



American Goat Federation
Annual Meeting Report
January 30, 2018
San Antonio Marriott River Center

Meeting was called to order by President Andries at 11:04 AM, CST.

Attending in San Antonio were: Dr. Ken Andries, Matt Hayes, Bob Buchholz, and Exec Dir Anita Dahnke.

Attending by phone were: Sam Abney, Kathy Daves Carr and Betty Henning.

Advisors in attendance: Dr. Fred Homeyer, Dr. Reid Redden and Dr. Katherine Marshall (in San Antonio), Susan Schoenian (by phone).

Others attending: Natalie Urie (USDA/APHIS), Dr. Diane Sutton (USDA/APHIS), Mary Rottschafer (Michigan), Cindi Hewlett (Wyoming), Paul M Johnson (Prairie View A&M), Dr. Gbenga Ojuma (Prairie View A&M) Mike Corn (President of ASI) [there were others whose names we did not get]

New email lists

Website work page

ASI Executive Board Formal report

Joint exhibit with ASI at 2018 National FFA Convention

Minutes of January conference call were reviewed. Sam moved to approve and Bob seconded the motion. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Financial Report that was submitted by email was discussed. Bob move to approve and Matt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

By-Laws changes were discussed. By-laws changes will need to be published and then voted on at next year's annual meeting. Suggested changes would require director participation in (new percent to be determined at next conference call meeting) meetings in order to remain on the board. The Directors Agreement that is signed by all board members currently requires attendance at 75% of the meetings, but the requirement has not been followed for several years (since 2012).

The possibility of incorporating face-to-face board meetings with the ADGA convention in October was discussed. Sam moved to explore the possibilities and cost, and Kathy seconded. Vote was unanimous. Betty will discuss with ADGA Executive committee at upcoming March meeting.

Membership numbers were reported by Anita D. A membership promotion linked to advertising was presented. People applying for membership and members renewing would receive a discount by submitting copies of the ad either by mail or electronically. Betty moved and Sam seconded the motion to proceed with promotion. Goat Journal, formerly Dairy Goat Journal, Boer Goat Magazine, Ranch & Rural Living, Hoofprints, and Goat Rancher were suggested as advertising locations.

Anita announced that Dr. Pinkerton has resigned from the Advisory Council due to health issues.

Dues to other organizations were discussed. Continuing membership in NIAA, USAHA and IGA have already been approved and are in the approved budget.

FFA Scholarship program was distributed to directors and will be discussed at next conference call. Need decision before October.

Discussion of officers: Bob moved to combine the Secretary and Treasurer's positions and to delegate the Secretary's responsibilities to the Executive Director for 2018. Sam seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Election of officers:

President: Bob Buchholz Vice President: Matt Hayes Secretary/Treasurer: Betty Henning

Slate was presented. Bob moved to accept the slate and Matt seconded the motion. Vote of acceptance was unanimous

Conference call portion of the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 CST.

Afternoon Session

For the FY-2017 Scrapie/Q Fever grant, which runs from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018 AGF will offer scholarships in addition to the educational sub grants that are available to organizations willing to participate in the sub grant program. Information on both is available on the AGF website: <https://AmericanGoatFederation.org>.

Dr. Diane Sutton, from USDA/APHIS and the National Scrapie Program Coordinator reported on the status of the Scrapie Eradication Program. The Goat Industry continues to make progress towards meeting the goals of the Eradication Program. That power point will be available on the AGF Website. The availability of genetic testing for scrapie resistance (alleles S146 and K122) was discussed. UC Davis is offering this testing currently and both ADGA and ABGA are offering discounted access to their members through their associations. While this testing has not been approved by USDA/APHIS as being formally accepted at this point, it appears to be a strong possibility that it will be in the near future.

Dr. Katherine Marshall shared the results of the preliminary survey that will be used in the upcoming NAHMS Goat 2019 study of the goat industry. She thanked AGF for helping get the word out to goat producers which resulted in the largest response they've ever had to surveys about goats. Information about the survey results were distributed to directors who were present and updates on the 2019 study will be available on the AGF website.

Dr. Gbenga Ojuma, assistant professor of economics and statistics from Prairie View A&M University
Prairie View A&M University presented information about their survey being done in conjunction with the National Science Foundation (NSF). This project involves research on goat management in an effort to try to solve some of the problems currently being experienced by goat herd owners across the country. They were seeking AGF's assistance in reaching out to goat producers. Dr. Katherine Marshall pointed out that the preliminary survey would be useful in assisting with their efforts and provided a copy.

The Sheep & Goat Sector Meeting normally held in March, will be held in September this year, and AGF will attend that meeting.

The ASI visit to the hill is being held on March 5-7 and AGF will have representatives in attendance.

Anita Dahnke is on the National Goat Conference Committee. The conference will be held September 16-18 at Tuskegee University. AGF will exhibit at the conference.

AGF will again exhibit at the National FFA Convention in October and Anita is pursuing the possibility of a joint exhibit with ASI.

AGF is also looking into joining the Cross Species FMD Team.

The possible pursuit of a goat check-off was discussed as AGF had been approached early in 2017 by individuals interested in pursuing one. After discussion and sharing information about the effort and number of people and funding involved, it appears that there is not enough support or manpower to continue at this time. The possibility of a goat check-off will be held open as an agenda item should more support become available in the future.

A National Goat Center was discussed and AGF will pursue planning and funding for a National Goat Center to serve the goat industry in the same manner as the Sheep and Cattle Centers serves those industries.

Meetings in 2018 will be held the second Wednesday of the month at 3:00 PM eastern time. Current schedule is planned for: March, May, July, September, November with an extra meeting in December, if needed. The next Annual Meeting will be held, January 22 at the New Orleans Marriott in New Orleans, Louisiana in conjunction with the ASI convention. There is also a possibility of an AGF meeting in October in conjunction with the ADGA convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Henning, Secretary

Afternoon Session,
Anita Dahnke, Exec Director