

NSIP Meeting

Thursday – November 12, 2015

7 p.m. CST

Minutes submitted by Lisa Weeks

Meeting chaired by Jim Morgan

Attendees: Matt Beals, Matt Benz, Tom Boyer, Rusty Burgett, Ron Lewis, Jim Morgan, Bill Shultz, Kathy Soder, Lisa Weeks, Walt Williams

Agenda:

- Secretary and Treasurer Reports
 - Walt Williams moved to accept the minutes from September and Kathy Soder seconded. Motion passed.
 - Walt Williams presented our current financials. We currently have ~\$20K cash on hand. Bill Shultz moved to accept, Tom Boyer seconded. Motion passed. Complete report included at the end of this report.
- Program Director Update – Rusty Burgett – complete report included at the end of the minutes. There will be an NSIP booth at the ASI Convention in January thanks to ASI. Also, with the change in fee structuring for 2016, please pass any comments (positive and negative) to a board member or the Executive Committee for review. Walt Williams moved to accept report. Kathy Soder seconded and motion passed. Key deliverables listed below.
 - NSIP Marketplace Facebook page launched. Designed to connect NSIP Producers with potential buyers.
 - Upcoming Let's Grow Workshops scheduled in Nebraska, Oregon, Michigan, and Minnesota.
 - Four Leading Breeder forums are being planned. The object is to balance presentations with open discussion to facilitate idea exchange and to collect information from producers about the production indexes used in analyses.
- Committee Reports
 - Technical Committee – Ron Lewis shared that the grant was not funded for the genomics study. He is working on submitting a smaller project in effort to maintain some momentum.
 - Promotion & Education Committee – no report.
 - Genomics Sub-Committee – Jim Morgan reported that we have the go ahead to begin collecting DNA from NSIP sires, funded by USDA Germ Plasm Lab. A survey of members will help determine when this collection should take place. Rusty shared that we need to work on the educational component behind genomics efforts, for example: FACS sheets and a webinar series.
 - Goat Committee – Report included at the end of the minutes.
- ASI Convention to be held in Scottsdale, AZ January 26-30, 2016.
 - NSIP will hold a meeting at this convention.
 - Elections for the board will occur at this meeting.
 - Bill Shultz of the nominating committee will be working on the slate for elections.
- Tom Boyer moved to adjourn, Walt Williams seconded.

- Next meeting scheduled for December 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. CST.



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Treasurers Report:

The report this month reflects our fiscal year 2015 ending financials. Attached find Larry Kincaid's balance sheet and P&L statement (use the one dated 11/10/2015 @ 12:00 pm. Also attached is a spread sheet I prepare monthly which splits the P&L into Pass-Through Operations (data fees and grants) and Ordinary Operations (all other). To exec board members, I had mis-categorized one line item when we met last night and that is now corrected.

We have small losses in both Pass Through and Ordinary Operations. In the Pass Through, there are several contributing factors. First, the ALB Needs expenses of \$30k were all in 2015 while the revenue was in 2014. Second, we spent about \$6k more on Lets Grow than we received in 2015.... that will be reversed in 2016. There are 2 off-set to these negative effects. Data fee revenue includes about \$23k of accruals because Mary was conscientious and provided this for Larry to incorporate into the financials. This should be a one-time effect as this is a permanent change for end-of-year financials. Second, we've received all of the ALB Grant money to support Rusty 1/2 time but we've only spent \$4k of it so far.

The loss of \$6.1k in Ordinary operations is mostly because we've been supporting Rusty's salary for a portion of the year. That support will lessen in 2016.

Our ending cash balance was about \$15k but since then we've collected a sizable amount of the accrued revenues bringing our bank balance over \$20k.

If this is confusing or unclear, please just ask for clarification.

Walt

November 2015 Program Director Report

I started the NSIP Marketplace Facebook page. This is designed to connect NSIP Producers with potential buyers. In order to post a sheep for sale, the animal must have EBVs. I must approve each post before it is published so we can police who posts. I hope this helps to place the right sheep into the right flocks.

The Let's Grow Project is still underway. Upcoming workshops I'll be speaking at are Nebraska Sheep and Goat Producers annual convention, Oregon Sheep Breeders annual meeting and Michigan Sheep Breeders annual convention. An informal event is also planned in Minnesota.

We are also planning 4 regional Leading Breeder Forums. These forums will be by invitation only for NSIP producers and will not be open to the public. They are designed to balance presentations with open discussion to facilitate idea exchange. We will also be collecting information from producers about the production indexes we use in the analysis. We would like to analyze the current indexes to make sure they are meeting producer goals, however, to do that, we need to know what those goals are first.

Goat Committee Report

Sorry I missed the call last night, I had intended to be on it but lost track of the time.

The goat section is still trying to gain some traction with producers, we put information out about NSIP at two programs in Kentucky in October and at the Savanna and ITF field day in OK. I talked about selection and use of data at two programs in October. I was part of a meeting with a small group thinking about developing a performance based meat goat group/association. They were interested in NSIP as the method to get performance data that would be required for participation.

Not much to report, when I talk about performance data, people are interested, however getting them to actually collect and submit any data still appears to be the main problem. Working to show them the benefits of sound data collection and analysis for their herds is going to be critical to getting more participation in any performance program.

Again, sorry I missed the call.

Ken Andries