

Arkansas Sheep Council Meeting Notes
AR State Spring Show
May 1, 2015

The following are notes from the Arkansas Sheep Council from the May 1st meeting held at the Arkansas State Spring Show in Little Rock.

Old Business:

There was no January meeting held due to inclement weather and travel schedules, so the Executive Officers held a virtual executive meeting. The \$1,000 Wool Promo Fund was discussed. The Wool Promotion was created after World War II to promote wool.

None of the money could be spent on the Market Show for premiums, so it was decided to create a separate website, similar to other state's small ruminant's websites. Two estimates were obtained:

- Estimate A was for \$1,200 to build the site and \$900 to maintain it.
- Estimate B was for \$350 to set up a 7 page site and \$150 to maintain it with 12 changes allowed annually.
- If it was determined to move forward with estimate B, allowing for \$500 to be used for the Breeding Ewe Show at the State Fair. Record of all spend are required to be submitted.

During the meeting, it was discussed that the American Lamb Board has Marketing Funds available; however, we have never been able to tap into them due to lamb needing to be consumed. A committee of two was formed to explore the possibilities. Those committee members are Sherri Sanders and Cindy Kendrick will explore activities such as a Chili Cook Off possibly at the Spring Show next year.

The top 5 exhibitors last year at the Spring Show, including the Premier Exhibitor were paid a total of \$1,250. Mike suggested that we bump this total up to \$1500. No buckles were awarded to the Grand and Reserve ABL exhibitors last year. Another possibility would be to order Grand and Reserve Grand ABL buckles and use the \$1,250 and add additional funds if allowed for.

Ms. Wanda's treasure report reflected a balance of \$4,700 + \$1,000 from the wool promo fund. It was noted that there is still a lot of breeder tag fees that are arriving. 44 Members had paid to date and additional \$210 was collected today. It was also noted that last spring, we voted to allocate \$400 to the ABL winners at the 2015 Spring Show.

It was noted that Ms. Wanda's husband, Wilbur, had passed and that the Arkansas Sheep Council had sent flowers.

A motion was made by Sheri Sanders to approve all of the old business including the suggestions from the Executive Committee Meeting and it was seconded by Michael Weaver. A vote was conducted and none opposed. Motion passed.

New Business

Concerns about ABL Tags were discussed. It was discussed that tags needed to be available by 1/1/16 or at least ordered to avoid lambs leaving farms without tags. This would allow breeders to have lambs tagged prior to Spring District shows. It was finalized that tags and forms would be available and mail able by no later than 3/1/16. It was also agreed up to change the rules on lamb tagging to “Tag prior to leaving breeder’s possession” as opposed to breeder’s farm.

A motion was made by Kristi Weaver to changes to the rules on tagging and it was seconded by Cindy Kendrick. A vote was conducted and none opposed. Motioned passed.

Arkansas Junior Sheep Council Officers were introduced:

- Kinsey Watkins – President
- Kinder Harlow – Vice President
- Jessica Wesson – Secretary
- Mesa Kutz – Treasurer
- Riley Hoyle – Reporter
- Kaylie Stone – Awards Chairman

The question was posed on if we could do a Pure Bred Sheep Show at the Spring State Fair. It was discussed that without more money it was not really possible. A committee of two was formed to explore the possibilities. Those committee members are Suzie Wright and Kristi Weaver. They will explore what it would take and report back to the group at the next meeting.

Mike noted that we could put in an application for Mentor Dollars. This allows us to tap into additional Educational Tools such as drawing in new breeders and/or packers. It also assists with selling lamb to restaurants

It was noted that Colby Burch was judging the Market Lamb Show and that Josh Kouns would be judging ABL at the State Fair.

A motion was made by Sheri Sanders to close the meeting and it was seconded by Suzie Wright.