

Eastern Alliance for Production Katahdins

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes, May 31, 2023

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

Brad called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM EST.

New Business

- Lisa asked BOD permission to put ASI literature on the registration table or a display at the symposium. Everyone on the call agreed.
- Lisa suggested putting samples of Dan Turner's lamb jerky in the packets. She can purchase the lamb jerky from Dan's NoName Cowboy at \$1.50/sample. Dan would also like to have a display to sell the jerky at the event. Everyone on the call agreed. Lisa motioned to purchase 75 samples of lamb jerky from NoName Cowboy. Tom seconded and the motion passed.
- Roxanne asked permission to display and sell a shepherd's guide that she and Kathy wrote. Everyone on the call agreed.

Old Business

- **Meeting Minutes April Board Meeting.** Lisa moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Roxanne seconded.
- BOD List – Lee Holcomb has contacted Brad with a formal request to serve on the BOD.

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee – Kathy, Roxanne

- The committee is currently working on the summer newsletter which should be published the first week of June. Several new blogs have been added to the website.

Education and Outreach Committee – Brad

- Brad reported that the monthly open forum last month had the typical 18-20 participants, with several new people joining.

Symposium & KREG Committee - Brad

- Brad reported that he had talked to Dan Turner yesterday. Alan apparently forgot to put the EAPK KREG proposal on the KHSI BOD meeting agenda. They will have a special meeting on Thursday to approve our proposal. KHSI is considering a different way of reviewing proposals in the future as more groups are applying for more and larger funds.
- Katie shared that everything for the symposium was well on its way with speakers, meals and agenda confirmed.

Sale Committee – Brad

- No new updates. Brad said that everything was sent to Willougby. It's been put on their website and is open for consignment. Lisa reached out to Becky for lots and has not heard back. No lots have been added yet and we're only 30 days out. An email blast was sent out today to encourage members to start consigning. We do have a veterinarian confirmed to do the health paperwork.

Website and Social Media Committee – Robert

- Robert updated the website with hotels for the symposium today. He said he wants to run some targeted Google ads to reach people who are searching for sheep and goat stuff in that area. Everyone on the call agreed. Robert feels we'll get more bang for our buck if we use Google ads instead of Facebook since we already have over 11,000 members of the Katahdin sheep breeders' group with 200-300 new members joining per month. EAPK members share posts about the symposium on that group.

NSIP and Genetics Committee - Tom

- Tom shared with the group that as of July, Dr. Ron Lewis will no longer be NSIP's technical committee chair although he will continue his work on the GEMS project. Tom Murphy and Luiz Brito and Andrew Hess (all three geneticists) will share the duties instead of having a single technical committee chair. Dr. Lewis is starting to release some information about Sheep GEMS. Tom serves on an advisory panel for US MARC and shared information on some of their current and proposed projects.

Robert moved to adjourn the meeting; Lisa seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Next meeting will be June 28th at 7:00pm EST.