that the committee is working on several blogs, and will start work on the summer newsletter soon.

### Education and Outreach Committee – Brad –

- **Discussion Forum** - EAPK hosted the second open discussion forum, with several repeat and some new faces. The discussion included general sheep questions as well as NSIP questions. It's felt to be a good tool.
- **Webinar series** – nothing new to report. The committee plans to wait until later this summer, and maybe get topic ideas from the forum.

### Symposium & KREG Committee - Brad -

- **Field Days-** Speakers have been confirmed and the committee is working on the food. Hotels have not have been identified yet. A social gathering is being planned for the evening before the field day. More information will be available soon. The committee has also formed a planning group for the October field day at Tom Perkin's place. That planning group met recently and planning is going well.
- **Symposium-** Robert was not able to get a block of hotel rooms or a special price so he just put list of hotels on website.
- **KREG Grant-** We need to get clarification on whether it's possible to apply for multiple KREG grants throughout the year, or if everything needs to be put on one single proposal. It should be easier to project expenses going forward, after the field days this year.

**Sale Committee – Brad-** Nothing new to report. Brad reminded the group that we will be using Willoughby, as approved at the last BOD meeting. The rules will be the same as last year. We need to be sure to use a standard template for a consistent look like USDA had on their sale.

**Website and Social Media Committee – Robert-** Brad mentioned that the membership map is still not completely accurate. Brad will reach out to Robert to make changes.

**Fecal Egg Count Ad Hoc Committee- Tom** – Tom reported that he has been working on the FEC SOP. He is trying to revise his rough draft, but still needs to do some literature searches. The appendices will be big at the end.

**Sheep GEMS Project- Tom** – There was a big push in the last month to identify how many genotypes the GEMS project will be adding to the reference population. Right now, it looks like about 1800 genotypes (breeding ewes) will be added. These will link back to a little over 200 genotypes already in the reference population. This does not include any lambs. There should be a little over 2000 genotypes total. There has been discussion on taking a different approach to the hair coat evaluation. A small pilot group will be meeting with Dr. Ron Lewis soon with the hope of rolling it out to everyone by fall.

Roxanne motioned to adjourn the meeting; Lisa seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM.

The next meeting will be May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Bielek