The annual meeting of the American Border Leicester Association began with delicious snacks and beverages and was then opened with a welcome from Greg Deakin, President. Greg recognized the ABLA Directors who were present; Polly Hopkins, JoAnne Tuncy, Sue Johnson and Jennifer Bierhuisen as well as the Newsletter Editor Sarah Hopkins and Recording Secretary Sally Barney who were also present. In addition, in attendance and recognized as past Presidents and Directors were Bill Koeppel and Cathy Schiff whose husband was present. JoAnne Tuncy was thanked for putting up the very nice ABLA breed display; Kelly Mansfield provided the sheep for the display.

It was announced that Polly Hopkins had been re-elected for another term as Director and that Anne Key had been elected for her first term as Director. Sally Barney shared that Di Waibel had been sent a thank-you note on behalf of all ABLA members for her time of service as a Director.

The Secretary’s minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting were not read as they had appeared in the newsletter and on the web site. Polly handed out the 2009 Treasurers report. There was no discussion on the budget. Polly also announced that the audit of the financial statements by Lynn Biesiadecki indicated that “all appeared accurate.”

Greg announced that registrations and transfers are on track and that registration activity remains steady. Greg recapped up-coming 2010 ABLA activities and shared that there were over 30 Border Leicesters entered into the National Sale. He announced the Eastern National Regional Show scheduled for Eastern States Exposition and the National Show scheduled for the North American International Livestock Exposition on November 17, 2010. Greg also announced a youth show for Border Leicesters at NAILE starting in 2010. There is a possibility that the 2011 National Show may be held at the Oregon State Fair.

Sarah Hopkins reminded all present of the June 15 newsletter deadline and encouraged members to send pictures, ads, articles and results of shows to her for inclusion in the newsletter. Greg reminded all members about the opportunity that the Futurity offered to youth who have bred or purchased ewe lambs and yearling ewes for show this year. Futurity details can be found on the web.

The meeting was opened to member discussion and an auction of items to support youth programming was held. Jennifer Bierhuisen asked if all present could introduce themselves and introductions were made. There being no further member discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally Barney – Recording Secretary