

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Chair, Steve Auld, at 7:10 pm CST on February 2, 2023. Steve Auld, Jerrika Mumford, Cathie Kindler, Nick Hauptly and Fran Soukup were in attendance. Ramona Simpson joined at 7:20 pm.

Cathie motioned to approve the agenda, Fran seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the January meeting were approved via e-mail and are available on the ILR website.

Old Business:

The judges committee discussed the recent response from Jesse Munson regarding the committee's decision to require one more full apprenticeship. She is planning to complete a full apprenticeship this spring.

Jerrika discussed the virtual clinic proposed budget. Suggestions were made for changes. Possible guidelines changes and a few questions that would need to be answered in order to implement the virtual clinic were discussed. Jerrika will work on a few changes to the budget. The committee agreed that the virtual clinic would bring in long term revenue to the ILR-SD and more than pay for itself. The committee agreed there should be sufficient attendance to fully reimburse the seed money to ILR.

Fran discussed the Fleece Judging Clinic she is planning June 23rd-25th in conjunction with Llamapalooza in Austin, MN. She provided a budget to the committee and the fees and activities should cover the clinic expenses. She believes there will be enough participants. Clinics that Fran has organized in the past have all resulted in new certified fleece judges. The committee agreed that Fran's budget and plan sounds good. Cathie motioned to approve the budget. Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee discussed the 2023 open book test. The test is available online and was sent via email to judges and apprentices in January. It is due February 28th. So far those who have taken the test have received good scores.

Judge and apprentice dues were due January 1st, and there is a grace period to pay dues through January 31st. An email was sent in January reminding those who hadn't paid yet of the grace period deadline. There was one judge who did not timely pay.

New Business:

The judges committee received notifications from a few judges who are retiring. The committee would like to thank Mary Jo Miller, Cynthia Ernst, and Maryan and Wally Baker for their years of service to the ILR-SD as judges.

The next meeting was set for Thursday, March 2nd at 7 PM central time. Cathie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Fran seconded. Unanimously approved. Adjourned at 8:15 PM CST.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerrika Mumford