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

The meeting was called to order by President, Greg Deakin at 8:36 PM. The Secretary’s minutes of the last meeting, held August 4, 2008, were approved as distributed. Polly Hopkins reported a balance of $2,558.94 in the treasury with only one outstanding bill to be paid for the last newsletter. The Treasurer’s report was approved as presented. Polly also reported that there are 171 paid ABLA members to date. Greg reported that as of October 1, 2008 we have had 622 Border Leicester registrations and 240 transfers.

Old Business:

ABLA Display: Greg reported that he had spoken with Barbara Mullin, wife of the past person in charge of breed displays at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. Her daughter, Karen Sowell, will be in charge of the breed displays for the 2009 Festival.

By-Laws Discussion: There was a lot of discussion regarding the current By-Laws. It is the unanimous decision of the Board of Director’s that they would like to amend the By-Laws to raise the maximum age of junior membership to 21. After reviewing the By-Laws the Directors recommended looking at possible changes to other by-laws articles as well. Suggested was a change to the timeline currently required to allow for by-laws changes. It is the consensus of the Board that by-laws changes should be able to be made at any time of the year, at the discretion of the Board, as long as the proper procedures are followed. Also needing clarification is the description of the rotation of terms on the Board of Director’s. In view of the number of items under consideration it was agreed that Jennifer Bierhuizen will develop a draft of by-laws changes for e-mail discussion and possible revision. This e-mail document will be forwarded to all Directors for their input. Final votes regarding By-Laws amendments to be brought to the 2009 annual meeting will be conducted at a future BOD meeting(s).

New Business:

Web Site: Katie Smith, webmaster, was present for a discussion with the Director’s regarding the ABLA web site. Katie provided her e-mail address www.Katie@smithfamilyfarmvt.com and suggested Directors use that address when submitting information for the site. Katie can handle word documents as well as photos. If pdf files are submitted Katie will link them to the ABLA site. All should feel free to send information; working through a central person is not necessary. Polly will provide Katie with the updated information on the Board of Director’s. The breeder’s directory has been updated.
**National Shows:** Greg reported that the National Show in 2009 will be at Eastern States Exposition; at NAILE in 2010 and we are awaiting confirmation of a 2011 show at the Oregon State Fair. Di is working with Oregon officials to solidify the 2011 event date.

**Newsletter:** The newsletter deadline is October 31, 2008. Sarah needs articles, pictures and ads. Jennifer encouraged all Directors to write something for the “From Our Neck of the Woods” section.

**Committee Assignments:** In view of the time, it was voted to table the business of committee assignments and any other new business to the November meeting.

**Other:** Greg reported that Border Leicester’s were the largest breed in “Wool Week” at ESE and were the fourth largest breed shown over both weeks.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Barney
Recording Secretary