Government & Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom) MINUTES March 11, 2024

Committee Members: Bonnie Potter, Chair
Derrick Letsinger
Tom Petersen
Chris Sturgeon

Board Liaison: Mike Livingston

Staff Representative: Dan Huntley (absent)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm EDT.

1.0 Meeting Opening

- 1.1 AOA News of Importance: National show is this coming weekend, and registrations are up from last year. There has been some discussion about the various committees and what direction may be needed. Tom made a motion to have AOA recognize Dr. Pat Long for his many years of service to GIRCom, AOA and the alpaca industry; second by Chris. Motion carried.

2.0 Health / Government Related

- 2.1 USAHA Alerts/Conference
  - Nothing specific to alpacas.
  - Bird flu continues to be a problem with over 530K poultry killed this year.
  - A few cases of Equine Herpes virus in horses continue to be reported.
  - USDA has released the 2022 Ag Census and it includes data on alpacas.
  - Disaster assistance is available to ranchers in Texas affected by the wildfires.

3.0 Unfinished Business

- 3.1 Transportation eBlast: Bonnie distributed draft of eBlast on transportation requirements. Derrick made a motion to approve; second by Tom. Motion carried.
- 3.2 Committee Appointment: Bonnie has been in contact with veterinarian recommended by Dr. Pat Long as his replacement. She has chatted with Dr. Long and is interested in serving on our committee. Tom made a motion to recommend her appointment to GirCom; seconded by Chris. Motion carried.

4.0 New Business

- 4.1 No new business to discuss.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Minutes of 2/12/2024: Tom made a motion to approve the minutes as written; second by Derrick. Motion carried.
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6.0 Meeting Wrap

- 6.1 Bonnie reviewed the action items.
- 6.2 The next meeting date will be 4/8/2024.
- **6.3** Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm EDT.

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Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Potter