

## **SOUTH CENTRAL LLAMA ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING - October 5, 2014**

The annual meeting of the South Central Llama Association was held at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas, Texas, October 5, 2014. Board members present included Sean Price, President, Adryce Mathisen, Secretary, and Jim Doyle, Director at Large. Also present were Region 2 Director Bob Carroll, Region 1 Director Susan Leslie, Mary Nell Doyle, Kathie Schatz, Sharon Bramblett, and Karen Conyngham.

President, Sean Price, called the meeting to order and established a quorum.

Adryce Mathisen, Secretary read the minutes of the annual meeting held September 29, 2013, printed in the Humming Herald as well as the SCLA website.

Motion to approve – Bob Carroll, seconded by Mary Nell Doyle.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Karen Conyngham presented Bob Lyons' written report of approximately \$45,000.00 in the general fund for operations, \$6483.00 available in SCLA Jim Graham Scholarship Fund and \$3,000.00 available in the Texas Classic Llama Scholarship Fund. This report represents year to date revenue loss of approximately \$3655.00.

Motion to approve – Bob Carroll, seconded by Karen Conyngham. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Scholarship Committee**

Chairman, Mary Nell Doyle announced that there were no applications received by the deadline to qualify for 2014 SCLA Jim Graham Scholarship award. The money received for this will remain in the scholarship fund.

#### **Membership Committee**

Karen Conyngham, membership secretary, reported 84 adult members and 12 youth members active in SCLA. Total membership is still dropping with only 4 new members since January and a loss of 22 renewals from the 2013 report.

### **Old Business**

No old business

### **New Business**

For the last several years, numbers of youth competing at the llama shows have dropped. One of the key reasons is that many of the schools do not consider show participation as an excused absence, like they would if the student was absent for a school or 4-H sponsored event.

Bob Carroll contacted Dr. Chris Boleman, Executive Director of Texas 4-H. He expressed his concern about the current situation and explained what the youth do to train, prepare and show the llamas. One of the key problems Dr. Boleman indicated was that when the 4-H or FFA advisor isn't the one entering the youth in the show, they have no responsibility for exempting the youth from school attendance on show days.

Further discussion with Dr. Boleman indicated that he would endorse the llama program from the top of the 4-H organization if we would have the individual shows convert the youth portion of the show to a junior or youth show, rather than a part of the open show. This way the 4-H or FFA advisor would enter the youth in the show and this would allow the youth to be excused from school for. For this to occur, the youth would have to be a member of 4-H.

Dr. Boleman also indicated that there was an opportunity for the llama owners/breeders to educate the agents about the llama program, as there were quite a few new agents interested in increasing the 4-H opportunities.

Suggestions of things to do to move forward to improve the youth program included:  
Have the current Show Superintendents contact existing shows regarding about the possibility of making the change from youth showing in the open to add youth or junior show. This will require a separate entry for the youth to be made by the 4H/FFA agent. (As shows establish exhibitor handbooks months before the show, changes to the types of youth shows [youth/junior rather than open] would likely not be implemented until late 2015 or early 2016.)

Establish a SCLA 4-H committee. Bob Carroll will continue to be the point of contact with Dr. Boleman.

Have centralized ranches throughout the state offer educational open houses open to the youth as well as the agents. These open ranch events would include llama care, training and showing information, as well as llamas available for sale/lease to the youth. Susan Leslie volunteered her ranch for an event, and mentioned she would need llamas available for sale.

Motion to adjourn – Karen Conyngham, seconded by Mary Nell Doyle.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Adryce Mathisen, Secretary