Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors:

Shauna Brummet, President	Rhonda Deschner, Treasurer	Patty Hasselbring, Director
Jeff Williamson, Vice President	Karen Ball, Director	Andy Merriwether, Director
Steve Aitchison, Secretary	Wendy Dittbrenner, Director	Mike Vigus, Director (absent)

Executive Director: Bud Synhorst

Meeting: Conference Call - **Monday, September 23, 2019**
6:00 PM Eastern Time

Meeting called to order by Brummet at 6:02 PM Eastern.

1.0 Ratify Email Votes Brummet

1.1 Motion by Williamson, second by Brummet to accept the August meeting minutes for the regular board meeting. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.
Ball moved to accept the Email Vote, Aitchison seconded. Approved 8-0-1 (Vigus absent).

2.0 Treasurer Report Deschner

2.1 June Financial Report
Checking balance is ~$96,000 less than last year as revenue is down some, but expenses have been lower, too. The investment account is over $1,100,000, which is ~$26,000 up from the start of the year.

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Innovative Fleece Assessment (IFA) update Dittbrenner/Ball
Ball moved to change from Committee to Task Force to implement the IFA format, made up of the members (Jerri Booher, Margie Ault, Cheryl Gehly, Jude Anderson, Amanda Vandenbosch, Beth Sheets, and leader/liaison Wendy Dittbrenner) to develop the initial plan, Deschner seconded. Approved 8-0-1 (Vigus absent).
Dittbrenner reported from the IFA Implementation group - the group wanted to emphasize that this new show format is not replacing the existing fleece show format, but it will be another format option for shows to choose to use. **Shows are not required to use this format, it is merely a new option.** Secondary discussions covered development of materials, such as videos, that could be shared to demonstrate the show for affiliates so they could better understand the concept and process. Discussed the possibility of more live demos around the country at shows to help educate members and provide a format for feedback. The intent is to have this format in the Show Rules in 2021.

3.1.1 Innovative Fleece Assessment (IFA) Agreement Synhorst/Response from Visani
AOA Legal Counsel worked out an agreement to present to Amanda Vandenbosch and presented the summary to the Board. Hasselbring moved that AOA present the contract to Vandenbosch, Aitchison seconded. Approved 8-0-1 (Vigus absent).

3.2 DDC swab testing experiment — Brummet

DDC provided a quote of $1,700 to run a comprehensive test. The board discussed some elements and determined that Merriwether, Brummet, and Dan could determine the animals to test. Merriwether moved to approve the test and cost, Deschner seconded. Approved 8-0-1 (Vigus absent)

3.3 Committee Description Review — Brummet

Brummet requested that this be tabled until the October meeting.

3.4 Alpaca Breed Standard — Vigus

With Vigus absent, this was tabled until October.

3.5 Unreachable for Transfers — Synhorst/Response from Visani

Legal Counsel suggested we follow AOA policy and continue to protect the sellers and leave contract disputes up to the legal system.

3.6 Search Committee update — Brummet

Brummet reported that a large number of resumes had come into the organization and the Search Committee had set up phone interviews with the top 8 candidates during the next week. The Committee would update the board with the progress and hopes to come away from the initial interviews with the top 3 prospects for further interviews.

4.0 New Business

4.1 AOA Foundation Discussion — Synhorst

Board discussed what had been determined in the past on Foundations and decided to table this discussion for now.

4.2 2020 Budget outline for review — Deschner

4.3 JTCC Committee Addition — Williamson

The JTCC submitted a new candidate to be approved to the Committee. Additionally, the Board discussed whether there were qualifications for becoming a Committee member.

4.4 President's letter to affiliates — Brummet

Brummet wrote a letter to the affiliate leaders to remind them to follow their own bylaws. Ball moved to accept the letter, Hasselbring seconded. Approved 8-0-1 (Vigus absent).

5.0 Executive Director Update/Dashboard

5.1 Dashboard — Synhorst

5.2 Other closing items for transition — Synhorst

6.0 Committee and Other Reports

6.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee (meets 1st Monday) — Merriwether

No report.

6.2 Judge Training and Certification Committee (meets 2nd Wednesday) — Williamson

JTCC discussed their part in the Innovative Fleece Assessment Show.

6.3 Judges Advisory Committee (meets 1st Tuesday) — Vigus

No report.

6.4 Show Rules Committee (meets 1st Thursday) — Deschner

Deschner reported that the committee had worked on the Breeders Cup.

6.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee (meets 1st Monday) — Ball

Ball presented documents on past testing done on alpaca fiber, as well as a proposed budget on doing further tests.

6.6 Alternative Products Committee (meets 3rd Tuesday) — Aitchison

No report.

6.7 Membership Committee (meets 2nd Monday) — Hasselbring
Plan to focus on 1) Making personal calls to past members who have not renewed; 2) developing a network or source for off-hour vet consultation service for AOA members; and 3) creating a survey of young people to find out what they would be interested in.

6.8 Affiliates Council (meets 3-4 times annually) — Brummet
No report.

6.9 Ad hoc Fleece Show Committee (meets as needed) — Ball
No report.

6.10 Ad hoc Web Site (meets as needed) — Williamson/Aitchison
No report.

6.11 Registry, Petitions, and Appeals (meets as needed) — Brummet, Dittbrenner, Merriwether
No report.

6.12 Grievance Review Committee (meets as needed) — Brummet, Hasselbring, Vigus
No report.

7.0 Meeting Wrap

7.1 Contact the Board Update — Brummet
None to report.

7.2 Review Action Items — Williamson

7.3 Next Regular Meeting — **Monday, October 28, 2019** — Brummet

7.4 Other Announcements
The Board thanked Bud Synhorst for his tremendous efforts over the past few years and wished him well in his future endeavors.

7.5 Adjournment Williamson moved to adjourn the meeting, Aitchison seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM Eastern. — Brummet