

**American Border Leicester Association
Board of Director's Meeting Highlights
August 4, 2008**

Present: Greg Deakin, Kerry Phelps, Sue Johnson, Polly Hopkins, JoAnne Tuncy, Jennifer Bierhuizen, Di Waibel, Sally Barney

President, Greg Deakin, called the meeting to order at 8:35 PM. The minutes of the previous meeting of June 11, 2008 were approved with the following correction ... Sarah Hopkins was the person in touch with Small Farm magazine. The Treasurer's report was accepted as corrected. The balance as of 8/3/08 is \$763.80. Greg reported that to date there have been 482 registrations and 165 transfers. Current 2008 paid membership is 159.

Old Business:

Publicity: JoAnne had no new information or projects to report at this time. She has been receiving inquiries from persons wanting breed information and needs a copy of the latest Directory to send to people. JoAnne will put up a breed display at Rhinebeck and will need newsletters for the display; Sarah will be asked to send the newsletters.

Web Site: It was noted that there are areas of the web site that need updating.

Newsletter: Polly reported for Sarah that the newsletter would be out by the end of the week. Three youth have submitted photos. The next newsletter will include an opportunity for photo submissions from adults. As usual, articles, ads and updates are always welcome. Directors were reminded to send regional information to Sarah for inclusion in the newsletter.

Junior Program: Jennifer Bierhuizen reported that she was hoping more juniors would have come forward to ask for the Junior Achievement Program guidelines. There is still time to get started with this junior program. Youth are active and out showing and promoting their sheep in various areas around the country. Polly reported 11 youth and 31 Border Leicesters were entered in the Northeast Youth Sheep Show. It was also mentioned that almost 50 Border Leicesters were shown at the Wisconsin State Fair.

National Sale: Greg reported that the National Sale averaged just under \$400 per head; he encouraged continued participation in this event.

Western Region: Di Waibel reported that sheep numbers were strong at the Black Sheep Gathering.. It was a good gathering of sheep and shepherds. September is the month that the Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival is held and all are looking forward to that northwestern event.

New Business:

Age of Juniors: Polly suggested to the Board that they consider revising the age for junior membership. Currently the ABLA junior membership age maximum is 18. In order to maximize youth participation in a variety of youth sheep opportunities across the country Polly suggested the Board look at 21 as the maximum age for youth. This would make participation in the NAILE youth shows, the Junior All American, the Northeast Youth Sheep Show and other opportunities a possibility as those events allow youth through age 21. The idea was well received by the Board. It was recommended that the mechanism for revising the ABLA Constitution and By-Laws be reviewed prior to the next meeting in preparation for a possible revision to the junior age limit.

ABLA Futurity: Kerry suggested that the Board might want to think about an ABLA Futurity. With established Border Leicester sale venues a Futurity becomes a real possibility for the ABLA. This idea will be discussed again at a later date.

National Sale Location: Polly suggested that the ABLA Board consider the Great Lakes Sale in Wooster, Ohio as a location for the 2009 National Border Leicester Sale. This sale is held in conjunction with the Great Lakes Fiber Festival over Memorial Day weekend. It was suggested that moving the sale to different venues allows for and encourages consignments from a wider geographic area and stimulates buyers from a wide geographic area as well. It was moved by Polly Hopkins, seconded by Di Waibel and voted unanimously to hold the 2009 National Border Leicester Sale at the Great Lakes Sale in Wooster, Ohio.

2009 Committee Assignments: It was decided to send out to Board members the descriptions of the responsibilities of each of the Board committees.

There being no further business the date for the next meeting was set for October 6, 2008 at 8:30 PM Eastern. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Barney, Recording Secretary