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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION
March 16, 2023
Via Zoom**

7 A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Bison Association was convened at
8 2:00 p.m. MST, Thursday, March 16, 2023, in person at the Westin Westminster in Westminster,
9 Colorado, and via the Zoom virtual platform pursuant to the bylaws and at the request of the
10 NBA President and Executive Director.

11
12 **Board Members Present:**

13 Donnis Baggett Chad Kremer
14 Robert Johnson Ken Klemm
15 Elizabeth Riffle Adam Ulbricht
16 Boyd Meyer Moritz Espy
17 Carie Starr Mary Adams
18 Stuart Schrag Joe Graham
19 Campbell Burgess

20
21 **Board Members Absent/Excused:**

22 Mimi Hillenbrand
23

24 **Staff/ Guests Present:**

25 Jim Matheson Lydia Whitman
26 Karen Conley
27

28 **Call to Order Board Meeting**

29 Donnis Baggett called the March 16, 2023 regular Executive Board meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
30

31 **Roll Call**

32 Roll call was conducted by Jim Matheson.
33

34 **President's Report**

35 President's reported delivered by Chad Kremer. GTSS and Winter Conference very well attended.
36 Thanks to staff and volunteers. Winter and Spring regional meetings wrapping up. Looking ahead
37 at schedule for summer programming, excited to see how this new approach works.
38

39 **Approval of the Minutes**

40 February 1, 2023 Board Minutes (Attachment A), March 2, 2023 Finance Committee Minutes
41 (Attachment B) reviewed. Carie Starr identified that correction was needed for February 1, 2023
42 Board Minutes to change vote on fun auction item- from a "Nay" to "Yay" vote. Motion to
43 approve minutes with corrections made by Mary Adams, second by Carie Starr. Motion carried
44 unanimously.

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Treasurer’s Report

Jim Matheson reviewed January YTD Financial Report (Attachment C), with consent from Joe Graham. More revenue than usual thanks to advertising and fundraising responses that were robust. Strong renewal rate, struggling with new member recruitment. Lapsed member write offs a bit higher than years past.

Motion to approve January Financials by Ken Klemm, second by Mary Adams, motion carried unanimously.

Notes from Jim Matheson on Winter Conference (Attachment D). Renegotiated hotel expenses reducing overall cost by about \$13,000. Much higher expenses for Gold Trophy Show and Sale. Committee reviewing next week (Attachment E).

Membership Report

Lydia Whitman and Jim Matheson reviewed current membership counts (Attachment F). Join and go membership will be offered for the summer conference opportunities. List of members in region requested for the regional directors. Breakdown of current active members requested as well.

Committee Reports

Jim reported that all committee reviewed with Chad and a few modifications made (Attachment G). Goal to cultivate leadership with bringing on new committee members.

New committee developed called Legislative and Regulatory Committee with Adam Ulbricht as chair.

Grassfed committee not reactivated.

Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS) – Boyd Meyer reported on GTSS event. Reported plenty of folks helping. Profit Loss will be evaluated at the committee level. Insurance- cost is increasing because not spread out amidst other auctions as much as in the past. Need to discuss if the cost is acceptable to cover liability. Discussion ensued.

NABR-Connor Elliott: Conner not at meeting. Had a meeting 3 weeks ago. George Owen from HerdDogg joined to relay opportunities for promoting the registry.

Science & Research – Carter Kruse not at meeting. Will likely serve only 1 more year. Would like to develop a 5 year objective list for the committee to work on. Reviewing 6 applications for COE grant funding.

Commercial Marketers – Dick Gehring: Dick not at meeting. Continue to work with USDA AMS as they retool monthly bison price report.

89 Conservation – Ken Klemm: Reported conservation is the basis for a lot of discussions, and is
90 crossing legislative in a lot of respects. Liz Riffle volunteered to join and provide representation
91 for Legislative and Conservation discussions.

92

93 State-Regional – John Graves: John not at meeting. Held a meeting last week. Low participation.
94 Sticking to quarterly meetings, with April 12th for the next meeting. Goal to discuss John Grave’s
95 discussion on concept paper to discuss merging state and regional groups with NBA.

96

97 Winter Conference – Beverly Brown reviewed committee experience. 29th Anniversary in 2024.
98 30th Anniversary in 2025. First winter conference call in September 2023. Goal to have a face to
99 face summer meeting in coordination with one of the summer regional events.

100

101 **Summer/ Fall Conference Update**

102 Seven events scheduled for 2023. Jim reviewed tentative plans (Attachment H).

103

104 **Program Manager Report**

105 Lydia Whitman reported work products achieved covering legislative work, membership drive,
106 event planning, and support for members and committees (Attachment I).

107

108 **Communication Report**

109 Karen Connelly reported Spring Bison World to print, and already uploaded. Happy to have a nice
110 spread on Junior Judging. Met goal for production on Bison World.

111

112 **Legislative Report**

113 Farm Bill position paper due Friday (Attachment J). Stick to September dates for lobbying. Jim
114 Matheson reviewed AMS, APHIS (Attachment L), ARS, FAS, and US Trade. Department of the
115 Interior executive order for focus on bison restoration discussion referenced (Attachment K).
116 Chad summarized that there is value in moving ahead cautiously.

117

118 Ken makes a motion that the NBA board policy for use of the NBA logo for official support will be
119 dependent on board review of website and official statements for any entity that requests this.
120 This is inclusive of websites, printed material, and any other representation.

121

122 Donnis suggested that language should be drafted related to logo usage by membership.

123

124 Stuart offered for legal review of the policy prior to the next meeting.

125

126 Ken withdrew his motion for the sake of development of a more formal policy with inclusion of
127 all concerns presented in discussion.

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129 **Executive Director Report**

130 Jim highlighted report provided (Attachment M).

131

132 **Strategic Plan Update**

133 Jim Matheson reviewed. Summarized Board of Directors Job Description and training
134 (Attachment N).

135

136 **Adjournment**

137 Motion to adjourn made at 3:44 p.m. MT by Mary Adams. Seconded by Ken Klemm. Motion
138 carried unanimously.

139

140 Respectfully Submitted,

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143 _____
Joe Graham, Secretary

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146 _____
Lydia Whitman

147 Recording Secretary