# Government & Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom) MINUTES April 13, 2026

**Committee Members:** Bonnie Potter, Chair
Dr. Signe Balch
Fred Cripe
Derrick Letsinger

**Board Liaison:** Mike Livingston

**Staff Representative:** Robin Gifford (absent)

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm EST.

1. **Meeting Opening**

1.1. AOA News of Importance: National Show went well. Email went out with the names of the candidates for the AOA Board. Losing 3 board members this year.

**2. Health / Government Related**

**2.1.** USAHA Alerts: Not much of concern for alpacas. Seeing a few cases of EHV and HPAI has decreased. Vesicular Stomatitis is still being reported in Arizona.

**3. Unfinished Business**

3.1 Articles on "Risk Management". Fred discussed the Slips and Falls article. He sent it out, but it was the incorrect version, so will resend, allowing 1 week for comments before submitting. Next article will be on pests.
3.2 Follow up on New World Screwworm article. Was published on Paca Post on 3/25. May need to remind members how to access Paca Post.
3.3 Status of eBlast on Relationship with Veterinarian: have not seen it published yet. Mike will check consent folder.
3.4 Parasite Survey Status: it is ready to forward to Robin.

4. **New Business**
5.

4.1 Oregon Proposition: Bonnie reviewed some of the history of the Proposition 28. IP28 is the third iteration of an initiative first introduced by animal rights advocates in 2020. Each version carries the same core goal: eliminate Oregon's statutory exemptions for hunting, fishing, trapping, and farming from animal abuse law. It is called the PEACE Act - People for Elimination of Animal Cruelty Exemptions. West Coast producers should know that it is not as the title would imply as it would eliminate the exemptions for farming and animal research. If the proposition gets sufficient signatures to be put on the ballot, AOA should get involved, perhaps by having the board approve a policy statement.

**6. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of 3/9/2026: Fred made a motion to approve the minutes as written; second by Signe. Motion carried.

7. **Meeting Wrap**
6.1 Bonnie reviewed the action items.
6.2 The next meeting will be held on 5/11/2026.
**6.3** Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Potter