

ALSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda June 9, 2021

Call to order: 7:06 p.m. CDT

Roll call:

Board Members: Cathie Kindler, President
Lauren Wright, Vice-President
Ron Baird, Secretary
Carol Rutledge (absent)
Deb Yeagle
Anna Reese
Ulin Andrews (absent)

Others: Vern Wright, Treasurer
Linda Kendall, Office Manager (absent)

I. Office Report:

1. Iowa clinic: Heard great things about the Iowa clinic. As a result of attending the clinic we gained 3 new adult and 1 new youth members...FROM MINNESOTA! These 3 families will be showing at the Minnesota State Fair and will be using their influence to get other MN farms to join ALSA. I will be there with my laptop; ready to sign up folks and take their money.
2. Certificate for youth Jamboree -> free 2022 membership (or if cycling to adult \$25 applied to that fee). Emailed on 6/9/21.
3. Does anyone have any idea of what our car rental usage was in 2019 and 2018? With car rental rates going off the charts (\$400 for 3 weekend days in MPLS) I would like to see what we can do with some type of negotiated rate (plus extras like damage waivers, etc.,)

Motion: Pay the office expenses of \$791.25 for May 2021. Motion by Ron. Seconded by Deb. Motion unanimously passed.

II. Treasurer's Report:

See the financials in Appendix A attached hereto.

III. Committee Reports:

Alpaca - Chair: Vicky Donley, Liaison: Deb
No report submitted.

By-laws and Standing Rules – Chair: Lougene Baird, Liaison: Carol

The ALSA Bylaws and Standing Rules are posted on the ALSA website. Currently, there are no suggested changes for either the Bylaws or Standing Rules.

Thank you,

Lougene Baird, Chair

Cc: Committee members

Elections - Chair: Lougene Baird, Liaison: Cathie
Lougene Baird, Chair

No further Committee reports will be submitted until work begins on the General Election. July through August 2021 members may submit their name as a candidate. Voting will take place in October 2021.

Thank you,

Lougene Baird, Chair

Cc: Election committee members

Ethics - Chair: Cheryl Lambert, Liaison: Cathie

There is nothing to report at present.

Respectfully Submitted

Cheryl Lambert, Chair

Finance & Budget - Chair: Vern Wright, Liaison: Ron

Please refer to the Treasurer's report that is presented above and appended hereto.

Fleece - Chair: Judy Glaser, Liaison: Deb

No report submitted.

Grand National - Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Lauren

No report submitted.

Handbook – Chair: Adryce Mathisen, Liaison: Carol

Nothing new to report from the Handbook Committee.

However, I just looked at the website and the updated addendum and Handbook (attached) has not been added. It should be there, right? Thanks,
Adryce Mathisen, Chair

Judges' – Chair: Cyndi Ernst, Liaison: Ron

Judge's Committee Report June 2021,

I am so pleased that immunization is getting COVID under control so people can get out safely to shows and interact with family and friends.

The May "Eastern Iowa Llama Judging Clinic" was a real success. Nick Hauptly spent many hours gathering the information and videos to organize into a tremendous learning experience for the attendees. In-person activities and multimedia presentations educated exhibitors and those interested in seeking Judging Certification.

I received an application from Jason Fehrenbach from Michigan to pursue judging certification. He worked with Tami Lash as an Apprentice last weekend. I am hoping that I will receive several additional Apprenticeship Applications because I have been told that there were several other very good judging prospects who attended the clinic.

Regards,

Cyndi Ernst, Judge's Committee Chair

Membership - Chair: **OPEN**, Liaison: Ulin
No report submitted.

Performance - Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Anna
No report submitted.

Protest - Chair: Cheryl Lambert, Liaison: Ron
Nothing to report.
Respectfully Submitted
Cheryl Lambert, Chair

Publications, Promotions, Marketing & Web Site - Chair: Reggie Durch,
Liaison: Deb
No report submitted.

Regional Committee - Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Anna
No report submitted.

Show Management, Policy & Planning –Chair: Kathy Devaul, Liaison: Lauren
The committee suggests having ALSA Show Superintendents keep the Judges' cards for 6 months, rather than have them have the expense of mailing them to the ALSA Office. After 6 months, with no pending protests, they can be destroyed.

Motion: Adopt the recommendation of the Show Management, Policy and Planning Committee. Motion by Ron. Seconded by Anna. Motion unanimously passed.

Youth Committee - Chair: **OPEN**, Liaison: Carol
No report submitted.

IV. Old Business:

- A. The resolution regarding Board of Director size as of January 1, 2022 still has NOT been signed manually by each Board member and returned to the Secretary. This matter was discussed and finished.

V. New Business:

- A. The Nebraska Llama Association (The Association) is seeking to have the regulations in the state of Nebraska amended such that it will no longer require TB Bangs or Brucellosis testing for camelids. Given the nearly non-existent probability that either of these ailments will make the jump from one species to the other or vice versa the requirement is antiquated and inappropriate. In the State of Nebraska, camelids are considered “exotic”

animals and as such, this testing is compulsory if you import one into the state, even if only for a show. The testing costs vary from just a few dollars per animal to in excess of \$100 per animal depending upon location, veterinarian, etc. This additional cost that most other states do not require has become a significant deterrent in hosting shows in Nebraska.

The Association has attempted for many years to work with the state veterinarian to get these requirements amended to no avail. As such, the number and size of llama/alpaca shows in Nebraska has dropped off dramatically as have the number of breeders. The state used to be the proud host of several very large shows each year, now we are relegated to 1-2 shows a year with minimal attendance, and despite numerous attempts to draw exhibitors, the same response is received, "the testing is too expensive and onerous to justify showing in Nebraska". Nebraska has a rich history associated with camelids, unfortunately one obstinate person has resulted in the decline of this history.

The Association has reviewed what options remain to get this regulation changed and determined that the most appropriate course of action was to retain a lobbyist to assist us in getting the regulations changed or at a minimum an executive order issued by the governor that will waive these testing requirements for Camelids. Unfortunately, the costs to go this route are estimated to be approximately \$10-12,000 in order to accomplish this effort. The Association does not have the means to accomplish this task by ourselves, so we are seeking the assistance, both financial and in any other means at the Board's disposal to help us achieve this goal. We have reached out to several other local level Camelid associations, and they have pledged their support as well, however, as with our association, their funds are limited as well. We believe that without some level of support from the Alpaca and Llama Show Association (ALSA) as a national organization, we are destined for failure.

There has been a resurgence in interest for camelids in the state with many families starting to take on animals with an interest in showing, breeding, and marketing the animals. In addition, there has been a significant amount of interest in bringing some of the large shows back to Nebraska and we have some amazing communities and venues that would be more than willing to host a show, unfortunately, without a rule change, we fear this will never happen.

The Association as well as the camelid breeders, owners, and exhibitors in the state of Nebraska as well as many other surrounding states would welcome any assistance that ALSA would be willing to provide to help us accomplish this endeavor.

Thanks!

Matt Rhodes

Vice-President-Nebraska Llama Association

This request was discussed at length. ALSA is not in a financial position that it can lend that type of support to the NLA's effort. It will reach out to

the NLA and determine if there are other ways in which it can assist in modernizing the state's regulations that deal with alpacas and llamas. It was noted AOA is headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska and would be concerned with this situation as well.

B. Such other business as may come before the Board.

The next regular Board meeting will be July 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. CDT.

Motion to Adjourn at 7:27 CDT. Motion by Deb. Seconded by Ron. Motion unanimously passed.

The ALSA Board of Directors may convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, any items on this agenda or to consult with Legal and/or Accounting Counsel.

**Addendum
Financial Statements**



