Government & Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom) MINUTES December 8, 2025

Committee Members: Bonnie Potter, Chair
Dr. Signe Balch
Fred Cripe
Derrick Letsinger

Board Liaison: Mike Livingston (absent)

Staff Representative: Robin Gifford (absent)

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm EST.

1.0 Meeting Opening

- 1.0 AOA News of Importance: Bonnie reminded everyone to renew their memberships.

2.0 Health / Government Related

- 2.0 USAHA Alerts
  - Not much of concern for alpacas; seeing a few cases of EEE, and West Nile Virus as expected. New world screw worm remains a big concern. Tracking the EHV outbreak and when it was first noted, Signe and Bonnie drafted an eBlast which was sent out on 11/24.Shedding can occur before symptoms. Dies not seem to easily transmit to alpacas. National Western and some other shows may pose a risk as they follow horse shows. HPAI is still being reported.

2.1 USAHA Meeting: Many people were unable to attend due to the government shutdown. New World Screw Worm a big concern and we may need to educate owners about it due to transport issues. Report will be sent to everyone to read for discussion at our next meeting.

3.0 Unfinished Business

- 3.1 Articles on "Risk Management". Fire Article seems fairly complete with no major topics missing. We should re-read and let Fred know. Master Artile will be a check list – we need to review for missing topics. Fred is working on Electyric Safaty and Sharps. Need to include medical waste. Question about AOA website and search capability … do we need to prepare for Key Word search.

4.0 New Business

- 4.1: EHV eBlast: discussed above. No feedback received from members. .

5.0 Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Minutes of 10/13/2025: Fred made a motion to approve the minutes as written; second by Signe. Motion carried.

6.0 Meeting Wrap

- 6.1 Bonnie reviewed the action items.
- 6.2 The next meeting will be held on 1/12/2026.
- **6.3** Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Potter