

**American Border Leicester Association
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2011**

Present: Greg Deakin, Jennifer Bierhuizen, Barb Hintzsche, Polly Hopkins, Anne Key, Jerry Wigglesworth

Chair, Greg Deakin, called the meeting to order noting that a quorum was not present; at that point Anne Key joined the meeting and established a quorum. The amended minutes of the previous meeting were approved as sent. Polly reported a balance of \$4,205.00 in the treasury with recent receipts from the sale commission, futurity, newsletter ads and dues and a recently paid bill to Associated Registries and bank fees included. The report was accepted as presented. Greg reported current registrations at 669 and transfers at 174. At this time Jennifer Bierhuizen joined the call.

Old Business:

Website: JoAnne Tuncy was not on the call. Jerry asked if we knew how often our website is used. Sally indicated that JoAnne has provided that information in the past and that the information would be available through JoAnne.

Oregon State Fair: Greg reported that there was an excellent Border Leicester Show at the Oregon State Fair. The numbers of animals were such that the breed will have its own show in 2012.

Nebraska: Greg reported that Border Leicesters did very well at the Nebraska State Fair.

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival: Barb reported that there were over 40 Border Leicester in the show and that the Supreme Ewe was a Border Leicester. The ABLA display had been up and manned during the Festival and all literature was picked up.

National Show: Polly reported that there were 90 head of Border Leicesters entered in the national show from 14 exhibitors; seven exhibitors are youth. The show is September 25, 2011 at Eastern States Exposition.

NAILE: Deadline for NAILE is October 1. There will be a junior show and open show. Greg reminded the Board that the junior show was still on probation and that junior exhibitors are encouraged to participate.

ABLA Booth: As previously reported the ABLA display was very popular at the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival. Directors were reminded that the display can be shipped anywhere. Jerry asked for a picture of the display; Polly or Greg will send a picture to Jerry.

Committee Reports:

Publicity: Jerry and Anne have not met formally. Jerry shared some of his thoughts about publicity mentioning again that we need to keep track of traffic on the website. He noted that on the west coast there are weaving guilds and that their information on Border Leicesters reference Di Waibel as the source. He challenged the Board to think about how we can establish a known contact point for people wanting to buy our product(s).

Website: JoAnne was not on the call.

Junior Activities: A meeting has not been called.

Futurity: Polly reported that youth are sending in their Futurity reports. There is \$575 in the kitty for this event.

National Show: This event was previously discussed under old business.

Annual Meeting: Greg welcomed Jennifer to the Annual Meeting committee. It was discussed that rotating the annual meeting starting in 2012 or 2013 might give more members an opportunity to attend. Jerry liked the idea of a movable feast. The Board will continue to discuss this option.

National Fleece Show: Anne and Marilyn will work on this event as the date draws closer.

Finance: No report was made at this time.

New Business:

Newsletter Editor Application: All Board members reported that they had received the application from Judy Lewman, Margo Hanson and Marcia Haggie for consideration as newsletter editor. It was discussed that this team comes with strong skills for completing the job as described in the position description. A number of Board members embraced the team approach. It was suggested that the editor(s) sit in on Board Meetings when invited; that suggestion was supported by all of the Directors present. It was confirmed that Sarah Jakeman would do the fall newsletter but that she was not interested in the full time position. Director discussion reiterated the desire of the Board to have the President review newsletters before they are published. The discussion by the Board included a discussion that restated the desire to have the newsletter go through the postal system and the need for a review following the first two newsletters and a discussion of next steps after the first two newsletters are published. Jerry Wigglesworth moved “that the ABLA accept the proposal from Judy Lewman, Margo Hanson and Marcia Haggie for the position of newsletter editor(s) with the understanding that the editor(s) will attend Board meetings at the invitation of the Board and the newsletter will be mailed via the postal system” The motion was seconded by Anne Key. There were six votes to accept the motion and no negative votes; the motion passed. Greg will contact Judy and let her know of the decision and related pertinent discussion.

Breed Standard: Jerry asked about the ram and ewe weights listed on the website. The information has ewes weighing up to 275 pounds. It was felt that this was a misprint. In order to enable Board members to review and research the issue the matter was tabled until the next meeting. In addition, it was voted to have Jerry write a survey, or something of that nature, for the next newsletter that would gather ideas on this issue from the membership.

Associated Registries: AR would like ABLA to contract with them through 2015. In addition, the United Suffolk Sheep Association is looking for breed associations to join with them in a new registry opportunity to be launched soon. Greg appointed a committee consisting of Jerry, Barb and Mark to review our current contract with AR including what we would receive (and in what format) should we choose to leave the registry. Polly will send a copy of the current contract to Jerry, Barb and Mark. Polly also stated that AR is now taking \$2.85 out of every dues payment although Polly is handling the transaction; Polly will discuss this change with AR.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2011 at 8:30 PM eastern time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Barney – Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2011
8:30 PM eastern**