Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom)

Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2016

Meeting: Conference Call—April 20, 2016, 7:30 p.m. EST

Members: Deborah Bailey
Lynn Boak
Joan Clappier
Dr. Pat Long
Brion Smoker

Board Liaison: Bonnie Potter (absent)

Staff Representative: Darby Vannier

Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m. EDT.

1.0 Meeting Opening

1.1 AOA News of Importance (D. Vannier):

- Nationals was successful;
    - All stalls were sold,
    - There were many good comments about the facility, and
    - There are still some bills outstanding but it looks like a good profit will be realized.
- Membership renewal is still in process. We should encourage everyone to renew their membership and be sure to include voting rights. This election, in addition to election of Directors, there will be several bylaw amendments to be voted on.
- The fleece conference will be July 21–24 in Arlington. Registration is open for both regular and cottage fleece competitions.
- There will be many educational presentations. $150 admission covers all presentations as well as continental breakfast and lunch.
- Public transportation (Metro) is available to get to and from the venue.
- We are into shearing season. Deadline to submit samples for this year's EPD calculation is August 1.

1.2 GIRCom wishes to thank Jan Hamby for her service to GIRCom.

2.0 Health Related

2.1 USAHA Alerts (P. Long):

- Weather has been warm, thus mosquito-borne illness should be showing up.
- A few cases of EHV-1—could be transmitted to alpacas.

3.0 Government Related

3.1 Status of Article on "Things You Should Know: (Zoning, UCC, etc.)" (L. Boak):

- BRION: The "nine factors" was already covered in the IRS article which was sent out in late December.
- Deborah: "Things to Consider" can be many topics under that umbrella. She felt that the two "9 factors" documents compliment each other because she gave examples to illustrate some of the principles.
- The discussion turned to zoning issues, such as in WV and PA. If you have an agriculture building it is exempt from a lot of regulations. However, when you use it for something that involves people such as a store or classroom, it has to meet a higher level of regulations including ADA compliance.
- Decision: Leave the 9 factors information in this document. Add something about contract considerations. Then re-submit it to the committee for a normal review/edit cycle.

3.2 Article about Optional Vaccinations?:

- Lynn raised the possibility of producing an article about optional vaccinations (such as rabies, WNV, and others).
- Pat said he has written about that topic and will think about it—possible send something to us.

4.0 New Business: None at this time.

5.0 Approval of Minutes (J. Clappier):

5.1 The motion was made by Pat and seconded by Deborah to approve the minutes of 2/17/2016. The minutes were approved.

6.0 Meeting Wrap:

6.1 Review Action Items (J. Clappier):

- Lynn update article and send for committee review.
- Pat: think about an optional vaccination article and possibly propose something to GRICom.

6.2 Next Meeting (L. Boak):

- May 18, 2016

6.3 Adjournment (L. Boak):

- A motion to adjourn was made by Joan, seconded by Pat and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned 8:28 p.m. EDT.