

## **Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 14, 2010 at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.**

Board members present: Mark Roesler, President; Bill Cabaniss, Secretary; Shelly Pyburn, Treasurer; Craig Campbell; Jay Dennis; Patti Seeley; and Kim Watkins.  
Board members absent: Jerry Billingsly; Jim Crawford; Sandra Walker.

ALR board members present: Trevor Smith and Rick Dodd

Others present (as listed on the sign-in sheet) ---- Patrick and Dorothy Ahr, David Welch, Barbara Welch, Larry Watkins, Marjo Gore, Buddy Moriarty, Stuart Pyburn, Larry Herrell, Brandon Roesler, Tim Jackson, Kathy Lewman, Michael Achierno, Bryan Walter, Greg and Sonya Galetka.

President Mark Roesler called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. There were no previous meeting minutes available.

President Mark Roesler thanked those present for coming and then asked everyone to introduce himself or herself.

- 1) The first order of business was to address the outstanding taxes owed by SLABA to the IRS. President Roesler had visited with our accounting office, Marin Accounting and had learned that SLABA has never filed for a 501c status and taxes were outstanding for 2008. Those taxes have now been paid, but penalties and interest will be assessed---- probably around \$150. The ALR is now allowing the regional associations to file under their 501c. So, for 2009 we will need to send them a P&L and Balance Sheet. No taxes should be due for 2009. Shelly Pyburn will call Marin Accounting and ask them to file a final tax letter.
- 2) President Roesler informed us the board felt that the Bylaws needed to be revised. They are vague in many areas—particularly regarding election of officers. He also wanted to see changes made allowing for electronic meetings of the board. Discussion ensued and it was decided that a committee should be formed to suggest revisions, with such revisions being added as addendums. Jay Dennis indicated that he had contact information for Amy Bock who developed the original bylaws. Bill Cabaniss indicated that he had talked with Amy and she would be very willing to answer questions regarding how she structured the bylaws. A new standing committee called the Program Committee will do the revisions. Jerry Billingsly will be the chairman of that committee.
- 3) President Roesler then discussed the need for our standing committees to function so that the work of the association would be spread out. He would also like for all committees to have an [info@](mailto:info@) address for people to contact committee members. Grass-fed Committee. Sandra Walker will be the committee chairman. Committee members will be Joe Maddox, Bob Bard, Tim Jackson, and Patti Seeley. At this point discussion ensued regarding the power of committees.

Subcommittees would not have the power to authorize changes, but would make suggestions for changes to the BOD. *Patti Seeley made a motion that we change "committee" to "subcommittee" in regard to Standing Committees. Jay Dennis seconded the motion. The BOD voted unanimously to accept the motion.*

Finance and Resource Subcommittee---Treasurer, Shelly Pyburn, will be the chairman. President Roesler would like to see a budget for SLABA in different areas for the promotion of Lowlines---such as Grassfed, Show, etc.

Shelly informed the board that our banking will be changed to Wachovia. This bank has multiple offices and most banking can be done by mail. This will prove convenient for future Treasurer changes. Mark Roesler suggested that Kathy Lawlace had done a very good job of keeping our books. She had very clearly recorded our income and expenses and kept them orderly. He would like for her to be commended for the job well done. *Patti Seeley made a motion that we give a token of appreciation to Kathy Lawlace on behalf of the BOD for her years of service. Kim Watkins seconded. The BOD voted unanimously to accept the motion.* Patti Seeley will secure a plaque. She and Mark Roesler will make to presentation to Kathy Lawlace.

Development Subcommittee--- This committee will be responsible for member retention and new member recruiting. Bill Cabaniss talked about the benefits in increasing our membership. The ALR gives an annual sponsorship to the regions based on the number of members in the region who are also members of the ALR. That is why it is important to maintain our current members and recruit those in the ALR who are not members of SLABA. Kim Watkins suggested that we consider some sort of award to members for recruiting new members. The Development Subcommittee will also be responsible for publishing periodic newsletter and for Field Days. Jay Dennis will be the chairman; Kim Watkins will be a member. Other members are needed.

Show Subcommittee---President Roesler would like to see a steer class added to the TJLA Lowline classes. He will check on that with Showbox. ALR board member Trevor Smith indicated that there is now an ALR Junior Board and that there will be a National Junior Show in Muscatine, Iowa from June 22-25. There will be steer and heifer classes. Entry deadline is sometime in May. The 2011 Denver show will have a Terminal Steer Class as well. It will be an open show. Kim Watkins and Bill Cabaniss volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

- 4) President Roesler mentioned that changes needed to be made to our website and that we a Grass-fed and Junior page needed to be added. Stuart Pyburn reported that currently, our website costs \$450/year for seven pages and 30 pictures. It includes unlimited changes, but revision to pages or additional pages may cost more. Bill Cabaniss suggested that we consider eliminating the Photos page and use the rotating photos on the home page for additional pictures. He also suggested that the Contact Us page information could be placed somewhere else. This would give us the two needed pages without adding new ones. *Patti Seeley made a motion that we add a Grass-fed page and Junior page by substitution or addition. Jay Dennis seconded the motion. The BOD voted unanimously to accept the motion.* President Roesler would like each board member to look at

the website and make recommendations for changes. Patti Seeley suggested that we place a link for US Rider—an organization that will help if you break down on the side of the road. Cost is about \$60/year. No decision was made on that suggestion.

- 5) Open Forum---President Mark Roesler asked for additional discussion from those present at the meeting. Before allowing discussion, Mark suggested to the group that our “purpose” says we are to promote Lowlines. Whether that promotion is done through Grass-fed, Show, or any other means, we need to be considerate of all ideas, even if it doesn’t suit our particular preference.  
Kathy Lewman suggested that we consider putting a Lowline in the area where the children have access to different kinds of farm animals at the Houston show. There are different kinds of goats, rabbits, cows, etc. Why not try to show people that there are alternative sizes of cows as well as the big ones. This suggestion should be passed on to the appropriate subcommittee.  
The board members from the ALR were asked by President Roesler to comment and field questions from the group. Trevor Smith and Rick Dodd talked about how the ALR was funded—through dues and registrations. They also announced that the Registry headquarters would be moving to Colorado and would be managed by the same group that manages Saler and Devon cattle. Currently, the ALR has 750 members and over 10,000 registrations. (Larry and Kim Watkins in our region happen to have the number 10,000 registration for one of their animals). Both ALR board members emphasized how important the regional associations are for local issues. They also encouraged us to be active in promoting junior activities. There is now a Junior ALR board.  
Stuart Pyburn suggested that the ALR send out postcard or some other form of communication to the regions whenever a new member from the region joined the ALR rather than the regions having to go to the website to look for new members. Bill Cabaniss suggested that it would be a good idea for the ALR to have an inventory update yearly sent out to members with their dues renewal.  
Other people asked the ALR to be more involved in Grass-fed promotion and not so much shows only.  
Bryan Walter, former ALR board member encouraged SLABA to get our members to vote in ALR board elections. This past year, only 130 members actually voted in the election.
- 6) Motion to adjourn was made at 4:00 pm by Jay Dennis, seconded by Kim Watkins.

Minutes submitted by Bill Cabaniss, Secretary