

Illinois Meat Goat Producers
Board of Directors Meeting 11-18-2006

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am at the home of Dave and Donna Thomas in Bloomington, IL. Those Board Members present included Clause Miller, Roy Morrell, Chris Fleming, Penny Hamell, Jodie Boen and Jennifer Miller. Guests included Andrew Miller and Jessica Hamell. Absent Board Members were Dave Freuh and Bernard Swank, with one vacancy.

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted with one correction: First sentence under Financial Report – “minutes” was changed to “financial report.” Jen motioned to accept the corrected minutes, Chris 2nd, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

Financial Report (Penny)

Ending Balance \$3263.30

We are still waiting on the sponsorships from Hubbard Feeds and Farm Credit Services for the Highlands Show.

Fall Seminar (Jen)

The Fall Seminar in Arthur, IL was a success. We had over 65 people in attendance and the speakers were well received. Thank you cards were sent to Dr. Jim Warren of ADM (nutrition) and Drs Marshall, Coffey, Ramoutar and Scolari (reproduction, parasites, orf & CAE) for their participation in the program.

Jackpot Wether Program (Jen)

Dustin Derue won the State Fair with “Flavo-Flav” and will receive a \$100 check for participating in the program. Jen will contact the four Jackpot Wether winners from 2006 and invite them to the IMGPA Annual Meeting.

State Fair (Penny)

Penny and Dave F. met with Durinda Kirby about the 2007 State Fair. The Junior Barn will be used for the Open and Junior Shows. The State Fair felt the sale price of the winning wether was good considering it is a “newer” livestock. Also, it gives the auction price room to grow in the future. State Fair wanted to know if we would support premiums for the meat goat classes. Chris motioned to support premiums for 2007 State Fair Meat Goat classes at \$15, \$10, \$7, \$5. Roy 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Spring Fling (Clause)

Options for Spring Fling sites include: Lauderman’s - \$500 for use of the facilities, but did not say if we had to clean pens; Clinton/Larry Martin’s facility - \$1000 & he cleans up; Cambridge \$500 – we clean up. There is question as to whether the Clinton facility has enough space. Roy will contact Cindy Wade about the McLean Co. Fairgrounds.

Production/Wether Sale

Discussion on the Spring Sale (previously in conjunction with the Spring Fling show) was tabled until we had more information on the Spring Fling show.

Production Committee (Jen)

IMGP/WIU Buck Test

A rough draft of a letter to producers and application form was submitted to Board Members for their review. Corrections will be made and the letter/application will be sent to Mark Hoge for his review.

Goat Pick-up

Dan Considine, a dairy goat farmer from WI, is interested in doing a goat pick-up in early April. He desires 30-50# milk-fed kids (grain ok, minimal forage). Last years price was \$1.25/# live weight. This information will be placed on the website and in the newsletter. Interested parties must contact Jen. He will not come if there are not enough goats.

Annual Meeting

Matt Bunger of NRCS and the Illinois Grassland Conservation Initiative would like to speak for 15 minutes at the Annual Meeting in January. Jen will contact him and let him know that he is cleared to speak during the morning session (10:30am – noon). Clause Miller is to contact Marvin Shurley (AMGA) to be a speaker at the Annual Meeting.

New Business

IMGP member Andrew Miller addressed the Board about the cost of dues, the lack of “benefits” as seen by production-only goat ranchers and the stigma of IMGP being a “Boer Goat Show Association.” After much discussion, the Board will revisit association costs and see if lowering annual dues is feasible. Also, the Board will create a “list of benefits” of being an IMGP member and include this in a new IMGP pamphlet and on the website. Also, with events like the IMGP Fall Seminar & sponsoring the U of I Extension Kankakee Seminar, we do assist the production-only members, but will seek other ways to help them. The Board is always open to members making suggestions to better the association.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

The next board meeting is at 10:30am at Shakey’s Restaurant in Springfield, IL on Saturday December 18.