

Northwest Lowline Association

Board Meeting via teleconference

November 30, 2010

Present

Jim Eldridge

Allen Bradshaw

Jacqui Dodd-Duran

Shelley Dodd

Beverly Shirts

Ben Fairfield

Call to order 7:08 p.m. pacific time

Old Business

Janis Black from the ALR Resolution Committee handled the revote of the election and bylaws. This is a letter sent to the NWLA membership regarding the results of the election:

November 7, 2010

To all Members of the NWLA:

I have the results of your election to share with you. I received 19 eligible ballots from the 22 eligible members. Not all members voted in every category. The winners by majority ballot are as follows:

Chairman:	Jim Eldridge
Vice-Chairman:	Alan Bradshaw
Secretary:	Charlene Hansen
Show/Social Committee Chairperson:	Jacqui Duran
Marketing/Sales Committee Chairperson:	Ben Fairfield
Promotion/Education/Youth:	Beverly Shirts

I hope that after all of this your region will find a way to unite with the true good of the breed being your main focus. All of us need to put our personal feelings and grudges aside and remember that we really have the same goal, to promote and grow the Lowline breed. Congratulations to your new officers.

The results of your By-Law changes are as follows:

Article II	DID NOT PASS
Article IV C1	PASS
Article IV D	PASS
Article IV F	PASS
Article IV G	PASS
Article VI	PASS
Article IX	PASS
Article XII	PASS

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. I hope to see all of you soon.

Janis Black, Chair
ALR Resolution Committee

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter/Website Chair Person

Since the bylaw stating that the newsletter/website person is now a committee chair person and a board member, Jim needs to appoint someone to fill that position until the next voting session at the next annual meeting. Jim made a motion for Shelley Dodd to fill the position. Alan seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Treasurer Position

Maggie Hansen resigned as Treasurer in November 2010. Jim now is a signer and has access to the bank account but has not received the checks, check register and all records from Maggie to date. Jim is working on getting the bookkeeping organized and up to date on Quicken. He suggested we wait to fill the position until everything is up to date and ready to go at least through December. Jacqui brought up that it is very important that the new person must know Quicken or Quickbooks. All agreed. Alan's wife, Alice volunteered to be interim Treasurer. She works every day with Quicken. However, Jim said there's some concern that there are getting to be too many board positions filled by Idaho residents so it was decided that a note should be put in the newsletter to see if there are others interested in the position especially from Oregon and Washington.

Secretary Position

It was brought up that Charlene Hansen is not present at the meeting and no one has heard from her either by email or phone. Shelley stated that she did get an email from her stating she received the yahogroups.com notification that was sent out. It's important that we have someone that is willing to do the job and will be at the meetings and will handle the notes. Since the board needs a secretary, it's important for the

group to know if Charlene plans to continue. Ben suggested we send a certified, signature confirmation letter to her. Jim volunteered to write her a letter asking her if she plans to continue in the position with a date that we need a response by. The letter will be sent out this week.

Dues

Jim asked for ideas on how we are going to handle dues since since the bylaw passed regarding changing the dues period from July 1-June 30 to Jan. 1 - Dec. 31. This is a transition year. Shelley's idea was to send out a letter in June 2011 notifying membership that the dues year is up and the new dues year will begin. For every membership that was paid up through July 1, members would have the option of paying for 6 months...July 1, 2011-Dec. 31, 2011 or pay for 18 months which would be July 1, 2011 through Dec. 31, 2012. Then in Jan. 2012, the regular dues schedule would occur. Jim said there are people such as himself who paid dues through Dec. 31 2010 so we will need to adjust accordingly. Jim will put a letter together explaining that for the next newsletter.

A member requested that he be refunded his dues for the period of Jan. 2011-June 2011. He is paid up until June 30, 2011. The board was unsure why he wanted a refund. All were in agreement that dues should not be refunded. The board couldn't think of any other association that would refund dues. The member has the choice to not rejoin at the renewal time. Jim said he would write a letter to the member to respond to his request.

Bylaws

Alan volunteered to update the bylaws to reflect the changes from the vote in October.

Possible Lowline Sale

Jim said there is a guy named Kelly Trout who is interested in presenting information to the board about having a Lowline Sale in the Northwest. In the past, Jim didn't feel we were ready but thinks now we should look into it. Jim will pursue it further. Alan suggested we see if breeders would be interested in a sale.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jacqui Duran - Show Committee

Northwest Lowline Classic

Jacqui gave a brief rundown of the show. There were 11 breeders present. 13 breeders entered but 11 showed. NWLA paid out \$2208 in premiums. Spokane paid us \$4400 which included payment to the judge. Jacqui discussed some other shows and why people like to show at our show. A few reason, exhibitors aren't nickel and dimed, good premiums, supply bedding, etc. She requested feedback from anyone as far as how the

show went and suggestions for next year. Jacqui is planning on approaching Spokane during winter break. She has several options she would like to discuss. They are penalizing us for bringing more animals because if we have less animals, we would not have to pay so much out of our own bank account. They have 3 choices: they take all of it back, they give us more money or we don't go there and find another venue. We can look into other venues. Another option is to have them take back Fullblood show and we handle only the percentage show. Downside of letting them handle the show is that we were able to make a better class list and add some classes. For example, they only offer 1 class for 2010 calves. We split it into 2 classes. If we lower premiums, it still isn't a very big savings. Jacqui would like feedback on what we'd like to see happen or not happen in Spokane.

A discussion ensued on other venues. Alan said we should do some research and talk to some other fairs. If we can find some other venues, then we have more negotiating power. Ben said that way we'll know what concessions we need to make when we go back and negotiate.

Jacqui said North Idaho Fair isn't big enough right now. She asked what about Boise or Eastern Idaho. Alan said Boise wouldn't let us show and Caldwell wouldn't be big enough. Shelley said Evergreen is worth investigating.

Jacqui asked if we would all do some checking in our respective areas for possible show venues. She asked for at least a contact name so she can contact them and discuss what we are looking for.

Jacqui said the whole thing started with Spokane when there were a few members requesting steer classes. Also, Spokane looks at our percentage animals and says they are mixed breed so they can go in mixed breed classes. They did not want to support a Percentage show.

It's important though to get going on this because even though it's seems early, fairs start planning now.

Puyallup Spring Fair

Jacqui brought up if we want to continue sponsoring this fair. There isn't any premium money or a judge provided for this fair. The first year there were 4 breeders and in 2010, there were 3 breeders who attended. Alan suggested calling local breeders to see if anyone is interested. Everyone was in agreement.

Spring Clinic

Jacqui asked that we start thinking about ideas for a spring clinic. Her ideas were to have a person there to do hoof trimming and/or ultrasound. This is something to think about for the next couple of meetings.

Ben Fairfield - Marketing Committee

Ben requested an updated membership list. Shelley said she would handle that and get it sent to the board. Ben would like to put a facebook group page for NWLA and also a page to represent NWLA. He said it is a great way to communicate with everyone, give us exposure and get us up in the google rankings.

He would like to do some online surveys to get an idea who our audience is such as who are seedstock breeders, fullblood/percentage breeders, locker beef, etc.

Ben said he would like to call people to get updated email addresses.

Shelley Dodd - Website/Newsletter Committee

Shelley asked if we are still planning on continuing with Wiggio.com. It is a good place to keep paperwork such as past newsletters, bylaws, etc. in a central location. Beverly said she would update the new board member names on Wiggio and also send out a reminder on how to access it.

Shelley would like to get a newsletter out by the end of the year. We didn't do a fall newsletter because of the election dispute. She would like to send a newsletter out in mid December. She would like all articles to her by Dec. 12.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be Tuesday Jan. 11, 7pm pacific.

MEETING ADJOURNED

At 8:30 pm.