

Michigan Sheep Producers Meeting  
January 22, 2018  
MSU Livestock Pavilion

Directors Present: Bartlett, Bronkema, Bristol, Klein, Lauwers, Ludlam, Martin, Meeuwse, Oswald, Pharo, Scovill, J. Scramlin, M. Scramlin, Villarreal

Directors Absent: Buckham, Thorne

Guest in attendance: Maury Kaercher, Denise Bartlett, Dr. Richard Ehrhardt, Pete Barnum, Sheryl Oswald

President Denise Bartlett called meeting to order at 6:15pm.

Motion by Bristol, seconded by Martin to accept the secretary's report from October 2017 and Annual Meeting 2018 as printed. Motion passed.

Election of Officers was held with the results:

President - Ben Bartlett          VP - Matt Scramlin          Secretary - Karen Scovill

Executive Director Evaluation - Denise Bartlett expressed there was good feedback from the board members. The executive committee also had a positive review and renewed Maury's contract for another year.

MSU Update - Lots of research projects going on currently; looking for a research student; upcoming workshops are filling well.

**Committee Reports** - Chair for 2018 is in ()

Small Flock (Letty Klein) - Getting more small flock producers to become MSPA members.

Membership (Letty Klein) - Currently there are 317 members. Motion by Scramlin, seconded by Scovill to appoint two taskforce committees - one to look into recruiting new members, finding ways to reward members for being members or recruiting members; the other to look into how data is collected and used by the membership. Motion passed. Recruiting committee - Martin, J. Scramlin, M. Scramlin & Ludlam. Data committee - Benne, Klein & Villarreal. All committees will report back in March.

Youth (Brenda Reau & Samantha Ludlam) - no report, but auction raised \$3,500.

Purebred (Karen Scovill) - Please think of award nominees all year

Club Lamb (Matt Scramlin) - Tail-docking discussion was held. A history of and what current issues are around tail docking. A motion by Bronkema, seconded by Meeuwse to continue to support the current AVMA policy. Motion passed. Dave Meeuwse will write an article for the upcoming newsletter explaining the board's position. He will email it to the board to get their input.

Legislative (Dave Meeuwse) - Dave gave an update on what was happening in Lansing. Ag Day at the Capital is March 13. M. Scramlin, Lauwers, J. Scramlin, Meeuwse, and Karcher will represent the board at the event.

Wool (Jim Bristol) - There will be a wool school at the Northern MI Fiber Fest.

Let's Grow (Jim Bristol) - In the next round of applications, there will be an application for the MSU sheep barn for equipment to use to put on wool schools at the farm.

Website (Max Benne) - Motion by Martin, seconded by M. Scramlin to have Max check out new web page options. Motion passed. Committee of M. Scramlin, Martin and Max to look at what can be done to make the website more user friendly to input information. The committee will report back in March.

Communications (Denise Bartlett) - Committee members will include - Max Benne, Klein, J. Scramlin, Martin.

Symposium (Maury Kaercher) - over see the planning of the event

## **Old Business**

1. 2018 Symposium - Good overall program. Everyone looked over the evaluation summaries.

## **New Business -**

1. Committee Assignments - see above committee reports.

2. 2019 Symposium - Committee will work on plans for 2019 - continue to find a way to keep the event profitable, while keeping it affordable to all members and families.

3. 2018 Budget - Board went through the proposed budget. Final budget will be voted on in March.

4. 501C update - plans are still moving forward to get our designation. It is a long process.

5. ASI Committee nominations

- Animal Health - Heather Ludlam
- Production, Education & Research - Dr. Ehrhardt
- Genetic Stakeholders - Brett Pharo
- Wool - Jim Bristol
- Predator Management - Scott Oswalt
- Emerging Youth Entrepreneurs - Cam Lauwers & Tyler Martin
- Let's Grow - Ben Bartlett

6. Mentoring Program - Friday night program was great at Symposium. Idea of purchasing/donating starter flock program came up.

7. Wool Outreach funds - \$2429 available - Applications for Fiber Fest, Fleece competition, Warm & Wooly, MIYWW program & the Genesee Fair were received.

#### Additional Agenda Items

- Critter Barn - Motion by Bronkema, seconded by J. Scramlin to write a letter of support of the Critter Barn program. Motion passed.

- Travel - President B. Bartlett said it looked to be that a trip out west was a potential for fall of 2018. An article will be in the upcoming newsletter to introduce the idea and destination. He will also check with MSU to see if there is a possibility of doing an international trip to the UK/Ireland through them.

- Next meeting will be March 26, 2018 at 6pm at the MSU Pavilion.

Motion by M. Scramlin, seconded by Meeuwse to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Karen Scovill  
Secretary