

## Minutes of the N-CSA Board of Directors Meeting – January 8, 2023

1:00 pm Pacific Time, 2:00 pm Mountain Time, 3:00 pm Central Time, 4:00 pm Eastern Time

### A. Call to Order

The meeting, conducted by Zoom, was called to order at 2:07 pm MST by Chair Sheridan Langford.

### B. Roll Call (Quorum requires 5 Board members)

Julia Alzofon, Bonnie Barcus, Debby Bradford, Sheridan Langford, Elizabeth Casso Lopez and Katherine Skye Tucker were on the call and constituted the quorum. Irene Bennalley and Sam Cunningham joined the meeting at 2:17 pm and 2:21 pm MST respectively. Steve Banks presented the Treasurer's report as a guest. Nikyle Begay was present as a guest for discussion of the 2023 AGM. Lisa Leonard and Mickey Willenbring were absent.

### C. Minutes of Previous Meetings – (10/15/22, 11/20/22, 12/18/22)

Julia moved that the minutes of 10/15/22, 11/20/22 and 12/18/22 be accepted. Sheri and Liz seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

### D. Reports of Officers and Board

#### 1. Business Office Report – *Bonnie Barcus*

Bonnie reports that 52 Members are current for 2023, 54 are paid thru 2022, there are presently a total of 106 members and we have added 7 new members for 2023. The winter issue of the Catch Pen will go out on Monday, January 9th. It contains a membership renewal notice with a renewal form and those with expiring memberships will be reminded to renew. The Registration Workload for Business Office includes 51 Mail-In Registration plus 18 field inspected registrations for a total of 69. Mail-In registrations are down substantially. In 2021 we had 82. Hopefully, numbers will go up in 2023. Note that these numbers are only for what has come across the Business Office desk and do not take into account any Field Inspected registrations sent directly to the Registrar, Kim Kerley.

#### 2. Treasurer's Report – *Steve Banks*

Steve Banks has sent to the Board members, the bank statements for the last three months. The balance as of Dec 31, 2022 is \$16,712.00. The bank statement's address for our organization is that of our previous Treasurer in Algodones, NM. It is Steve's plan to change it to our current business office address in Boise. This may require signatures from Board members either in person or electronically. The latest Profit and Loss Statements (fiscal year and each quarter) have also been sent to the Board including updated figures for the 2023 AGM (see addendum). We have a \$95.83 net loss for the year mostly due to AGM expenses.

#### 3. Inspector Coordinator's Report – *Connie Taylor*

Connie Taylor writes: "In January, I will have an e-mail round table with fellow inspectors to recap the experiences for 2022 and suggestions for 2023. We hope to have more on-line access for members and for the inspection team. Bonnie is arranging a conference call with Doug, Kim, Bonnie and me. Inspections went smoothly this year. There were 9 fails which I will review with inspectors this month and report on the findings. 2 of the fails were C Book, 4 were from mostly registered lines and 2 were Foundation (non registered parents). The 4 from one flock of mostly registered parents were nice sheep but fleeces were too fine and lacked a distinct hair coat. This was due to using some failed rams and ewes in a fairly closed flock. It is difficult for some members to invest time and money in bringing in new lines. Attached are some photos of a ram who failed for close horns, short crimped neck and shoulder wool and a beard! ..." The Board discussed the issue of beards and plans to clarify what they are, how to recognize them and expects to present an informational session on this topic in June at Window Rock.

#### 4. Registrar's Report – *Kim Kerley*

Kim Kerley writes: "I count the registrations and transfers according to the dates they were entered. We had 127 registrations in 2022. We had 17 transfers. I did have a number of on-site registrations that were sent directly to me either by mail or by email. As I have not done a flock book since Connie's last in 2018, I thought I would put one together that was inclusive of the last 4 years. I am not sure if this needs to be put on the agenda and voted on but my thought is that it would be printed at the expense of the N-CSA." It was discussed that, although our website now has a search engine for registered sheep, a hard copy Flock Book for the years, 2018-2022, is desirable. Bonnie moved that we create a 2018-2022 Flock Book and that the N-CSA will pay for printing. Debbie seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

#### 5. Website Committee - *Lisa Leonard*

Bonnie states that Lisa expects to get the new website up and running this year (2023). A preliminary version will be made available to the Board for review before it goes live. Karen is being instructed to not pay for further years of the old web hosting which is now paid through 2023.

## **6. Breed Standards Committee Report – Jim Keyes**

Sam states that she will contact Jim regarding ram beard description and definition.

\*\*\***Approval of Reports:** Julia moved that the Business Office, Treasurer, Inspector Coordinator, Registrar, Website Committee and Breed Standards Reports be accepted. Bonnie seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

## **E. By-Law Changes**

### **Additional proposed changes to By-Laws – Sam Cunningham**

Sam is working to get a group together to work on By-Laws updates. She, Joe and Bonnie were on this Committee in the past. Sam will call Joe to see if he would like to continue in this role. A proposed goal is to have updates ready by the 2024 AGM.

## **F. Unfinished Business**

### **1. 2023 Annual General Meeting - Nikyle Begay**

Nikyle is working on having a meeting with DBI's "Sheep is Life" planning committee so that arrangements for DBI's "Sheep is Life" and the N-CSA's "AGM" in June may be coordinated and agreed upon. The date of the next N-CSA Board meeting will be set once the date of the "Sheep is Life" planning committee meeting is known. The Navajo Nation Museum venue accepts credit cards. If a check is used, it may be sent to DBI but must be made out to Navajo Lifeway Inc. It looks like some donated lamb or mutton may be available for the banquet! Sam continues to develop an AGM workbook as a guide future presenters.

### **2. Flock Dispersal - Sheri Langford/Sam Cunningham**

Sheri mentioned that there is someone who needs to disperse her flock in the Pennsylvania area and that she will follow-up once she gets more information from this person. Nikyle said that DBI has, in the past, assisted with flock dispersals. Breeders received "in-kind" donation receipts after inspections verified the quality of the animals. Receipts were given for the purpose of tax deduction. Other 501c3 agencies may be able to facilitate similar arrangements.

### **3. Data Committee - Bonnie Barcus**

Doug is working on the build to accommodate the inspection process and entry of registry information. Bonnie will continue to follow-up.

### **4. Inclusiveness and Cultural Sensitivity – Julia Alzofon**

Julia discussed the results of three questionnaire results plus some comments made to her personally. It seems that some people are fearful of offending others and are therefore reluctant to engage in conversation. Others feel rejected that people are keeping to themselves and not communicating enough. There was positive feedback about Registration, Educational Activities, The Catch Pen, our Website, AGM's and networking opportunities despite some barriers to participation due to travel, financial and other issues. One respondent felt that a failed sheep registration was based on ethnicity of the breeder vs. inspector. This is unfortunate since we try to make our registration decisions objective and very clear by providing detailed explanations as to why any sheep fails an inspection. We will continue to update our standards and communications in the hope of avoiding any perception of bias. A training module on "unconscious bias" is also being considered. We will work to get more Questionnaire responses as the few we have already received were very enlightening.

## **G. New Business**

### **1. 2024 AGM**

It's not too soon to start thinking about the 2024 AGM. The 2023 AGM will be held in June and it would be worthwhile to have materials and suggestions ready for prospective planners by that time.

## **I. Set Next Conference Call Date & Adjourn**

1. The next regular Board meeting will be set by email once the DBI SIL committee has met.
2. After Liz moved that the meeting be adjourned, the motion was seconded by Julia and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 pm MST by Chair Sheri Langford.