

## NSIP Meeting

Thursday – May 12, 2022

7 p.m. CST

Minutes submitted by Lisa Paris Weeks

Attendees: Matt Benz, Kristen Bieber, Rusty Burgett, Zach Meinders, Lynn Fahrmeier, Tom Hodgman, Carol Heupel, Ron Lewis, Jim Morgan, Brett Pharo, Brenda Reau, Bill Shultz, Curt Stanley, Jake Thorne, Todd Taylor, Lisa Weeks

### Agenda:

- Brenda Reau called meeting to order. Jim Morgan moved to approve the agenda seconded by Carol Heupel, motion passed.
- Secretary Report
  - Matt Benz moved to accept the March minutes as submitted, seconded by Brett Pharo. Motion passed.
- Treasurer Report
  - Presented by Bill Shultz (report attached)
  - NSIP's total equity has increased by 51% over the average of the past three years.
  - Paid 2022 membership is at 186 against a goal of 220.
  - Kudos to Rusty for his hard work.
  - Jake Thorne moved to approve the report, seconded by Jim Morgan. Motion passed.
- Program Director Report
  - Presented by Rusty Burgett (report attached)
  - The Searchable Database is quickly reaching its data storage limit. Upgrading to a larger platform will soon become a necessity and with that there may be an associated increase in the annual cost.
  - Work is being done to add the Dorper and White Dorper to the searchable database.
  - Brenda asked Rusty to describe the common barriers for new members and not reading instructions is the most common.
  - Two webinars are being planned for beginners: an FAQ session and a Contemporary Group 101 session.
- Executive Committee Report
  - The MLA contract is being reviewed as we've essentially been operating without a signed agreement for the last couple of years.
  - Changes in the proposed contract vs. current include:
    - Cost/animal of \$2.88 USD that can be adjusted twice per year. We need to try to negotiate back to an annual cost.
    - Bill monthly Net 30. Our current practice is to pay quarterly because of the wire transfer cost. We need to try to negotiate back a quarterly payment.
  - Matt Benz motioned to let the Executive Committee handle the contract negotiations. Tom Hodgman seconded, motion passed.
- Technical Committee
  - Presented by Ron Lewis (report attached)
  - Update: Neogen is realizing a better than 2-3 week turnaround currently in their lab for processing the TSU's on the GGP Ovine 50k chip.

- Matt Benz requested an update on Tamera Kott's Fine Wool Index integration. The Technical Committee needs to be provided with the Index work for review. After the Technical Committee reviews, the NSIP Executive Committee will need to decide if/when it comes to the board for adoption. Additionally, LambPlan will require some validation of the data also. The associated cost of this review may be \$1000/day.
- ASI Wool Trust Fund and the original grant Tamera used will hopefully fund this effort.
- Sale Committee Report
  - Presented by Matt Benz (report attached)
    - The first NSIP Influenced Replacement Ewe Sale sold to 11 states, 40 bidders from 18 states.
      - 100 Polypay October ewe lambs averaged \$437.50
      - 175 Polypay January ewe lambs averaged \$447.00
      - 10 bred Polypay yearling NSIP ewes averaged \$770.00
      - 13 Texel March 2021 ewe lambs averaged \$655
    - June 20 is the next NSIP Influenced Replacement Ewe Sale
    - Sept 12 is the third NSIP Influenced Replacement Ewe Sale.
    - July 11-13 Online NSIP sale
    - July 30 Live Auction broadcast, Center of the Nation NSIP Sale in Spencer, IA.
- Next Meeting will be Thursday, July 14 @ 7 p.m. CST.
  - Brenda Reau moved to adjourn, seconded by Jake Thorne. Motion passed.

### NSIP 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2022 Treasure's Report

**4/10/2022 Bill Shultz**

March 31<sup>st</sup> ended our 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for FY 2022. Our March financials which are attached were prepared by Larry Kincaid, treasurer for ASI. Following are a few of the highlights:

NSIP's Total Equity stood at \$85,500 (total assets minus any liabilities); previous three-year average \$43,986

Current Equity \$30,769 (how much NSIP made during the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year); previous three-year average \$16,369

2022 Enrollment income \$47,426; previous three-year average \$33,875

2022 Data Fee Income \$16,591; previous three-year average \$16,300

NSIP membership remains the engine that drives our train down the track. Through March our paid membership was 186 compared to 182 at this time in 2021 and a previous three-year average of approximately 135. We budgeted for 220 for memberships in 2022 and we are well on our way of hitting that mark.

We expect most of our revenue from data fees, DNA analysis and sales to come in the second half of the year with enrollment tapering off. I believe we are staying on budget with no unexpected income or expenses during the first half of year.

Overall, I think it has been a good first half of a year financially for NSIP... kudos to Rusty for his hard work.

NSIP Program Director's Report  
May 2022

The majority of my time lately has been spent working with producers on data entry. We've had several new flocks submitting data for the first time as well as existing flocks that have had issues with their Pedigree Master. Four different flocks lost all of their sheep data which we had to recover so as you work with producers, please encourage them to back up their data frequently and often!

We also had another batch of TSUs submitted for genotyping in April. There were a total of 580 samples submitted. Nine of those were submitted as part of the GEMS project and the remainder were ordered through the commercial channels. Breeds represented were 4 Rambouillets, 36 Polypays and the remainder were Katahdins. This batch put the total number of animals genotyped at 9,001. We have several samples being submitted now for the next batch already.

In April, we received 6 new members and 5 in March. I have also spoken with 2 additional members who will be joining shortly. We also have several existing members that are still getting their enrollment forms in for 2022 as they begin entering data for this year's lamb crop. In March, I hosted 2 webinars for members about the basics of Pedigree Master. We had several more attendees than I originally anticipated so I plan to offer ongoing webinars.

Last week I had to purchase a new version of Quickbooks Pro 2022. I was operating on Quickbooks 2019 which was no longer being supported. While I could have continued using the old version of the software, we would not be able to accept credit card payments anymore starting May 31, 2022 so I was forced to update. They no longer offer a desktop version that isn't on a yearly subscription so we can budget for roughly \$350/year. The basic online version of Quickbooks does not allow enough accounts for our program and the advanced online version is \$90/month. At least the timing was good as I just recently purchased a new computer so I was able to update our software onto my new laptop.

Over the past 2 months, I also completed the renewal applications for our 3 insurance policies. The general liability policy increased by 17% while the D&O and E&O policies remained similar to previous years. Others noted that similar policies for other organizations also saw substantial increases and that is being looked into.

In the coming weeks, I will work with the sale committee, Iowa Sheep Industry Association and Northwest Iowa Sheep Producers to finalize plans for the educational sessions at the Center of the Nation NSIP Sale. I was also invited to participate in the NC-214 research meeting in Clay Center, NE in June. In addition to the Intro to Pedigree Master webinars, I'd also like to assemble educational materials and a webinar on contemporary group structure as that has been a common topic lately.

**NSIP Technical Advisory Committee Report**  
May 2022

***Reporting genetic conditions***

Efforts to define the reporting of genetic conditions using the GeneSeek Genomic Profiler (GGP) Ovine 50k array continue. As a reminder, the five genetic conditions under consideration are:

- Ovine Progressive Pneumonia (OPP) susceptibility
- Scrapie susceptibility (codons 112, 136, 141, 154, and 171)
- Myostatin
- Callipyge
- Booroola FecB

On April 18, options for reporting genetic conditions were presented to the NSIP Executive for consideration with OPP used as the illustration. These options involved increasing levels of scrutiny for interpreting the genomic information available on an animal to determine and report its genotype for a given condition. For the 7,027 animals with genotype information considered, OPP genotypes could be reported on between 93.4% (least scrutinous) and 86.2% (most scrutinous) of the animals.

As noted in an earlier NSIP Technical Advisory Committee Report, correctly reporting OPP involves considerable finesse. The same is true for scrapie codon 171. On April 29, Dr. Jessica Petersen (Animal Functional Genomics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and I met with Ben Pejzar and Ryan Ferretti at Neogen Corporation to discuss the information still needed to fully delineate genotypes at codon 171 (e.g., RR – resistant, QR – rarely susceptible, QQ – susceptible) using the GGP Ovine 50k array. The necessary information is forthcoming.

Ron Lewis  
NSIP Technical Committee Chair  
May 11, 2022

Thanks to everyone who consigned, purchased and bid in the NSIP Replacement ewe sale. We think it was a great success.

100 Polypay October 2021 ewe lambs averaged \$437.50

175 Polypay January 2022 ewe lambs averaged \$447

10 Bred Polypay yearling NSIP ewes averaged \$770

13 Texel March 2021 ewe lambs average \$655

Sheep sold to 11 states. There were 40 bidders from 18 states. 5442 different IP addresses viewed the sale.

NSIP will be sponsoring two more NSIP Replacement ewe sales on June 20<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup>. These sales are open to ewes sired by rams enrolled in NSIP.

There will be an NSIP Online sale July 11-13 for single rams and ewes enrolled in NSIP and a live auction, broadcast on DVAuction, July 30<sup>th</sup> in Spencer, IA.

The National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) is the vehicle where ebv's for sheep in the US are developed. This data can help you achieve your goals in your management situation and climate.

For information about any of these sales visit the NSIP website [www.nsip.org](http://www.nsip.org)