

CSBA Board Meeting Agenda
Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:00 pm EDT
Subject to Approval

1. Call to Order

Steve Hampson called the quarterly meeting of the Columbia Sheep Breeders Association Board of Directors to order at 7:11 pm, CDT.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Scott Bredahl, Holly Courtney, Margaret Eller, Mike Geerts, Steve Hampson, Sara Hildebrandt, Mike Moenter, Craig Pitt, Laura Troxel, Zane Van Horsen.
Absent: Tom Sloan

3. Secretary's Report

The BOD minutes from 8.03.2021 were read. The minutes were approved as corrected. The minutes are available in Google Docs for the Board and on the CSBA website for members.

4. Financial Report

The financial statement was presented by Charlie. The report was filed subject to audit.

1.	All-American Registry Profit	\$10,996.95
2.	CSBA Profit	\$7,744.87
3.	CSBA Total Assets	\$134,323.48
4.	CSBA Total Liabilities	\$12,999.07
5.	CSBA Net Worth	\$134,323.48

5. Additions to the Agenda

a. Dropbox

6. Committee Reports

A. National Show and Sale:

Charlie presented the committee report from Oct. 25th, 2021. The report is on pages 3-4. Charlie moved to accept the National Show and Sale report. The motion was seconded and passed.

B. Promotion & Membership:

Sara Hildebrandt, Chair presented the report from Oct. 26th, 2021. The P-M report is on pages 5-7. Questions were entertained. The motion to approve was seconded, no additional discussion was held, and the motion to accept the report passed.

D. Commercial & Production:

Margaret Eller read the committee report. Margaret moved to accept the report, it was seconded, discussed, and passed. The report is on pages 8-

E. Youth Support:

Holly Courtney reported on the work of the Youth Support Committee. The Committee has purchased belt buckles for the Champion Ram and Ewe in the 2021 Jr. Columbia Show at the NAILE. The Reserve Champions will receive embroidered chairs. The Juniors would like an activity at NAILE and the Juniors will allocate \$10-15 per participant. A request will be made to a wool blanket donation for the Champion Fleece. The group will discuss the NSS Junior Show and events at their next meeting. Holly moved to accept the Youth Support Committee report. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.

F. Audit & Budget: Mike Geerts, Chair

The committee presented a 2022 budget proposal. The proposal begins on page ? The CSBA tax return is done for 2021. Charlie moved to approve the Audit and Budget Report. The motion to approve was seconded, discussed, passed.

7. Unfinished Business: No business was laid on the table or postponed to this meeting.

8. New Business:

a. Google Docs

Dropbox will be switched to Google Docs courtesy of Holly's help. The Board will be emailed with all the information when the switch takes place.

9. Adjourn:

There was no further business and Steve declared the meeting adjourned.

National Columbia Show & Sale Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 25, 2022

Call to Order:

Charles Worm called the committee meeting to order at 7:08 pm CDT.

Roll Call:

present--Holly Courtney, Sara Hildebrandt, Craig Pitt, Laura Troxel, Charles Worm, Louise Worm

Reports: There were no secretary's, treasurer, or committee reports.

Unfinished business: none

New Business

1. NSS Judge:

Craig moved to contract (judging fee, mileage, hotel, meals) Justin Benz to judge the Open, Production, and Natural Colored shows at the 2022 NSS in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.

2. NSS Wool Judge:

Craig moved to contract (judging fee, mileage, hotel, meals) Larry Prager to judge the 2022 NSS Wool Show in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.

3. Online Futurity Sales:

Sara moved to set a \$75 per head fee for CSBA a Futurity ewe lamb offered on an online sale with the following stipulations:

1. The online sale must be approved by the CSBA Board of Directors prior to the submission of entry fee, registration information, and head photo (see 3b.)
2. Consignor(s) to the online sale must be current members of the CSBA.
3. A photo of the ewe lamb's head must be submitted to the CSBA office no later than seven (7) days prior to the opening bid time of the online sale.
 - a. The head shot must clearly show the flock tag (if applicable), scrapie tag/scrapie numbers, and any defining head characteristics of the ewe lamb submitted for entry in the CSBA Futurity program.
 - b. A committee of three CSBA members, selected by the Chair of the NSS Committee, will review the photo, registry information, and entry fee to approve the futurity entry. This will be done within 48 hours following submission of the entry by a consigner.
4. These rules apply to nominations for 2022. These rules will be reviewed and evaluated for nominations in 2023.

The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.

4. Wool Show:

Louise moved to reinstate a NSS Wool Show Entry Fee of \$5 per fleece. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.

5. Social Activities During NSS:

- The Juniors will handle games during the entire NSS week for the Jr. Association event and “down time.”
- The committee will visit with those who hosted the Corn Hole tourney in Sidney to see if they would like to repeat the event in Cheyenne.

6. NSS Host Picnic and Banquet:

- Since this is a Board sponsored NSS, we will rely on help from the Board members and other volunteers.
- The committee will begin to look at catering options and recommendations for both events and options for lamb donations to either event.

7. Souvenirs:

- Souvenirs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, and so on were discussed. The committee will research options and take bids. There will be an original logo design for Cheyenne.

8. Adjournment:

There was no further business, and the meeting was declared adjourned by Charlie.

**Promotion – Membership Committee Meeting
October 26, 2021 ~ 7:00 PM CDT ~ Zoom Call**

- A. **Call Meeting to Order** -- Meeting will be audio and video recorded.
Sara called the committee meeting to order at 7 pm Central Time.
- B. **Roll Call** – Four members is a quorum.
Members present: Steve Hampson, Sara Hildebrandt, Tom Sloan, Laura Troxel, Zane Van Horsen, Charles Worm, Louise Worm. A quorum was met.
- C. **Secretary’s Report** – Minutes are in Dropbox and the approved minutes will be filed on the CSBA website under the 2021 Promotion - Membership tab. Tom moved to accept the P-M Committee minutes from the 7-13-2021 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.
- D. **Financial Report** – the committee has no financial report.
- E. **Committee Reports** -- there are no sub-committee reports.
- F. **Unfinished Business** – There is no unfinished business.
- G. New Business**
1. January Membership Campaign
- a. The membership campaign is an approved goal for this committee. Therefore, no motion(s) is necessary to proceed.
- b. Discussion focused on informing CSBA members through Facebook, Instagram, mass email, and the website.
- c. An anonymous donor is tentatively donating a cordless power shear for the prize. The committee will see if they might find other donations and gifts.
2. Breeder Spotlight
- a. The membership campaign is an approved goal for this committee. Therefore, no motion(s) is necessary to proceed.
- b. Tom will take the lead on this project for the Breeder’s Directory of the SOC.
- c. Louise moved to feature the advertisers in the Breeder’s Directory (Vol iii) of the SOC on the Facebook/Instagram Breeder’s Spotlight and feature each at least two times. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.
3. Review Submission Guidelines for FB, IG, Mass E-mail, the website, & the SOC.
The committee review the minutes from the Promotion meeting 7.13.21 – under new business section 1-3. These are the clarifications to “who to contact for what.”
- a. Speaking of Columbias Magazine
- 1) Submit articles to Louise Worm.
- 2) Communicate questions or inform of a correction/error: Louise Worm, Charles Worm, Sara Hildebrandt, Laura Troxel, David Brown.
- b. Facebook and Instagram

- 1) Submit information or concerns/corrections to: Sara Hildebrandt, Laura Troxel, Zane Van Horsen, Charles Worm, Louise Worm.
 - c. CSBA Website
 - 1) Submit information and/or edits to Charles Worm or David Brown.
 - d. Mass Email
 - 1) Submit request to David Brown.
 - e. Review of Public Information Released on CSBA Platforms
 - f. CSBA public information will be reviewed by the Promotion-Membership Committee to evaluate grammatical correctness, appropriate nature of the content, length, or other factors related to the nature of the information provided.
 - g. It is not guaranteed that submissions will be published as written or when submitted. The maker of the submission will be informed when a submission is not used.
All clarifications were accepted by the general consent of the committee.
4. SOC
Laura moved to change the publication date to mid-December of 2022. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.
5. Banner Sheep Magazine—response to July/August Issue
The office and President heard concerns about the July-August Issue of the Banner. These were:
- a. Page 57—Was this page purchased or approved by the CSBA? *It was not.*
 - b. Results on pages 54 and 56 included errors
 - c. The state of residency for two exhibitors was incorrectly printed. This was not corrected in the next issue as per the request of the exhibitor’s family in a phone call to the publisher.
 - d. Page 51 reported the incorrect top-selling yearling ewe.
 - e. Many concerns were voiced for the use of “National Champion” to identify the Natural Colored Champion Ram and Champion Natural Colored Ewe featured on the cover.
 - f. The ethical nature of printing CSBA information without permission.
 - g. The ethical nature of using the CSBA backdrop and photo taking for profit without requesting permission from the CSBA.
 - h. Lack for forthrightness by the editor of the Banner concerning his source and accuracy of information.
6. Wool Sale Guidelines
- a. Zane did an excellent job of defining the wool sale guidelines. Zane stressed if a wool show entrant decides to consign to the wool sale, they will agree to having the fleeces skirted again, split into smaller weights, cleaned again, and so on to make them more saleable to the online prospects. See attached.
 - b. Charlie moved to accept the Wool Sale Guidelines. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed.
7. By-Law proposal
- a. The wording upgrades are a work in progress.
 - b. The wording for an absentee voting By-Law and procedure requires more work.
 - c. The committee will submit a final draft at the February BOD meeting.
8. NSS Online Bidding

a. The P-M committee concluded the CSBA use FB Live viewing for the show and sale. Bidding is best done when an absent bidder works with someone who may bid for him/her, in person, at the NSS.

9. Schedule Date and Time for Next P-M Meeting will be flexible

H. Adjournment

There was no additional business and the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:27 pm by Chair, Sara.

**The link for the recording of this meeting will be available via Dropbox following the meeting.*

**The written committee report from this meeting will be presented by Sara Hildebrandt, for approval, at the next, CSBA Board meeting for Board approval.*

Minutes
Commercial Production Committee Meeting
Conference Call
9/29/2021

Members present:	Raina Blackman Steve Hampson Doug Hitch Tom Sloan Margaret Eller, Chair	Members absent:	Scott Bredahl Zane Van Horsen
		Also present:	Charles Worm Sara Hildebrand

Meeting called to order at 6:00 (Mtn Time)

Minutes from the 7/12/2021 meeting accepted as written

Unfinished Business

- **Survey**
 - Raina moved that the survey results be shared with membership through mass email. Tom seconded the motion. Tom moved to amend the motion to post the survey results on the CSBA website and use mass email to inform and guide CSBA members to the website for access to the survey. Doug seconded the amended motion. Members voted to approve the amended motion. Members voted to approve the main motion.
 - Margaret will share the survey results with the CSBA BoD ASAP and prior to sharing with general CSBA membership
 - Three members expressed approval for the wording of a brief introductory statement about the survey & results. The statement and results will be submitted for publication in SoC.
- **Goals**
 - Continued support for Ram Tests
 - Continued support for Certified Ram Program
 - Continued submission of production-related articles & “knowledge nuggets” to publications
 - Continued CSBA Website updates under “Production Corner” tab
 - Continued presence on social media through CSBA administrators
 - Based on survey responses:
 - Continue work to develop an in-house, voluntary Production Data program
 - Wool workshop at NSS: As a starting point for gathering information prior to a decision and action plan, Raina will share U of WY Wool Judging videos with committee members
 - Wool video on CSBA website: Prior to any decision and action plan, Tom and Raina will work together to evaluate the wool videos currently on the website, as well as the video of Kirsten Holbo’s NSS pop-up session on skirting a fleece for hand-spinners, to assess what is missing and what is needed, and report back
 - Tom moved that the CP Committee support outreach to Superior Farms and their plan for a Sheep Discovery Center, with specific emphasis on a role for Columbia Sheep. Raina seconded the motion. The committee voted to approve the motion

- Tom moved that the CP Committee support an ASI grant proposal for university/sheep producer cooperation for twice-a-year “field days” for gathering objective data. Committee members will: a) Review and help flesh out and refine the grant proposal, b) Provide contact information for relevant institutions, c) Reach out to relevant institutions, and d) Provide support in the process of getting BoD approval of the proposal. Raina seconded the motion. Committee members approved the motion.
- Tom moved that the CP Committee approve preliminary exploration of marketer interest in a Certified Columbia Lamb program. Raina seconded the motion. Members’ tie vote was broken with a vote from the Chair. The motion was not approved.
- In response to a suggestion made at the BoD level, originating from a concern brought by a producer residing in the East, Doug moved 1) To leave the current Certified Ram criteria unchanged for the 2021-22 test period, 2) To make no changes in the general breed standards. Raina seconded the motion. Raina moved to amend the motion to include a paragraph of explanation for the motion. Tom seconded the amendment. Committee members voted to approve the amendment.* Committee members voted to approve the main motion.

*See below the “**Explanation of Decision Regarding Certified Ram Criteria and General Breed Standards**”

Adjournment: 7:35 PM (Mtn. Time)

Explanation of Decision Regarding Certified Ram Criteria and General Breed Standards

At the 8/3/21 CSBA BoD meeting it was brought up that an eastern Columbia breeder wanted the wool micron standard for the Certified Ram program (22.05 to 27.84 microns) to be expanded to the more general Columbia sheep breed standard of 22.05 to 30.99 microns. The reasoning: producers from the eastern U.S. cannot raise sheep with wool fine enough to compete for Certified Ram status. A further suggestion was made that if the certified ram standard for fiber diameter is not expanded to match the general breed standard, then the general breed standard for acceptable fiber diameter should be changed to match the Certified Ram standard for that trait. Commercial Production Committee members voted 1) To leave the current Certified Ram criteria unchanged for the 2021-22 test period, 2) To make no changes in the general breed standards. The reasons that underpin the vote are as follows:

- When the Commercial Production Committee established the standards for the Certified Ram program, the intent was to recognize rams that excel in all of the selected traits. The thresholds for those selected traits—ADG, wool fiber diameter, staple length, and ribeye area—were based on 5 years of data collected from previous ram tests in both MT and ND. In addition to being guided by 5 years of data, the committee factored in wool markets and advice from State Extension Sheep Specialists in establishing the fiber diameter criterion. The specialists were unanimous in recommending that coarse wools, quarter blood and coarser, should be eliminated from consideration for certification.
- After the August BoD meeting, the Commercial Production Committee contacted wool buyers across the nation to determine the current market for 26 micron and coarser wools. Their consensus was that such wools are difficult to sell and heavily discounted.
- The intent of the Certified Ram program is to identify superior rams. Top Columbia rams should not have fleeces that will be heavily discounted or difficult to market.
- Both wool fiber micron and Q/R status (also included in certification standards) can be ascertained ahead of time by breeders who seek to produce rams that qualify for certification.

Those two “knowables” can guide any decision about whether or not to consign a lamb to a ram test.

- Ram tests treat all consigned ram lambs equally. The lambs are sheared at the start of test, they are sheared again at the end of test, and they all have access to the same feed and live in the same environment throughout the test. The wool data are collected only from wool that is grown between the two shearing dates. All of the rams, no matter where they are from, will reflect the test’s feed regimen and grow wool that is coarser than wool that they would produce under more demanding conditions.
- As for changing the more general Columbia Breed Standards to match the Certified Ram standard: If the association were to drop ¼-blood fleeces from the acceptable micron range, and were to somehow enforce that change, how many sheep would be eliminated from the registry? From shows? From sales? If current wool market trends continue to exert downward pressure on coarse-wool prices, breeders will be encouraged to move away from sheep that produce coarse wool and move toward sheep that produce fine to medium grades of wool. Such economic pressure should provide a less disruptive change toward the more desirable wools than a change in the Columbia breed standards.

In conclusion, the CP Committee would like the BoD to give careful thought to the advice of Dr. Chris Schauer, Director of NDSU’s Hettinger Research Extension Center, a Columbia Service Award recipient. Concerning changes to Certified Columbia Ram criteria, the program should be given a chance to work. At the end of 5 years, the Production Committee should look at the data generated and use those data to determine if changes need to be made in the program.

Respectfully submitted
Margaret Eller, Chair