American Border Leicester Association
Meeting Highlights
March 16, 2009

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

The meeting was called to order by President, Greg Deakin. The minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2009 were approved as distributed. The Treasurer reported that the Treasury received $300 from the NAILE Raffle for Border Leicester youth activities. The balance in the treasury on 3/16/09 is $3,436.82. The 2009 budget was reviewed and updated to reflect the fleece show at the National Sale in Wooster, OH.

Greg had no new registration and transfer data for 2009. For 2008 the ABLA had 716 registrations and 317 transfers. Polly reported 102 paid 2009 memberships to date.

Old Business:

By-Laws: Everyone had reviewed the proposed By-Laws changes as sent to the Board of Director’s by Jennifer Bierhuizen in November 2008. The changes were approved by the Directors and will be included in the next newsletter, discussed with members at the annual meeting and voted upon by the membership following the meeting.

Display Booth: Greg reported he had located a 6 foot portable display for $399. Joann reported that she had located a display board as well which would come with a vinyl case and header for approximately $350. After a brief discussion the Board of Director’s agreed to spend up to $400 for a portable display board. Joanne volunteered to get the board and to prepare an ABLA display for the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. It was brought forward that the ABLA needed to complete by April 15, the response card for the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival confirming our participation with a breed display.

New Business:

Annual Meeting: The 2009 Annual meeting of the American Border Leicester Association will be held at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival on Saturday evening at 6:00 PM. There will be light refreshments, business meeting, auction of donated items and time for networking and Border Leicester “talk.” Directors are encouraged to bring auction items. It was voted by the Directors to authorize $200 for annual meeting expenses.

Publicity: Joann encouraged the Directors to consider a 2009 Border Leicester calendar to be sent to paid members with their membership card. The idea was well received and Joann was asked to develop a calendar for review. Di will send pictures.

Newsletter: The newsletter deadline is March 15th. Biographies from candidates for ABLA Director will be included as will proposed By-Laws changes, Futurity
information, Fleece Show information and sale information. Greg Deakin and Jennifer Bierhuizen’s terms are up this year.

**Web Site:** Greg has talked with the web master Katie Smith and clarified that Katie indicated she was interested in her position as web master. She confirmed that she will not be compiling ABLA data herself but would be posting completed data forwarded to her by the Board of Directors. It was agreed to consider alternative proposals that may be submitted to the BOD. JoAnne Tuncy indicated she would be forwarding a proposal. A phone conference will be held prior to the annual meeting to discuss the web site and web site proposals.

**National Sale:** Greg reported that the entry deadline for the National Border Leicester Sale was fast approaching. The sale will include a show & sale, wool show, dinner, used equipment auction and on Sunday, complimentary donuts and coffee.

**National Show:** Eastern States Exposition is the location of the National Border Leicester Show. As per ESE policy, ABLA will be contributing $125 towards premiums for this event. Plans are in the works for the show, fleece show, lead line and dinner.

**Futurity:** Kerry shared the rules for the first annual Border Leicester Futurity. Rules will be placed on the web site and shared through the newsletter. It was clarified that both purchased or home raised ewes are eligible.

**Ram Test:** The Western Illinois University Ram Test will include Border Leicester rams this year; this is a unique opportunity for breeders. With 6 Border Leicester rams we could have a pen of Border Leicesters alone. Interested breeders should contact Greg or Kerry.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Barney – Recording Secretary