Board Meeting Agenda

Board of Directors:

Mike Vigus, President	Joe Crocco, Treasurer	Andy Merriwether, Director
Jeff Williamson, Vice President	Vern Butler, Director	Laurel Shouvlin, Director
Steve Aitchison, Secretary	Patty Hasselbring, Director	Karen Ball, Director (Absent)

Executive Director: Bud Synhorst

Guests: AOA Member to Discuss EPD Program

Meeting: Conference Call - **August 28, 2018**
6:00 PM Eastern Time

Meeting called to order by Vigus at 6:00 PM.

1.0 EPD Discussion Vigus/Merriwether
See discussion in 5.6 below.

2.0 Ratify Email Votes Vigus

2.1 Motion by Hasselbring, Seconded by Shouvlin to distribute strategic plan slides to people upon request for input and develop under "Organizational" page, titled Strategic Plan 2018. On that page we should briefly describe the process we are using, our time frame, and provide input to one of our two-point people for this process (Hasselbring & Williamson). The PDF document should be available on that page for download by members. Approved 5-0-4. Votes not cast by Butler, Crocco, Merriwether, Vigus.

2.2 Motion by Aitchison, seconded by Williamson to approve the President's message for the Autumn Issue of Alpacas Magazine. Approved 8-0-1. Vote not cast by Butler.

2.3 Motion by Williamson, Seconded by Ball to approve the minutes from the July 12 in-person meeting in Tennessee. Approved 9-0.
Shouvlin moved to accept the above email votes (2.1, 2.2 & 2.3), Hasselbring seconded. Approved 8-0 (Ball absent)

3.0 Financial Reports Crocco

3.1 July 31, 2018 Financial Report Crocco
$129,000 under budget, we're $300,000 in the black.

3.2 Review Draft Financial Report for membership posting Synhorst/Crocco
Board provided feedback to clean up the language at the top as well as some of the listed items. Synhorst will redo and present again.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 IT Contract extension with Proteus Synhorst/Williamson

The contract was amended. Shouvlin moved to accept the contract amendments as outlined by Synhorst & Williamson. Williamson seconded. Approved 8-0 (Ball absent)

4.2 Ballot Language for Membership Vote — Vigus

Merriwether suggested rather than removing the free membership level of "Alpaca Owner" by changing the Bylaws, what would be much simpler would be to change the benefits of the membership to no longer allow them to transfer/register alpacas unless they were at "Alpaca Registry" level. This would allow us to keep contact with that entire group of alpaca owners and yet still require them to move to a paid level to do anything more than view their own existing herd. Further discussion was tabled until legal counsel and Proteus could review the changes and their impact.

4.3 Bulk transfer recommendation from AOA staff — Synhorst

Merriwether moved that we accept the staff's proposal, Shouvlin seconded. Approved 8-0 (Ball absent)

4.4 Judge Conflict letter referred to JAC & SRC — Shouvlin

Tabled until next meeting as letter had not reached the JAC prior to their August meeting.

4.5 Fiber Sample Process Report — Shouvlin

Shouvlin proposed that we reword and/or reorganize the information about EPD/fiber sample submissions to help members better understand the process. There are multiple web pages that get referred to from various sources (i.e. Yocum McColl, etc.) - Shouvlin and Synhorst will meet to go over the current pages and how to consolidate them into one landing page.

4.6 Strategic Plan Update/next steps — Williamson/Hasselbring/Synhorst

Scheduled meeting for September 5 with the Strategic Planning team.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Alpacas Magazine RFP Discussion — Synhorst

Five proposals were submitted for Alpacas Magazine. Synhorst and staff will sit down to discuss proposals with three of the companies to narrow it down further.

5.2 Accounting Services RFP Discussion — Synhorst

Two proposals were submitted, one from our current company HBV, and one other company. The HBV proposal was significantly lower, so Synhorst recommended we continue with them. Shouvlin moved, Merriwether seconded. Approved 8-0 (Ball absent).

5.3 2019 International Fleece Conference — Shouvlin

Shouvlin proposed that we change the "National Fleece Conference" to an "International Fleece Conference" for 2019. Discussion concerning whether that meant non-AOA animals could register or not. Would require a waiver by the SRC. The Board approved Shouvlin to request the waiver and continue research and return with more information.

5.4 Judge apprentice credits outside United States — Shouvlin

Shouvlin proposed that we discuss the possibility of giving apprentices credit for their work at shows in other countries. The board agreed that it was a good idea and Shouvlin will present it to the JTCC.

5.5 Membership Insurance and Benefit Discussion — Synhorst

Synhorst gave an update on researching possible insurance and other benefits for AOA members. More details to come at a future meeting.

5.6 Discussion on EPD Presentation — Vigus

Merriwether says that he doesn't believe it would be too difficult of task to incorporate the inbreeding calculator into our registry system - the inbreeding coefficient isn't a complicated calculation. The board assigned Synhorst to find out the cost to add it from our vendor, Proteus.

Merriwether felt that the second part of the EPD presentation on determining how a particular animal is related to the national herd could be more complicated, and not as broadly appealing. The board assigned Synhorst to find out the cost to add it from our vendor, Proteus.

In discussion about the third part of the EPD presentation on further developing the relationship of various traits and adjusting the calculations to better reflect their true values. The board assigned Synhorst to find out the cost to add it from Mark Enns.

5.7 AOA Committee Structure and Operations Recommendation — Hasselbring

In the interest of pushing the Strategic Plan, Hasselbring wants to define the board and staff liaison roles as more active participants. Discussion covered redefining the various committees to be sure they are all working toward the Strategic Plan - decisions on this were tabled until we have the SP completed.

6.0 Executive Director Update — Synhorst

6.1 Dashboard

6.2 Review Draft dashboard report for membership

Synhorst developed a pruned down version of the Dashboard. Discussion covered informing members of the definition of "live" alpacas and including a note that encouraged members to update their deceased alpacas in the registry to help make that number more accurate.

7.0 Committee and Other Reports

7.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee — Merriwether

7.2 Judge Training and Certification Committee — Williamson

7.3 Judges Advisory Committee — Aitchison

7.4 Show Rules Committee — Shouvlin

7.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee — Ball (absent)

7.5.1 FiberCom Application - Charlene Schmid

Board discussed adding Charlene Schmid to the Fiber Committee.
Approved 8-0 (Ball absent)

7.6 Alternative Products Committee — Butler

Committee is putting together information on a meat brochure that will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

7.7 Membership Committee — Hasselbring

7.8 Affiliates Council — Vigus

7.9 Ad hoc Youth Committee — Shouvlin

7.10 US Alpaca Fiber Council — Ball (absent)

8.0 Meeting Wrap

8.1 Contact the Board Update Vigus

8.1.1 AOA creating a “subsidy account” for fiber producers — Ball

Tabled upon Karen's return

8.1.2 AOA providing legal assistance to members having issues with IRS — Synhorst

Board agreed that a legal fund wasn't something we wanted to do.

8.2 Action Items — Williamson

8.3 Next Meeting — **September 25, 2018 via conference call** — Vigus

8.4 Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM Eastern. — Vigus