

AGSS Board Meeting 12.17.24 - Board Election Results

Roll Call:

President - Jeff Ahlseen: Present

Vice President - Heidi Quist: Present

Treasurer Rachel Green: Present

Secretary Debra Drake: Present

Eastern Director - Laura Chandler: Present

Central Director Nancy Bentley: Present

Western Director - Terrisue Harvey: Present

Canadian Director - Vacant

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll call**
3. **New Business**
 - Maryland Sheep & Wool - 2025 Catalogue Advertising
 - National Gotland Fleece Show - June 2025 in Oregon
 - Vision and Mission Statement for AGSS
 - Officer Election Discussion & Approval
 - Schedule Annual Meeting
4. **Questions**
5. **Adjourn**

A quorum was held and the meeting was called to order by Jeff Ahlseen at 8:06 PM ET and Heidi seconded it.

Maryland Sheep & Wool - 2025 Catalogue Advertising - ½ page for \$200

Heidi made the motion to approve this procurement and Laura 2nd the motion, it was approved unanimously. Rachel, AGSS Treasurer, has the requisite information to reach out to MDS&W committee members and will ask to repeat last year's ad and make payment.

National Gotland Fleece Show (NGFS) - June 2025 in Oregon

Jeff noted Martin Dally would like to hold the NGFS at Black Sheep Festival. Gotland fleece owners would be able to send a fleece out to this event. This event sells an abundance of fleece. Martin is asking for the Board's approval. This would be an AGSS only Fleece Show; the colors allowed would need to meet the Swedish breeding standards - shades black, charcoal and silver. At this festival, Gotlands would have their own class for entering fleece for sale. Debra made a motion for Martin to go fwd with his proposed fleece show, Heidi 2nd the motion and it was passed unanimously. It was noted that this event would be a positive step in promoting the breed on the west coast.

Vision and Mission Statement for AGSS - All Board members noted that they would like to participate in this activity. It was suggested that each Board member send in their suggestions to Heidi and her sub-committee for organizing ahead of the group meeting - to be held on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025 8 PM ET/ 5 PM PT**. [[Suggest moving this meeting to January 28th.](#)]

Officer Election Discussion & Approval

Canadian Board Member - Jeff will send an email to all Canadian members to solicit interest in this position. Debra will send Jeff the list of 2024 Canadian members within the week.

The Board held a lengthy discussion on what constitutes a qualifying vote in the 2024 Annual Directors Election since a few votes received by those who had not paid dues in 2024 and according to the By-Laws as defined in Section 4.2 c) were not members. Heidi made the motion to accept only those who were active 2024 members [as defined in the By-Laws in Section 4.2c] votes would be counted. Terisue seconded the motion. A recorded vote was taken with five voting to accept the motion and two opposed. The Board approved the vote tally for Debra Drake being elected AGSS President of AGSS.

It was discussed to review the By-Laws in 2025 to address needed updates throughout, including that in **Section 4.2 c)** Active Members must have recorded and/or registered, purchased, and/or transferred AGSS sheep within the prior five calendar years and currently own AGSS Gotland sheep to be eligible to vote.

In addition a diligent review will be executed (in conjunction with Associated Registry) of “current members” for both 2024 and 2025, and be reflected on the website and in AGSS Contacts email lists.

Rachel will quickly work to correct the website the drop-down menu from dues listed in the amount of \$35 (that included the late fee of \$15 for those who joined in 2024 after March 31st) to \$20 for calendar year 2025 membership.

Schedule Annual Meeting

Notice to AGSS members regarding the: 1) the election outcome will be emailed on **December 27, 2024**, and 2) announcing the AGSS Annual Meeting to be held on **Tuesday, January 7th, 8:00 PM ET/ 5 PM PT** via zoom. The Zoom link will be provided in this notice along with the following agenda:

- Election Results
- Secretary's Report
- Treasury's Report
- Vacant Canadian & Secretary Board positions
- 2025 Sheep Shows Nationwide
- National Westcoast Gotland Fleece Show at Black Sheep Festival in June of 2025, AGSS funding FFA/ 4H Scholarships.

- AGSS Developing its Vision & Mission Statements
- Review of 2024 Member Survey Findings followed by a discussion to address support of these finding

AGSS Facebook Page

Terisue proposed a motion to create a public AGSS Facebook Page to promote the both AGSS and the Gotland breed of sheep. Nancy seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Terisue will present a vision of this Page's format at the next Board meeting to be held on **January 21, 2025 8 PM ET/ 5 PM PT.** [[Suggest moving this meeting to January 28th.](#)]

Scholarship for FFA and 4H Members

Terisue proposed AGSS sponsoring scholarship for FFA/ 4H members for the purposes of promoting 'fiber sheep' and fiber uses. The suggested scholarship amount was \$25 per FFA/ 4H student.

Motion: Laura made the motion to adjourn, Jeff 2nd the motion, and approved by all present.