



## BOARD MINUTES

6 January 2021

Present: Carlice Cutright, Tim Hardy, Vance Hawk, Ruth Higdon, Brad Peterson, Brenda Winter

Absent: Caryn DeRochie, Greg Dike

Visitors: Sonja Cutright, Amber Hutchinson, Una Taylor

The minutes for the October and November Board meetings were unanimously approved.  
(Higdon, Peterson)

Frustrations were expressed regarding difficulty logging in to the website. Concerns were raised on several fronts:

(1) How much security is actually needed? In particular, should filling out a registration form require a log-in?

(2) How can a member's initial login be expedited? The 24-hour delay is frustrating to current members, and may be irrevocably discouraging to new members.

(3) A descriptive paragraph of the log-in procedure should be visible to a person who trying to log in for the first time.

Amber Hutchinson (and perhaps Ruth Higdon) will discuss this issue with Eddie Hadjes.

In the November Board meeting a committee (Tim Hardy, Vance Hawk, Una Taylor) had been formed for the purpose of investigating reorganization of the Association website. Before this Board meeting Taylor had submitted several pages to Board members that outlined the suggested revisions. The Board unanimously authorized Taylor to oversee the reorganization on behalf of the Board. (Hardy, Higdon)

Amber Hutchinson updated the Board about the "For Sale" page of the website. A template is now on-line. Postings on the sale pages will expire, and be automatically removed after 90 days.

The Board reviewed some specific aspects of the meat certification program. Some minor revisions are planned for the website content which explains the program. The Board decided to press forward with gaining approval for linking the USYAKS Certified Yak Meat medallion with the USDA's Triangle stamp. Implementation of the USYAKS Meat Certification program is now only awaiting a label test case. The program was initiated to ensure that all yak meat bearing the USDA triangle stamp and the USYAKS certification medallion originated from DNA tested full-blooded yaks. The USDA circle stamp, has requirements that differ from USDA triangle stamp requirements. The Association may choose to explore expansion of a separate USYAKS medallion to be used with the USDA circle stamp.

The Board returned to a continuing discussion regarding how to engage and keep track of Association membership. It was observed that break-downs in communication seems to occur at several specific places. Several suggestions regarding addressing this issue were made. Most



solutions involved web site automation. Ruth Higdon will communicate with Eddie Hadjes about our concerns. Several suggestions made by Board members are listed below:

- 1) Possibly an on-line Bill-of-Sale that will require an USYAKS seller to list the purchaser, the purchaser's ranch name, and purchaser's herd ID. The Bill of Sale would contain the purchaser's email, mailing address, and phone number, and would list their new yaks by registration number.
- 2) Upon becoming a member, a new member is automatically added to two mailing lists:
  - a) One email is added to the voting rolls.
  - b) One or multiple emails are added to the secretary's contact list for things like agendas and newsletters.
- 3) New members (via yak purchase) have their new yaks transferred to them.
- 4) A welcome email will be generated automatically. it will sent to the new member and to the appropriate USYAKS welcoming person (Brad?, Una?, and Caryn as Secretary?)

Board members were asked to carefully consider this list, it may be incomplete.

It was determined that the Association needs to have an on-line transfer form to be used when one USYAKS member sells or trade yaks to with another USYAKS member. The form should only be able to be filled out by the currently recorded owner. Having an on-line form will take some burden off of the registrars.

The Board moved on to naming its 2021 officers. Greg Dike and Erin Powell had both indicated that they were willing to remain on the Board, but wished to resign as officers. The Board selected four officers by unanimous consent. Each Office with elected officer is listed below, the nominator and seconder are listed parenthetically.

President:	Tim Hardy	(Higdon, Peterson)
Vice President:	Brad Peterson	(Winter, Higdon)
Treasurer:	Ruth Higdon	(Hardy, Cutright)
Secretary:	Caryn DeRochie	(Higdon, Peterson)

The Board met on January 6, the day that the United States Capitol was stormed by a mob of demonstrators. The Board observed a period of silence and/or prayer out of concern for the future of our country. (Higdon, Hawk)