

## **Board Meeting Minutes Large Black Hog Association**

Dec 18, 2010

Present: Richard Pomeroy (President), Kelley and Mark Escobedo (Vice-President), Brian Wright (Secretary), Brett Antaya, Anthony Keisling, Felicia Krock, JoAnn Smotherman

Absent: Dave Dalan (Treasurer), Cathy Cox

Guests: None

### **Proceedings**

Meeting called to order at 8:10 p.m. CT by Richard.

Minutes from previous meeting were approved earlier via email.

1. Treasurer's Report. As Dave was not present the full report was not available.
2. Registrar's Report. There are now 827 registered hogs and 116 active members.
3. Committee Report - Registry Process Improvement. The Committee has created a website, database and registry backup process that saves backups in several locations. We are also developing a "Member Support Tracking System". In essence it is a database that tracks all member requests, including hog and litter registrations, requests for inbreeding analysis and membership applications, and allows members to have real time visibility to the actions that the Registrar is taking on their requests. The system is undergoing beta testing and will hopefully be launched soon.
4. Committee Report – Outreach. Members set a meeting date and will begin working on three items for presentation at a later Board meeting:

- Merchandise - Shirts, hats, etc.
- LBH exhibitions / show standards
- LBH breed standards - LBHA specific

### **Open Items**

1. Development of a Large Black Hog Buyer's Guide. Richard is developing this item which will be a guide that helps LBH buyers recognize official LBHA registration documents and correctly recognize hog identification markings. It will also explain how the buyer can register the hog in their name and the LBHA registration process.
2. The Board approved the use of "USDA" ear tags as official identification for LBHA registered hogs. Brian will develop procedures and restrictions for use, obtain Board review and publish the information to all members via the website.

3. New LBHA Board member training. Due to Dave's absence this was tabled until the next meeting.

### **New Business**

1. The Board discussed the situation facing new members who join the LBHA in the last quarter of each calendar year. Since membership expires at the end of each year and all members have to renew their membership in January, it was felt that it was unfair to make these "Q4" members repay their membership fees so soon after joining. The Board created a new class of LBHA membership, "Q4 membership", for those members who first joined the LBHA in the last quarter of the calendar year. During this period they will have all the rights and receive all the services of the other class of membership for which they qualify. The membership fee will be waived for the following calendar year for this new class of members. This membership class will only apply to people who have not previously been members of the LBHA.

The Board also discussed the possibility of changing to a 12 month membership period instead of a calendar year period (this would solve the Q4 member issue without requiring a new class of membership). Since this would require a change to our By-Laws, the Board will consider bringing it up for a vote at our next Annual membership meeting.

2. The Board considered a proposal to extend lifetime membership to all members who serve on the Board in recognition of their service. The proposal was withdrawn as it was decided that this would be more appropriate to award at the completion of a term of Board service.

3. The Board discussed the vulnerability that our current Hog registration form has to fraud. The Registrar has not seen any fraudulent LBHA forms but has seen such from another registry. The Board decided that the use of embossed paper, versus the plain paper currently in use, would adequately manage this vulnerability and approved the purchase and use of embossed paper not to exceed 30% of the current paper cost.

4. The Board received a proposal to send a letter to all members explaining the existence of our new website, however this was tabled until the next meeting.

5. Brian notified the Board that he would be on vacation from December 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> and will not work on any Registrar tasks during that period.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Submitted by Brian Wright, Secretary

Approved via email.