

NSIP Meeting
Thursday - February 13, 2014
7 p.m. CST
Minutes submitted by Lisa Weeks

Attendees: Reid Redden, Cody Hiemke, Brad Anderson, Jim Morgan, Ken Andries, Mary Sorensen, Rodney Kott, Bill Shultz, Jerry Sorensen, Lisa Weeks, Tracie Roeder, Todd Taylor, John Carlson, Ken Andries, Alan Culham

Before starting the agenda, introductions were made to introduce new members to the board.

Agenda:

- Reports:
 1. Minutes – posted on NSIP website. Rodney Kott moved to accept, Jim Morgan seconded. Cody requested to add Bill Shultz and Betty Sampsel as attendees to the January meeting. Minutes approved.
 2. Treasurer Report/Finance Committee – Chairperson Jack McRae not present. Jim Morgan reported that we have \$51,986.04 in assets as of January 31, 2014. We are on track for a decent year financially. The fiscal year runs from Oct 1 to Sept 30. Cody Hiemke requested to have the budget circulated to the board so that spending may be compared to budget. Cody Hiemke moved to accept treasurer report, Rodney Kott seconded, motion passed.
 3. Technical Committee – Jim Morgan reported that this group usually only meets once per year in the summer as the NCERA-214. Dave Notter heads this committee as our technical advisor. Reid briefly reviewed the content of the contract NSIP has with Dave. Rodney Kott stated that Dave Notter has done an excellent job of setting the agenda for this committee over the years and that NSIP board does not need to change this relationship.
 4. Promotion & Education Committee – Jerry Sorensen will chair this committee replacing Dan Morrival. The committee has contracted a freelance writer to produce 4 articles and develop ads for \$1000. Ralph Loos, ASI Sheep Industry News editor, will include articles in that publication.
 5. Relaunch Committee –
 - Chairperson Reid Redden reported that a series of Webinars are being developed that will help take the shepherd from Rookie to Mentor. Half of the \$15000 grant money will help fund this effort. The other half will go towards promotional speaking engagements.

- Reid reported that John Carlson is creating a User's Manual for Pedigree Master. A discussion ensued on the fact that we currently have two programs available, Wizard and Master. It can be confusing to a new member on which program to use. Rodney Kott suggested NSIP move entirely to Pedigree Master. It was also suggested to create a 1-2-3 step document that shows users how to make the change from Wizard to Master. This would be posted on the website.
 - Reid reported that the committee wants to develop breed coordinators for each breed and also develop a group of mentors within each breed. If breed membership isn't large enough to develop this infrastructure, then mentors could be used from the Breed Type. For example: maternal, terminal, etc.
6. Member Relations – Chairperson Cody Hiemke reported that the survey contained many open ended questions, but the manual that John Carlson is developing should address many of the concerns mentioned in the survey responses. Cody and Mary reported that there are currently 17 new members with the new "no fee for 1st year". Four of the 17 joined late last year so they have been included in this group. The new members come from the following breed types:

- Dorset – 1
- Shropshire – 1
- Hampshire – 2
- Suffolk – 2
- Finn – 1
- Polypay – 3
- Rambouillet – 1
- Katahdin – 6

Cody also reported that the committee wants to establish some metrics for each breed coordinator to help achieve this year. For example, increasing numbers of join vs. number submitting data. These metrics will be defined and presented at the next meeting for the board to review.

7. By Laws Committee – Chairperson Cody Hiemke –
- Changes to the By Laws were distributed for the board to review. The board is to review in the next two weeks and contact Cody with questions or concerns so that any revisions may be finalized and a new version may be sent to board for vote at the April 10 meeting.
 - Cody presented two motions for board vote to clarify membership definitions. Both motions were tabled after long discussions. More development work is needed on each motion. Both will be revised and brought back to the board for the April 10 meeting.

8. Ultrasound Committee – Chris Schauer is chair – An ultrasound certification training course will be offered in May. More specifics will be circulated once the committee releases the information.
 9. Goat Committee – no report
 10. Website Committee – structure still pending ...
- New Business
 1. Committee Appointments – listed on website. Need to identify chairs for each if not already defined.
 2. Finance – Tracie Roeder asked if we needed to revise the budget to cover Mary's salary expenses resulting from the new membership needs. The committee will present the change at the next board meeting on April 10.
 3. Technical – it was discussed whether NSIP needed a producer member on the committee. This concern will be discussed with Dave Notter to determine what direction is needed.
 4. Member Relations – the need for a MAC mentor was discussed. Currently Pedigree Wizard won't run on a MAC without use of a Virtual Desktop program and there was some discussion that the newer MACS won't allow Virtual Desktop. Members were not sure if Pedigree Master has the same limitations. There are a few current members that use MAC and NSIP has lost members and potential members because of these compatibility issues. The committee will explore the option of finding a MAC SME (subject matter expert) and offering 2-3 hours of free technical support to membership. For data to be submitted to Lambplan, the file needs to be in a specific format. This MAC SME would help the member create this file. NSIP needs to find a way to better serve MAC users.

Reid reported that he has a proposal to create an On-Line Data Entry Program that would operate in the Cloud to create an Excel file for the user that has been validated. Cost for the program would be \$3500-\$5000. Board will review proposal and provide feedback.
5. Board approval of two appointees: Cody moved to appoint Richard Hamilton and Reid moved to appoint Brad Anderson to At-Large positions on board. It was moved by Jim Morgan and seconded by Rodney Kott. Motions were approved.
 6. Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m. CST.
 7. Next Board Conference Call April 10 @ 7 p.m. CST.