

## **Board Minutes from Meeting February 14, 2007**

President called the meeting to order at 8:03 PM EST. The meeting is being recorded. The new conference call service is in place and is now costing ALSA .05 cents per minute.

### **Members Present:**

Kay Sharpnack - President  
Dan Milton - Vice President  
Julie Heggie - Secretary  
Lora Crawford - Board Member  
Penny Davidson - Board Member  
Ken Fenley - Board Member  
Wally Baker - Board Member  
Craig Swindler - Sitting in for Treasurer Wayne Rankin

Next board meeting will be held at 8:00 PM EST on March 14, 2007

**Lora moved and Dan seconded a motion that the December 21, 2006 Emergency meeting minutes be approved. Motion passed.**

**Lora moved and Dan seconded a motion that the January 10, 2007 meeting minutes be approved. Motion passed.**

### **Treasurer's Report:** Craig Swindler for Wayne Rankin

Checking	-	8,901.74
Investment	-	118,739.16
Memorial Scholarship	-	12,696.88
Linda Pierce Award	-	4,876.22
Total Assets	-	\$145,214.00

The Treasurer and Finance & Budget Committee advised the BOD of the necessity to cut expenses and reduce costs as much as possible in 2007 and 2008. Additionally we need to look at all ways possible to increase income for ALSA.

Following the recommendation of Office Administrator Cheryl Ryberg, the BOD decided that the individual annual summary of points earned by each llama in the previous year would not be sent out to the membership in hardcopy this year. The savings in postage, envelopes and paper will be \$3000. All members are requested to use the ALSA Website to access their information. The ALSA Office will be happy to send this report by mail to those who do not have access to or use a computer. Members should contact the Office.

It has also been brought to the BOD's attention that Lifetime members need not be sent a new membership card on an annual basis. This would effect another small savings.

**Penny moved and Dan seconded a motion that Lifetime members will only receive one membership card unless requested differently by the Lifetime member. Motion passed.**

Penny has been asked to send the Membership Committee the task of looking into reasons ALSA may be losing members over and above the normal annual attrition rate.

**Office:**

The BOD discussed the current way “Office Talk” is being distributed to the membership through the ALSA Showring and after some discussion has decided that it may better serve the membership to have their individual questions answered. With this in mind beginning with the next issue of Showring the BOD wants positive answers to solution oriented member questions as the topic for “Office Talk.”

**Old Business:**

Lora Crawford, ALSA Representative on the ILR Cruise reported that the Llamaribbean Cruise was a fun, positive experience. The on board meetings produced informative and positive interchanges of ideas.

After discussion, the BOD decided not to investigate implementing an appeals process at this time.

**Penny moved and Ken seconded a motion to clarify that llamas in the optional miniature llama classes will receive points towards ALSA ROM and Halter Champion awards. Motion passed.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Alpaca Committee**

Chair - Debbie Shellabarger

The alpaca committee has been working over the past month on the concerns that have been raised regarding BVD or BVDV (Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus) and the testing for this disease. There have been some questions raised as to whether or not ALSA would require BVD testing of animals to shows and the impact that this has on our ALSA alpaca shows.

Due to the on-going research in the area of BVD we would like to see ALSA stay involved and watch the current research and to continue to require no special testing to attend shows. Currently ALSA abides by whatever the health requirements are of the State Veterinarians Office of the state that the specific show is held.

**Points to Consider**

**BVDV (Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus)**

**Eric Sharpnack, DVM**

*(Written per request of the ALSA Alpaca Committee for information 2-09-07)*

1. Failure to look at the whole picture could result in setting up the Law of Unintended Consequences.
2. There seems to be little evidence that persistently infected camelids are giving BVDV to others in their group although this is a possibility.
3. Serology work done so far indicates that even though camelids have been exposed while running with cattle, very few of them show symptoms, even though they did get the antibodies from exposure.
4. Therefore, no conclusions, can be made at this time that could justify such an intense mandatory testing for camelids.
5. Finally, compared to the Johnes Disease fiasco, a number of years ago, the conclusion would be that more research is needed before any decisions are made pertaining to mass PCR testing for persistently infected (PI) crias.

**Julie moved and Penny seconded a motion to accept the Alpaca Committee's recommendations for handbook changes. Motion passed.**

#### **Election Committee**

Chair - Sherry Adamcyk

New Committee Member Requested to be added to Committee - Dani Varela

**Penny moved and Ken seconded a motion to add Dani Varela to Election Committee. Motion passed.**

Nomination Petition has been updated and sent to BOD rep to be sent to the Webmaster once BOD rep OK's document. Election information for web is almost complete.

#### **Ethics Committee**

Chair - Maryan Baker

The Ethics committee members have been reviewing ethics sections of the ALSA Handbook for discussion during the up coming conference call. Nothing new to report from the Ethics Committee at this time.

#### **Fiber Committee**

Chair - June Black

This month we have spent the bulk of our time on updates to be incorporated into the ALSA 15<sup>th</sup> Edition Handbook. This huge job is nearly complete. We will finish before the end of February, and email our recommendations to the Board.

#### **Finance & Budget Committee**

Chair - Craig Swindler

The Finance committee was to evaluate the chart of accounts and propose a budget for this year working with the Treasurer. Wayne has suggested adding a numbering system to the accounts. I am not sure if this is possible with Quicken. Cheryl is using Quicken

along with a couple of other data bases that feed numbers into Quicken to keep the records. The financial data is not in just one data base. A change in the accounting system presently used would be involved (cost time and money, money we don't have) and we may lose the ability to look at the data from a historical basis. What we have is more detailed than some may have imagined and we can analyze the data for the last couple of years. A proposed budget was introduced at the last board meeting. It projected a loss in 2007. I have not been told the BOD's reaction to the numbers. We now know that 2006 finished in the red as did the Grand Nationals. Special attention needs to be given to membership (number of members). Cost of the Regional and the Grand National shows need to be scrutinized. All of these events need to be self-supporting in 2007. An analysis of the spring shows will be an indicator of future direction. Both of the items the committee has been charged with are works in process.

### **Grand National Committee**

Chair - Norris Berg

The Chair of the committee requests board approval of Kathy Geyer as the Halter Superintendent for Grand Nationals.

**Penny moved and Dan seconded a motion to accept Kathy Geyer as Halter Superintendent for the Grand National. Motion passed.**

### **Handbook Committee**

Chair - Helen Feick

The committee is currently working on updates to be included in the ALSA 15<sup>th</sup> Edition Handbook.

### **Judges Committee**

Chair - Lavona Fercho

The Judges' Committee by majority vote requests the board's approval for the following:

1. The committee realizes the need for clinics to be self sufficient, but with all clinics charging \$ 200 last year, we feel this year with two day clinics being \$ 200, and 3 day clinics going back to \$ 250, the fees should stay the same for 2007.
2. When Judges succeed to Level I after lengthy apprenticeships, the achievement should be recognized and celebrated. The committee recommends, immediately after Board approval, the names be forwarded to the ALSA office and a congratulatory letter and a Brass Judges Badge (not white plastic), be sent directly to those Judges as well as immediate posting on the website.
3. The committee has unanimously approved the promotion of Danielle Wagoner to the level of Assistant to Instructor.
4. The committee has approved the Alpaca Fleece Judges Clinic at Lofty Pine, Ohio, March. 10, 11, 2007, Instructor Mary Reed, Co-Instructor Lavona Fercho, and the Beginning and Advanced llama Judges Clinic at Hinterland, May 11, 12, 13, 2007 in Oregon, Instructor, Lora Crawford, assisted by Danielle Wagoner. Tentative plans are in beginning stages for a stand alone Youth and Performance Judges Clinic, to fulfil

demands for Performance Judges as Regional and National shows. A tentative Beginning and Advanced Judging clinic is also planned for the Mid-West, depending on interest and need for judges to re-certify. To generate interest in clinics, tentative plans are also under way to have a Breeders and Beginner Judges clinic to encourage new Judges.

5. The following judges have submitted evidence of continuing education credits sufficient to advance or re-certify at the following levels:

**Debby Ullrich** move to **Level 2** **Mary Jo Miller** move to **Level 2** **Toni Knie** recertify **Level III** **Gayle Woodsum** recertify **Level III** **Lora Crawford** recertify **Level III** **Mark Smith** recertify **Level III** **Patti Fischer** recertify **Level III**

6. The committee recommends a one year only waiver of the three year rule to allow **Niki Kuklenski** to attend the May, 11, 12, 13, 2007 Beginning and Advanced Llama Judges Clinic at Hinterland.

**Penny moved and Wally seconded a motion that the BOD approves Committee Report with exception of #2 which needs more clarification. Motion passed.**

#### **Membership Committee**

Chair - Pam Jensen

No Report

#### **Nominations Committee**

Chair - Trish Brandt-Robuck

The Nominations Committee is working on getting nominations, and helping to get the forms to the candidates with instructions. Presently the committee has several individuals who are getting the form filled out and the required signatures for their nominations.

#### **Performance Committee**

Chair - Melanie McMurray, MD

1. In the previous committee report, the rules for tie-breaking and division size were not included. Below is the addition in bold:

Effective January 2007, a Cart Driving Championship (Pleasure Driving and Obstacle Driving) will be added at Grand National Show and Regional Shows. A separate Cart Driving Championship may be added at other ALSA Shows on an optional basis determined by each show curriculum. In order for the Cart Driving Championship to be counted as a separate Division, both Pleasure Driving and Obstacle Driving classes must be offered. When a Cart Driving Division is established, each class is scored separately. **The highest placing in the Obstacle Driving class will break all ties when determining Cart Driving Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion. Number of entries from both driving classes will be combined to determine size of division.**

2. Since Cart Driving will be a separate division, it will have a new section in the Handbook. Part H (Llama Show Classes) should have a new section for cart driving and

remove Pleasure Driving and Obstacle Driving from the Performance Classes list (Section 4). The sections on driving in the Approved Llama Performance Classes (Part M) will need to be moved to a separate part. In addition to these required changes, the committee recommends that "PR Driving" as listed in the Optional Classes (Part P) be moved to an Optional Class section of the new Driving part (which can also include ground driving), since this would make developing driving classes easier for show superintendents and designers (chairman note: and consider moving Part P to before Alpaca Performance Classes and Fleece, as these classes are for llama performance only).

3. A request was sent to the committee recommending that skins no longer be allowed in Performance courses. The committee voted against making such a change.

**BOD approves committee report with exception of #3. Julie moved and Dan seconded a motion that as of January 1, 2008 animal hides will no longer be allowed in ALSA sanctioned performance courses. Motion passed.**

### **Policy and Planning Committee**

Chair - Jerry Miller

We would like to list the following as guidelines for the Policy and Planning Committee:  
To review all the material received pertaining to ALSA planning and policy and make recommendations in writing to the ALSA Board of Directors.

To recommend changes to the By-Laws and evaluate changes recommended by the ALSA BOD.

To recommend changes in Policy to the ALSA BOD and evaluate changes recommended by the ALSA BOD.

Steve Berry has resigned from the Committee.

### **Promotion Committee**

Chair - Mandy Gerken

No Report

### **Protest Committee**

Chair - Jim Nenni

We have completed Protests #2, #3, and #4. The Committee has found all 3 protests not valid. Therefore, I will be sending each protestor a certified letter stating our decision. The Committee has no other protests pending, but is working on some rule clarifications for the handbook as recommended by some committee members.

### **Publications Committee**

Chair - David Armer

No Report

### **Regional Committee**

Chair - Betty Moe

The Rocky Mountain Region show date will be September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Jeff Rucker reports the contract from the facility has been negotiated and will be in his hands next week.

The count of the left over regional class ribbons has been sent on to Royall Awards with the exception of the Rocky Mountain and Great Lakes Region's. I am expecting their figures very soon and will forward them on to the Royall Awards. We have made recommendations as to the numbers of fill-in ribbons to be done based on the numbers of 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> ribbons used by each region in 2006. That should give us a good savings in the ribbon costs this year.

Some of our Regional Superintendents are tentatively talking to their choice of judges for their shows, pending, of course, on the judges chosen for the National Show.

We have had some good suggestions made by some of our Superintendents for changes to be made in the ALSA handbook part E, Region Championships section that we will send to the Board when our Committee reviews and approves them.

Answering if I would like the ALSA Board minutes to be sent to all committee chairs as soon as they are Board approved - excellent idea! That would be much appreciated by all of us I am sure.

### **Show Management Committee**

Chair - Phil Feiner

No Report

### **Website Committee**

Chair - Marilyn Nenni

The Website Committee is still working on our "Improve The Technology" project and are working on prioritizing issues of the project. We hope to have a completed presentation very soon.

### **Youth Committee**

Chair - Barb Harris

No Report

### **New Business**

The BOD has decided to ask the Policy and Planning Committee to do an overview of ALSA as a Non Profit Corporation to make sure that we are still in compliance in all ways. Julie will see that the Committee is so advised.

Member letter requesting the Llama Showcase be a Quad Show. **Penny moved and Ken seconded motion for the Llama Showcase to be a Quad Show. Motion passed.**

Member letter regarding wool divisions and ALSA classes. **Tabled until BOD receives more information.**

Member request that GN Sponsorships be made in smaller dollar amounts. **Sent to GN Committee.**

Member letter regarding website problems. **Tabled as our Administrative Office Manager not on call.**

Member letter regarding 4-H and Youth issues. **Sent to Youth Committee.**

Member letter concerning color of ROM and Halter Certificates, member requests change. **Dan will check with Cheryl to see how many are currently in stock and ask Cheryl to advise the BOD in time to make some changes in color and format for the next order. The BOD is thinking about parchment paper with dark blue and black ink and possible a different border and logo.**

**Due to technical difficulties experienced through the conference call server, the board meeting ended prior to agenda being completed. Wally moved and Lora seconded a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 PM EST. Motion passed.**