

NORTHWEST LOWLINE ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting via teleconference

June 19, 2012

PRESENT

Alan Bradshaw
Alice Bradshaw
Shelley Dodd
Jacqui Duran
Diana Lillefloren
Rick Palmer
Beverly Shirts
Susan Hagle

Alan called the meeting to order 7:10 Pacific time.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report

NWLA currently has over \$7800 in our regular account and \$700 in the junior account. All bills have been paid.

Secretary's report

Minutes from the May 15, 2012 board meeting: Rick moved to accept the minutes as written; Shelley seconded, and all voted in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Northwest lowline expo

Feedback

Feedback from the expo was very positive. Shelley pulled together a report from the event with photos and some of the comments and posted it to the NWLA website. The facility was excellent. Most of the presentations were well-received. In particular, the ultrasound and grass-fed presentations were excellent. The reproductive biotechnology presentation was too technical. For the next expo, we need someone who can talk more at a 4H level. Next year should include a presentation on small-scale grass-fed beef marketing. We could use either a single speaker or a panel discussion.

Scheduling

Memorial weekend may not be the best scheduling. Traffic is bad for those traveling in for the expo. If University of Idaho students are to attend, it should be held before school is out. The weekend before Memorial weekend may be the best time.

Financing

Idaho Lowlines kicked in a lot for this first expo at their facility. In the future, we need to increase the financial support from NWLA to cover costs.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

We need to clarify the membership fee structure for junior memberships vs junior members of ranch member families. Junior who join the association without adult family members pay a junior membership fee. The board feels that the junior members of a family with the ranch membership

should be included in the ranch membership. A youth eligible to be included in a family or ranch membership lives in the household of the members. An individual youth membership will be \$10/year. We will rewrite the bylaw pertaining to this item to clarify this intent. A bylaw change requires membership vote, which in turn requires 30-day's notice to the membership. The annual meeting during the Spokane fair is the logical time to hold this vote. Sue will draft a revision of the bylaw for the next board meeting. Shelley proposed we organize a junior association to offer more benefit from junior memberships.

EXPANDING NWLA TERRITORY

We previously discussed the possibility of extending our association to more states, in particular, to take in some of the Southern Lowline Angus Breeders Association (SLBA) states. The advantages to NWLA could be to 1) increase income from memberships, 2) to take in a territory that has a large, established stock show (like the Denver show) and 3) to increase our payments from ALR because of having more members.

California: Including CA would make the Cow Palace a potential site for showing our Lowlines. It is in Los Angeles. Some interest in joining the NWLA has been expressed from California SLABA members. Alan expressed an interest in visiting with some CA SLABA members to see what they think. A lot of CA members go to Denver, so that may be a good time to visit with them about this.

Nevada: There is a show in Reno as well, but we didn't have any information about it.

Our general feeling is that we are still building within our own territory, improving attendance and quality of our expo and shows at the Spokane and Kootenai County fairs. We have a pretty full agenda with those efforts. Taking in more states at this time may not be the best thing for the NWLA. We will defer the question of expanding our territory though we may casually discuss the situation with some CA SLABA members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Kootenai County fair has allotted an entire barn to Lowlines so we need to get geared up to use it. That event is August 21-26. The Spokane fair is September 6-11. The plan now is to use the same fee schedule increase premiums for these shows. Although we have to use the Spokane fair rules, the Kootenai County fair is leaving the rules up to us. Alan and Alice won't be there for the Spokane fair (their daughter is getting married that weekend) so Diana will run the annual meeting and Alice will send out premium checks after the event. Jacqui would like to get input on both events.

Next meeting will be August 7, 7 p.m. Pacific

MEETING ADJOURNED

8:08 Pacific time

Susan Hagle, Interim Secretary
Submitted August 6, 2012