

**Illinois Meat Goat Producers
Board of Directors Meeting
September 10, 2007**

The phone teleconference meeting was called to order at 7pm. Those present included Jen Miller, Jodie Boen, Burt Walker, Vicky Wetzel, Chris Fleming and Mike Taylor. Absent were Dave Frueh and Roy Morrell.

Secretary's Report (Burt)

Minutes of the July meeting were read by Jen, there were no additions or corrections, so the minutes were accepted as presented.

Financial Report (Dave)

Due to a prior commitment, Dave was unable to call in. He sent a copy of the IMGP bank statement for inclusion into the minutes:

Balance as of 7-31-07	\$4,991.87
Balance as of 8-31-07	\$5,056.47

Advertising & Promotions Committee (Mike & Burt)

The IMGP booth at the Farm Progress Show was well received. We had over 125 people sign our guest book. We had interviews with the Decatur and Peoria newspapers as well as RFD Radio Network. We should be receiving a check for \$300 from ABGA's Educational Fund to help pay for the booth. (Addendum: We received the \$300 check from ABGA & Jen sent a thank you note to ABGA).

Website (Vicky)

The website continues to be updated. Most recently, the BOD meeting minutes were added as well as old IMGP newsletters. Vicky is working with Clause Miller to find four older newsletters to post on the site. The membership list is based off of the Excel spreadsheet. Results for the Fairfield IL Bred and Owned classes are up on the website and the Pontiac results will be up soon.

Newsletter (Burt & Nan)

Nan will be adding a marketing page, a Question & Answer section and a membership application to the newsletter. It has been suggested by many to return to the hard-copy newsletter. Nan reports that it will cost \$0.05/per page to copy the newsletter (her local copy center provides a discount for not-for-profit organizations). Estimated cost per newsletter is about \$1 plus 2 stamps to mail. Chris motioned to mail out the newsletter to all members, Burt 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Show Committee (Vicky and Dave)

Highland Show – we have received a lot of out of state entries. Judges are Beth Walker and Chip Kemp (Lynn Farmer had a scheduling conflict).

Land of Lincoln – premium checks were sent out for \$0. It appears that there was not enough money for all classes, so Barb handed out checks for random classes. Vicky will

meet with Durinda to assist LOL in the future. LOL expects a sponsoring organization to provide volunteers for the show.

Pontiac Show – Vicky has received an email copy of the top six placings from Dave Thomas so she can determine points for the IL Bred and Owned class. Issues at the Pontiac show 1) Discounts given to certain people 2) No premiums for breeders classes although advertised 3) money not handed out as previously described. Discussion included focusing on Junior shows (Vicky reported that there are new rules for open and junior shows – ABGA now requires that an organization sponsor a show, not an individual. Example: IMGP or a State or County fair is OK). Also discussed was dropping all IMGP sponsored shows or individual shows. Vicky will send out her proposed rules for IMGP shows. If we drop the shows, it will eliminate a source of funding for the scholarship. We will send out a survey to members to see if they want us to expand, keep the same or reduce/eliminate IMGP sponsored shows.

Youth/Education (Jodie)

No news to report.

Production (Jen)

Farm Progress Show (already discussed)

Buck Test at WIU is scheduled for buck arrival on May 31, 2008, with the test concluding on August 29, 2008. Birthdates for participating animals must be from January 9, 2008 – March 9, 2008.

Family Farmers Meats – the processing plant in Mattoon is scheduled to break ground in September – October 2007. They will be a USDA plant that can process organic & non-organic meats. They will be certified to process goats, sheep, poultry, waterfowl, cattle and hogs. They will be able to do custom processing, retail sales and wholesale sales. We will keep in touch with them and their progress.

New Business

It was recommended to add three new pages to our website:

Goat Veterinarians: There was concern that some veterinarians might be upset if they are not listed. We can list vets recommended by our members, as well as list a vet if that person contacts us and informs us that he/she sees goats as patients.

4H Judges: Members as well as judges themselves can send in contact info on people that are able to be 4H judges. Many county fairs do not know who to contact when they are looking for a meat goat judge. We hope that this page will assist them.

Markets: This page will mirror the page in the newsletter. We are hoping that members will send us info on local goat sales/pools/packing plants/etc (for example, size of goat desired, typical price paid, dates etc). We will also accept this information from the company itself. We want to use this page as a resource for our members, and info on that page by no means indicates a specific endorsement by IMGP.

Fall Seminar

The Fall Seminar is being held on November 3, 2007 at the Arthur Sale Barn. The seminar will begin at 10am. As in previous years, the sale barn is letting us host a seminar before their Boer Goat Sale in the afternoon. If you have any questions about the

sale, you must contact the sale barn at 217-543-3255 (Ruth). Our speakers are Mike Neary, Ph.D., Sheep Extension Specialist from Purdue University who will speak about alternative feeds and Richard Hungerford, from the USDA NRCS. Richard is an IMG P member and will be reviewing grazing – from pasture plants to stocking rates and everything in between. If time allows, we will have a discussion group among attendees. The Fall Seminar is free to attend.

Fun Member Meeting

Dale Aupperle, IMG P member, is working with Montgomery's on the Square in Monticello, IL to host a fun get-together meeting for members. He will donate a goat to be cooked by the restaurant. Expected costs are \$20/person. We are in the process of determining a date and time.

Goat Symposium

Jodie brought up the possibility of hosting a goat symposium in Illinois. We will look into this.

Chris motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. Mike 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting date will be determined over email.