

Meeting Date – September 25th, 2023

Attendees: Kathy Bielek, Lisa Weeks, Roxanne Newton, Robert Walker, Brad Carothers, Isabel Richards, Lee Holcomb

Brad Carothers called the meeting to order. Meeting began at 7:01PM

Kathy moved to accept August 2023 Board minutes, Roxanne seconded and motion passed

Lee discussed the EAPK field day and the meeting topics briefly. It was also discussed that the forage pocket guide was ordered with the sponsored \$250 worth of funds from EAPK. Rober asked if that guide could be shared with the group and Lee agreed. Brad asked if a short blurb could be shared with the group for any social media posts and sharing of the field day flyer for more participation. Lee agreed to share with the group via email.

Committee Discussions

Communication Committee – Kathy reported they put out two blogs and Newsletter. Few new members added to the communication committee.

Outreach – Good participation in last meeting with a lot of researchers who joined the call. Discussion topics trended towards parasite resistance, EBVs, general animal immunity.

Symposium Committee – Lisa opened discussion about Symposium location. Brad mentioned stick with the same week as we have the past 3 years, second week of July. Robert discussed about venues he's reached out to and the general ballpark idea to host a meeting is minimum cost of \$2,000-\$2,500. Discussion led to Cookeville, TN or Abingdon, VA as chance locations. Another venue in Kentucky, Hardin County Extension building, was mentioned and Robert mentioned he would be nearby this weekend and will try and stop by the venue to assess the situation about available small ruminant pens. Same location in KY has a processing plant about 8 miles down the road and there would be some potential to host some carcass evaluations.

Robert made a motion for Cookeville, TN for the 4th symposium pending availability and Roxanne seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Date will be July 13th, 2024.

Dave Notter and Tom Murphy were brought up for discussion as presenters. They could explain maternal traits at the Symposium. Any more topics or presenters should be shared with Lisa so she can work on developing the agenda.

Sale Committee – Discussion was had in previous sale committee meeting. Brad discussed the topics of noting were Auction company and consignor checklist for sale submittals for animals. Once symposium rules for sale are decided it was recommended by Lisa that the Communication committee could send out a blog or newsletter about the rules. The earlier the better as it would notify potential consignors ahead of time and they could prepare well in advance of the Symposium.

Robert made a motion to use Willoughby Livestock as auction company for next Symposium, Kathy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Website social media – No news

NSIP/Genetics – No news. Roxanne discussed setbacks with Sheep GEMS updates in regards to data submission feedback. Lisa mentioned some of the setbacks are most likely to due with Australia. Rusty Burgett may be someone to contact with more information.

Brad entertained a motion to adjourn. Robert motioned to adjourn, Kathy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Next meeting is October 23rd, 2024 @ 7pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lee Holcomb, EAPK Secretary