Board Meeting Minutes

Our Mission

We advance responsible alpaca ownership and breeding through our world-renowned registry, comprehensive education, leadership, and vibrant member community. We build a community, *through member and volunteer support,* where we ensure the long-term sustainability and success of alpaca livestock for current and future generations.

Our Vision

To be the definitive livestock model and global leader advancing all aspects of alpaca ownership—from breeding and health to fleece utilization and business development—while growing a thriving community that champions the alpaca industry's future.

Board of Directors

Jennifer Hack, President	Brian Houchin, Vice-President
Jason Gill, Treasurer	Michael Livingston, Secretary - absent
Gina Glasscock, Director	Scott Miller, Director
Sharon Milligan, Director	Jay Penica, Director
Mike Walsh, Director	

2026 New Board Members: Rhonda Deschner, Tim Graber, Kristian Thordarson
Executive Director: Robin Gifford

Meeting: Video Board Meeting
Monday, June 22, 2026; 4:00 PM Pacific/7:00 PM Eastern

1.0 Meeting Opening — Hack

Call to order: 6:04 pm CST

2.0 Consent Agenda — Hack

May minutes approval, Executive Director's report, Dashboard, Breeder ID Policy, and committee reports NOT needing action.

Milligan pulled out the minutes. Request to attach her motion to rescind the proposed Bylaw amendment. Need to add rollcall vote count. Send via email for approval. Motion to approve with changes: Miller, second: Gill Approved.

3.0 Financial Report: June financials, Q2 summary — Gill

- Through May, the organization moved into the black with $7,700 Net operating profit (five-month total)
- Year-end projection: -$11K.

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- **Registrations** are down 228 compared to this time last year, continuing a concerning trend. However, **membership loss stabilized to only 10 net members** lost
- Motion to accept the financial report: Miller, second: Penica Approved.

4.0 Alpaca Adoption/Donation Program Miller

The board extensively discussed a proposed **youth alpaca adoption program** that would connect youth members with donated {bred} females, with Scott to present a formal proposal to the NAF board by Thursday, June 25.

- Jay proposed creating a **90-day quick hit task force** to develop the youth alpaca donation program framework before taking it to affiliates, including tax guidance for donors (e.g., fully depreciated alpaca implications), uniform contracts to protect breeders and youth recipients, and an educational scholarship component.
- Scott clarified the plan is to get NAF board approval first, develop all necessary components, then present a **fully formed vision to affiliates** rather than asking them to design it.
- Sharon emphasized the need for **stringent donor guidelines** to prevent the program from becoming a 'dumping ground' for poor-quality animals.
- The board agreed to revisit the initiative in the fall once current office priorities are completed.

5.0 Other Business

5.1 Points Task Force Chairperson Miller

Scott to find and recruit a replacement chairperson for the show points task force, then bring the individual to the board for approval.

5.2 Task force application Hack

- Gina created a draft letter and application form for the percentage registry task force volunteers, using criteria to assess candidates' genuine interest in advancing the industry and the ability to contribute without criticism.
- Concerns about selection bias in the letter were raised.
- Sharon suggested the requirements to serve on the task force might discourage qualified members from applying despite having relevant experience.
- Board agreed to both the letter and the application needing revision. The board is urged to collaborate on editing.

5.3 Scott Young email on show fees Hack

- Board reviewed Scott Young's email about costs shows incurred from AOA entries.
- Brian and Robin noted the reality of rising costs for venues, panels, transportation and that AOA's fees barely cover judge training, certifications, and Margie's 24/7 weekend support for shows.
- Jay noted that complaints about show costs represent "noise" rather than "signal" – the real issue is people complaining to show managers about cost, not that AOA fees are actually unreasonable given what they cover.

5.4 Member + Non-member mills on website Glasscock

- Fiber Comm has created an updated list of mills in the US.
- Gina proposed creating a resource listing both member and non-member mills.
- After discussion on how AOA can incentivize mills to become members, Robin suggested surveying mills and asking them directly, rather than assuming value.
- Brian raised concerns about devaluing business membership by offering free listings, noting the org is spending thousands on technology while potentially giving away website exposure.
- Motion to list both member and non-member mills: Glasscock. Second: Gill. Approved with Miller and Houchin voting no.

5.5 Benefit Hub

Discussion to revisit this benefit at a later date. The cost is $400/mo. Do they offer the benefits our members will seek out to justify the cost?

5.0 **Adjournment** Motion to adjourn: Glasscock 7:46pm CST Hack

Next BOD Planning meeting: July 20-21, 2026, Enola, PA