Government & Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom) MINUTES June 9, 2025

Committee Members: Bonnie Potter, Chair
Dr. Signe Balch (absent)
Derrick Letsinger

Board Liaison: Mike Livingston

Staff Representative: Robbin Gifford

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm EST.

1.0 Meeting Opening

- 1.1 AOA News of Importance: Election results are out and there will be a face-to-face meeting of the new board with a facilitator to help with planning in July. They are conducting a brand survey and there has been a low rate of participation. No word on color code testing. Looking at how to increase participation in the organization. Registrations are up but transfers are down. The AOA Foundation is interested in awarding CE scholarships and Signe was recognized for assisting with the application. GirCom previously sent eBlasts on education opportunities available to owners and veterinarians. Education Committee may wish to do this.

2.0 Health / Government Related

- 2.1 USAHA Alerts
  - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza is still a concern.
  - Seeing more cases of WNV and EHV-1 as expected.

3.0 Unfinished Business

- 3.1 BVD information on website: DDC wants guidance about the article on testing. Bonnie will provide requested information to Robin.
- **3.2** Disaster Preparedness eBlast Feedback: Bonnie thanked the AOA staff for their outstanding edits.

4.0 New Business

- 4.1: Article “What Are Alpacas”: this article was prepared in 2018 to assist in the care of alpacas in an emergency. Everyone should review and be prepared to discuss in July.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Minutes of 5/12/2025: Bonnie made a motion to approve the minutes as written; second by Derrick. Motion carried.

6.0 Meeting Wrap

- 6.1 Bonnie reviewed the action items.
- 6.2 The next meeting will be held on 7/14/2025.
- **6.3** Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Potter