

American Boer Goat Association

Board of Directors

Board Meeting via Zoom

January 9, 2024

Kevin Richmond calls the meeting to order at 7:00 CST.

Roll Call: Directors Present

Ken Baty-R2

Leah Maertens-R3

Lauren Green-R6

Cameron Drew-R14

Gage Taylor-R7

Mike Reis-R5

Sam Knott-R8

Kim Morgan-R9

Kim Veal-R10

Dan Elliott-R11

Chuck Fitzwater- R12-Joined the call at 7:15

Brad Mackey-R13

Casey McClain-R7

Rosalinda Vizina-R1

Staff Present: Katherine Klug

Approval of the Agenda

Kevin Richmond asked for the approval of the meeting agenda. Leah Maertens makes the motion. Lauren Green seconds. Voice Vote Motion Passes.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes dated 12/4/2023

Kim Morgan makes the motion to approve the meeting minutes dated 12/4/2023. Seconded by Sam Knott. Voice Vote. Ken Baty Abstains. Motion Passes.

General Office Updates

Backlog Status- The office is working 12/3/2023 with a total number of 444 items in the backlog. 77 are in the RFI department needing additional information. There are 51 in progress and 49 are waiting on payment. This includes all items such as flush sheets, transfers, and registrations. The number at its highest point was 762 in July. Visual inspections and ennoblements are backlogged to July due to iCompete not being able to populate the information on the pedigree certificate.

Due to the excessive backlog in the office, it was suggested that we have Wednesday as a no call day. Through discussion it was determined that it would be better for the membership to have one person answering the phone and to allow that person to take a message instead of transferring the call to the employee who is handling the work order.

iCompete

We are still waiting for CypherIQ to fix three major things before we are able to allow requests to pass through iCompete without manual review from the office.

- Bred Doe Rules
- Flush information
- Sale of Embryos

There is still a struggle with getting our items corrected in the system by Cypher IQ. In addition to our requests, Cypher IQ is having issues with getting information from ABRI.

Cameron Drew has offered to get on a call with Katherine Klug, Kevin Richmond with Cypher IQ since she is familiar with the language to see if we can push resolution on some of our issues.

Office Manager on Calls

Why do we not have the new office manager on the monthly board calls? A lot of our documentation states that it is the Office Manager that handles some of the requirements of the board and having her interact more with the Board of Directors could potentially allow Katherine Klug to focus on the bigger items.

We have not typically had our Office Managers on our monthly calls unless they are serving in two capacities. As the Office Manager and the Executive Director.

Who is the current liaison between the ABGA office and the Board of Directors? The answer is Katherine Klug or Kevin Richmond until the new Executive Director is hired.

Ken Baty brought up the point that learning the ins and outs of the ABGA office is a large task and we should take some time and allow our new manager to succeed.

Office Manager to attend Board Meeting calls as needed. We would like the Office Manager to prepare the backlog status reports for the meetings going forward.

2024 Budget and Month over Month Balance Sheet

The budget and financial information has not been sent to the Board of Directors that was approved at the Face-to-Face meeting in December. Sam Knott stated that we are still waiting for some year-end items to come in. Brenda will be finalizing the 2023 P&L statement, and it is a working document.

Sam Knott will be sending the 2024 Budget and current financials.

Mike Reis left the call at 8:05 CST.

2024 Board of Director Term Expirations

Katherine Klug sent out a spreadsheet to the Board of Directors listing those regional seats that will be due for election in 2024. There were questions concerning Regions 3 and 5. They were up for election in 2021 and no one ran in those regions. Both had appointed directors in 2021 for one-year terms and there was a question concerning how the Bylaws interpret this scenario. Are they completing the term until the next election or are they on the board for the next three years?

The answer to this scenario is that they are only finishing the term and both Regions will be up for election in 2024. This means that Regions 3, 4, 5, 9, 12, and one of the Region 7 seats will be up for three-year terms. Region 11 will have an election to finish out the term to be re-elected in 2026.

National Show Committee Update

Webcasting-The committee received 5 bids for webcasting. The best bid and the recommendation of the committee is to go with Show Barn Flix with a bid of \$4,250.

Photography-The committee would like to move forward with Pearls Pics Photography. Their cost is travel and hotels.

National Show Veterinarian-Dr. Sawyer Williams is the only veterinarian that submitted a bid.

Buckle-Sheridan was the recommendation by the committee since they submitted the best bid. They did the buckles for the 2023 ABGA National Show.

Kim Morgan made the motion to approve the National Show Committee recommendations for Showbarn Flix, Pearls Pics, Dr. Sawyer Williams, and Sheridan Buckles. Sam Knott seconds. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

National Show Interns- Last year we had two interns. The internship was unpaid; however, the ABGA paid for food and hotel. The committee has requested to bump this number from two interns to four interns. Sam requested to bump this number to five to allow for one of the interns to help with JABGA tasks.

Kim Morgan made the motion to approve up to five interns for the 2024 ABGA National Show. Seconded by Sam Knott. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

National Show Superintendents¹-There was a sub-committee within the National Show committee that reviewed applicants for Superintendents. The approved number of four superintendents with one being assigned to the barn.

The committee recommends Elizabeth Westfall as the assigned Barn Superintendent. The three ring superintendents will be Jesse Kimmel, Kenzie Kobb, and Wade Rogers. Evie Gates as the alternate superintendent.

Ken Baty makes the motion to approve the National Show Committees recommendation for Superintendents. Seconded by Chuck Fitzwater. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Veterinarian Revisit-There was a question concerning how the National Show bids were sent out for the Veterinarian.

Kevin Richmond requested that the Veterinarian motion tabled until further notice.

Kim Morgan rescinds the motion for approving the National Show Committee recommendations for Showbarn Flix, Pearls Pics, Dr. Sawyer Williams, and Sheridan Buckles. Sam Knott seconds. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Kim Morgan makes the motion to approve the National Show Committee recommendations for Showbarn Flix, Pearls Pics, and Sheridan Buckles. Sam Knott seconds. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Leah Maertens left the call at 8:35 CST.

Members Meeting-The member experience sub-committee recommended moving the member meeting from Tuesday evening to lunchtime on Wednesday. The break would be two hours with one hour dedicated to the member meeting. This will hopefully increase member engagement and the number in attendance.

Lauren Green makes the motion to move the Member Meeting to a two-hour lunch session on Wednesday. Seconded by Casey McClain. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Electronic Voting-A proposal for electronic bidding for the ABGA National Show was submitted due to the By-Law change that occurred in 2023 to allow for electronic voting. Cameron Drew made recommendation to table this until another time due to our current iCompete and backlog issues. Further discussion stated that paper ballots are more costly and time-consuming for the office staff.

Chuck Fitzwater made the motion to accept the electronic bidding proposal as submitted by Katherine Klug. Sam Knott seconded. Voice Vote. Opposed: Cameron Drew, Kim Veal, and Lauren Green. Gage Taylor abstains. Motion Passes.

National Show Judges- A preliminary judges listing was reviewed in the meeting and the deadline was January 5, 2024. They are still reviewing the applicant information to ensure that the office has received a signed Code of Ethics, updated contact information, and background checks.

DNA Update

The committee has had a few meetings, and they received some clarification on the price point. Ken Baty had a conversation with management at Neogen on the Bovine side and it was discussed that since this is new to Neogen we are unable to place an exact number on volume. Once this the average volumes are established, the price point could be revisited at a future date.

The committee recommends the price point presented by Neogen and that we should run concurrently with UC Davis for another year due to the International demand for DNA and since UC Davis currently holds our existing data. Once it is approved the office was pushing for a soft launch of the DNA program for March 1st.

The committee is currently working on some outstanding questions.

Gage Taylor moved to table this discussion. Seconded by Brad Mackey. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

General Communications Question

What is our official primary method of communication?

Katherine Klug answered that it depends on the topic we are communicating. The ABGA office utilizes the website, Facebook, email, and word of mouth from our Directors. Social Media seems to be the most immediate, but the office utilizes multiple means of communication depending on the urgency of the topic.

Lauren Green asked that the office post when the meeting minutes are posted so that the membership knows when they are available to read.

Executive Director Posting

The job posting for the Executive Director position will be up for 1 and ½ weeks. Once the job posting closes, the Executive Committee will start reviewing for candidates. They will then bring forward the top five or more forward for the Board of Directors to review.

Active Judges List

Why were the lifetime members removed?

This was an error from a few years ago and has since been corrected. The office has been working on the list and has sent background check requests. The listing has been updated.

Breed Standards Committee Update

There was a meeting held close to the holidays and there were few in attendance to discuss polled animals. They did not feel they had enough in attendance and tabled the discussion to another meeting.

Show Series Run by Managers

A question was brought up concerning show series that are ran under the ABGA umbrella. There was a show series that promised awards. What rules protect the membership from show secretaries promising points series awards?

The ABGA only sanctions shows but does not have any oversight over what happens at the individual show level. Rule 900 is a method of handling this.

Social Media Policy

Kim Morgan is still in the process of reaching out to the attorney on the initial development of the framework of the policy to work on with the Rules and Regs Committee. Policy is still in progress.

FFA Lease Options Update from JABGA Board

The JABGA Board has requested additional information concerning this topic as they feel they do not understand the issue enough to start the initial discussions concerning the topic. Cameron Drew will send contact information to the JABGA Board to help with the additional information.

Additional Topics of Discussion?

- 1) Leah Maertens resigned from the Board of Directors via email during the meeting. Kevin Richmond accepted the resignation and will be looking for someone to hold this seat for the next six months.
- 2) The Junior Board has asked if a member who is between the ages of 18-21 if that member can choose to either be an ABGA member or JABGA member. It was asked because of the requirement of an agent.

The Bylaws update does not allow for the member to choose. Age is the deciding factor of whether you are an adult member or junior member.

- 3) The Junior Board amended the Director application. They want to add that if you apply for the JABGA Board it is highly recommended that they are at Nationals. The Board would like to announce the results at Nationals.

No action is taken on this subject and will take this back to the JABGA Board.

- 4) The Scholarship Application was updated for 2024 and will be due by April 1, 2024. No other updates were made.
- 5) A question was made in regard to updates to rules and regs for JABGA members 18-21 who are on active duty.

This was sent to the Rules and Regs committee for review.

Ken Baty made a motion to add Cameron Drew to the DNA committee. Seconded by Kim Veal. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Cameron Drew made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 CST. Seconded by Kim Veal. Voice Vote. Motion Passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Morgan

ABGA Secretary