# Board Meeting Minutes

## Our Mission

Champion the unique qualities of alpacas and encourage responsible breeding and care to ensure a thriving and sustainable alpaca industry.

## Our Vision

AOA is the leading authority on alpaca ownership, breeding, and registration while fostering a strong community of alpaca enthusiasts.

## Board of Directors

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|---|---|
| Jennifer Hack, President | Brian Houchin, Vice-President |
| Jason Gill, Treasurer | Michael Livingston, Director |
| Rhonda Deschner, Director | Gina Glasscock, Director - Absent |
| Mary Miller, Director | Sharon Milligan, Director |
| Mike Walsh, Director | |

**Executive Director:** Robin Gifford

**Meeting:** Video Board Meeting
Monday, April 28, 2025; 4:00 PM Pacific/7:00 PM Eastern

**1.0 Meeting Opening** — Hack

Call to order: 6:04pm CDT

**2.0 Consent Agenda** — Hack

March email approval ratification, Executive Director's Report, Dashboard, Social Media stats and committee Reports NOT needing discussion or action.
Motion: Deschner 2nd: Gill All approve.

**3.0 Financial Report** — Gill

Document reference: March Financials, Year-to-date Financials, Executive Financial Summary
Expenses were up and revenue down in March. Nationals stayed in the black with expenses for the show remaining low, but revenue was also down.

**4.0 Show Rules:** Certifying Shows within a certain distance. — Houchin

Concern over two shows within two hours of each other in 2024 and happening again in 2025. Discussion on whether it is appropriate to set a minimum distance between shows? Shows in close proximity to one another result in fewer animals putting the show at risk. Ability to secure panels was another negative consequence of shows too close to each other.

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Hack proposed creating a checklist for the Show Rules Committee (SRC) to include in next year's paperwork for affiliates, verifying that shows are not within a certain distance (tentatively 400 miles) of another show on the same weekend.

Sharon Milligan suggested adding a question to the checklist about whether the affiliate has communicated with other affiliates and tried to make accommodations if there is a potential conflict.

Sharon Milligan agreed to draft the verbiage for the checklist item about communication between affiliates then forward to the SRC.

**5.0 Other Business** Hack

**5.1 Judges** Milligan

Milligan reported on a discussion with Margie regarding the handling of complaints about judges throughout the show season, focusing on addressing significant issues rather than minor grievances.

Board members are requested to immediately contact Margie with detailed information about complaints involving inappropriate behavior or direct rule violations by judges, aiming to address issues in a timely manner. The emphasis is on identifying and reporting problems that significantly affect exhibitors or their decision to participate in future events, rather than minor complaints.

Margie has committed to addressing reported issues directly, indicating a proactive approach to resolving judge-related concerns.

**5.2 National Show Contracts: 2027, 2028** Hack/Gill

Gill has been working on financial analyses for different show locations. Fort Wayne has been identified as more profitable, but there are concerns about fairness in location selection.

Fort Wayne is confirmed for the 2026 show. The contract includes a guarantee that if they decide to return in 2027 or 2028, the facility rental price won't increase, though incidental equipment charges may rise.

Grand Island, Nebraska is being considered as an alternative location. They are holding dates for 2027, but haven't provided a contract or price estimate yet.

The Ranch in Loveland, Colorado (about 45 minutes north of Denver) was suggested as another option.

**6.0 Adjournment**

Motion: Gill 2nd: Miller All approve. 7:05pm CDT. Hack

**Next regular meeting:** May 26, 2025