

**Michigan Sheep Producers Meeting**  
**October 18, 2018**  
**Perry Public Schools Administration Building**

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

Directors Absent: Martin, J. Scramlin,

Guest in attendance: Denise Bartlett, Richard Ehrhardt, Maury Kaercher, Nancy Kaercher, Sheryl Oswald, Pat Schloss

Meeting was called to order by President Bartlett at 6:35pm.

Motion by Meeuwse, seconded by Bronkema to accept the secretary's report from the August 16, 2018 conference call confirming Pat Schloss as new membership chair. Motion passed. Correspondence was passed around and read.

Motion by M. Scramlin, seconded by Bristol to accept the treasurer's report as printed. Motion passed.

**MSU Update** – Dr. Ehrhardt gave an update on summer programs, the new shepherd, new department chair, current research project and resources available.

**Executive Director's Report** – Maury gave a report of what he has been doing on behalf of the MSPA. He has been attending several meetings with other commodities and groups. They are all glad to see MSPA at the table.

**Committee Reports:**

- Small Flock – no report

- Membership – Pat Schloss was introduced as the new membership chair. He is ready to get to work. Clarification of membership timeline – January 1 – December 1 of current year. If dues are paid after October 1 of current year, they go towards the following year's dues.

- Newsletter/Website – Brochure update was discussed. The banners have had a positive response. A flyer to register for symposium to be made available for use at places that get a limited amount of newsletters. Discussion was held on having a Facebook page where MSPA puts up information we want our members to know. Samantha Ludlam would be willing to oversee this project.

**Old Business –**

1. State Fair Report – Matt Scramlin said all went well. They are discussing having a commodity stage next year where each commodity would have a day on the main stage.

2. MSPA 501c5 update – We are almost done! Articles of Incorporation will be voted on by the members at the annual meeting.

3. MI Assessment on Lambs – Discussion of the check off money from wool buyers. Dale will check with Gronwold's.

4. Industry trip – Trip to the Western Rockies (CO, WY, UT) in September. It was a fabulous trip. To read the blog Denise Bartlett did on the trip see [www.misheep.home.blog](http://www.misheep.home.blog).

5. Resignation – Motion by Bristol, seconded by M. Scramlin to accept with regret the resignation of Wendy Villarreal from the board. Thank you Wendy for your service to the board.

### **New Business –**

1. ALB Update – Dale Thorne gave an update from the ALB. They are currently working on way for all parties to work together to come up with solutions for the need of lamb for year round availability.

#### 2. 4P Action Items/Information

- Policy – Motion by M. Scramlin, seconded by Meeuwse to put together a policy committee of 4 people with Jim Bristol as chair and report back in a year. The policies would be specific to sheep for members to share with their legislators. Motion passed

- New logo – Motion by Villarreal, seconded by M. Scramlin to adopt a new MSPA logo. Motion passed.

- Communication Committee – Motion by Ludlam, seconded by Bronkema to have Samantha Ludlam oversee the new Facebook page for posting information for our members. Motion passed

- Membership – Motion by Bristol, seconded by Pharo to offer members a free classified ad on the website. Members would be able to have one ad/3 months. Motion passed.

- Dues/Payments to one address – Motion by M. Scramlin, seconded by Bristol to try for one year to have all money payments go to the Executive Director address and then are decimated from there. This would start November 1, 2018. Motion passed with one opposed.

- Scholarship – We are working on a list of past scholarship recipients to see what they are doing now and how this scholarship helped them. Motion by Bristol, seconded by M. Scramlin to look into offering one scholarship to a non-member young person that is studying sheep management or wants to get into raising sheep. Motion passed

- Gift Memberships – Motion by Meeuwse, seconded by Ludlam to allow current members to gift a new member their membership dues at the cost of \$30 for 2019. Motion passed.

- Committee Chairs – We would like each committee chair to generate three new ways to get members to join our association.

- Mentor Program – Lauwers and Ludlam agreed to work together to streamline the MSPA Mentorship program.

3. Current Award Plaques – Motion by Bristol, seconded by Meeuwse to have the plaques updated to current and replace as needed to make all 4 plaques current. Motion passed. We are checking into seeing if there is a better place to display them than the current location so people can see them better.

4. Producer of the Year awards – Nominations are due by December 1 to committee chairs. The form is on the website. Committee chairs need to contact 2017 winners to remind them they need to do a 20 minute presentation on their operation at the symposium. Ben Bartlett will get the 2018 awards.

- Service to Industry award was decided by the board. Award winner will be announced at the Annual Banquet at the Symposium.

5. Symposium – Plans are coming along.

a. Program – almost finalized

b. Breakout descriptions – need to be turned into Nancy ASAP

c. New sponsors/exhibitors/vendors – any ideas, please contact Maury.

d. Long dock group would like a table – Maury to handle this.

e. Logo wear – Matt Scramlin will look into this being available to take orders and/or cash and carry.

6. MSPA Board nominations – Matt Scramlin is working on this. There are currently 6 board spots up for election – 2 can be re-elected, 4 need to be filled. Any ideas of people who would be interested in running for the board, please pass their name on to Matt.

- Motion by M. Scramlin, seconded by Klein to have Pat Schloss finish our Villarreal term of one year. Motion passed.

7. Mentoring Funds/Wool Outreach - Mentoring funds will be used for the event Friday night of Symposium. Wool applications turned in were discussed and voted on as to which ones to fund. Executive Committee will meet to determine how the funds will be divided among the applicants.

8. Summer Picnic – Looking for volunteers to host the 2019 picnic. If willing, talk to Ben or Maury.

Added Agenda Items

- Everyone please get out on vote on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Bristol, seconded by M. Scramlin to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Scovill  
Secretary