



Board Meeting
August 10 at 5:00 pm
Missouri State Fairgrounds-Sheep Pavillion upper office
Sedalia, MO

Attendance: Cord Jenkins, Deb Minish, Christy Green, Taylor Kemp, Travis Ellis, Larry Henneke, Harold Eckler, Kevin Minish, Ed DeOrnellis, Rebecca Roberts
On the phone: Mac Finley, Ray Jones, Luke Wilbers, Elizabeth Kiefer
Absent Dan Rhoades and Rachel Ancell

I. Secretary Report - May 27, 2025

[Minutes were sent to all board members](#)

Members had electronic copies of the minutes prior to the meeting. Ray Jones made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Larry Henneke seconded the motion and motion passed.

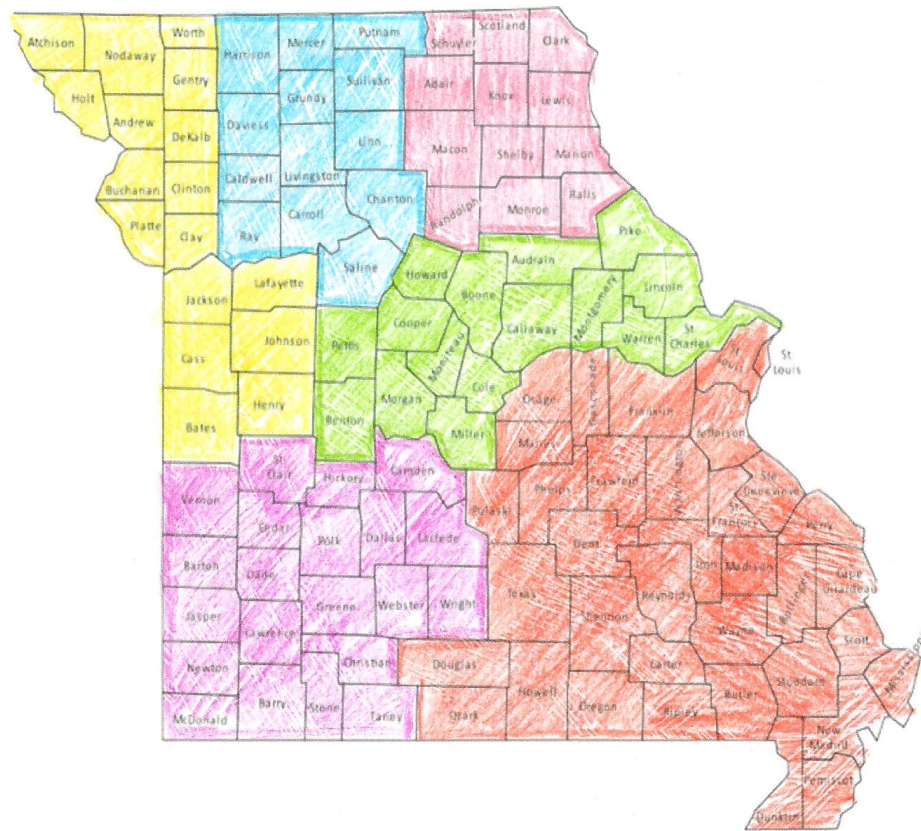
II. [Treasurer Report](#) - Deb Minish

Members had electronic copies of the minutes prior to the meeting. Deb went through expenditures and revenue. She stated there was a balance of \$33,259.51 currently but checks for scholarships had been written totalling \$4000 and \$260 in cash had been withdrawn for Missouri State Fair Lead Line young classes. There is still an outstanding check for a scholarship last year and MoACTE booth fee. A check from MSMC for the Stud Ram dinner has also been received since this balance was done.

Larry Henneke made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as given and Travis Ellis seconded. Motion passed.

III. Old Business-

- A. Nomination Committee for Board member elections-A committee was formed of Matthew Anderson, Travis Ellis and Dan Rhoades. All nominees to Christy by October 1, 2025 so it can be included in the October newsletter



Constitution By-Laws regarding Officers and Directors

ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Section 1. **Eligibility.** With the exception of President and Vice President any active or honorary member shall be eligible to serve as an officer of a member of the Board of directors. The President and Vice President are required to have previous board experience.
- Section 2. **Board Membership.** The Board of Directors shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, six District Directors (one from each District) representing six geographic areas, four At-Large Directors and two MSMC Directors.
- Section 3. **Officers.** A President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected by the active members present at large at the Annual Meeting to serve a term of two years. One Year is defined as the time period between Annual Meetings. The President and Vice-President are required to have previous Board Service and may not serve in any one office more than two consecutive terms. The Treasurer may

serve an unlimited number of terms if approved by the Board of Directors. Thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors will approve or deny the treasurer to run for another two year term. The Treasurer's duties will include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Maintain a MSP account at a reputable financial institution.
- Reconcile bank statements and provide copies to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis.
- Deposit funds in a timely manner.
- Pay MSP expenditures in a timely manner.
- Communicate closely with the executive director/secretary concerning finances.
- Work closely with the Board of Directors in preparing the annual budget.

- Section 4. District Directors. The District Directors must reside in the District from which they are elected and shall be elected by the active members present, at large, at the Annual Meeting to serve a term of two years. They shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee. The six Geographical Districts to be determined by the Board of Directors.
- Section 5. At-Large Directors. There shall be elected at the Annual Meeting a total of four At-Large Directors by the active members at large at the Annual Meeting to serve a term of two years. They shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee.
- Section 6. Staggered Terms. The District Director from each District and the At-Large Directors shall serve staggered two-year terms, one-half of these Directors being elected by the active members present at each Annual Meeting on an at large basis. Even numbered District Directors will be elected on even years and odd numbered District Directors will be elected on odd years. All of these Directors are limited to **three consecutive terms in the same position.**
- Section 7. MSMC Directors. The Missouri Sheep Merchandising Council shall appoint annually two members of the Council to serve as MSP Directors for one year terms. There are no term limitations on these two Directors.
- Section 8. Nominations and Elections. Not less than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting, the MSP President shall appoint five active members from the Board and/or General Membership to a Nominating Committee. This committee shall nominate at least one person, and preferably two or more, for each position to be elected at the subsequent Annual Meeting. This committee will cause their Slate of Nominees to be circulated (mailed) to the General Membership

preferably 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations may also be achieved by a letter signed by any five active members submitted to this committee 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting nominating any qualified member to any position. In addition, at the Annual meeting, the individual conducting the elections shall declare the floor open for additional nominations just prior to the election for each Officer and /or Director Position.

- Section 9. Vacancies. Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, the Vice-President will become President. The office of Vice-President shall remain vacant until the next Annual Meeting. Any vacancies occurring in the office of Treasurer or District Directors and At-large Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board. Such appointed members shall serve until the next Annual Meeting. Such Appointment or election shall only be for the balance of the unexpired term. MSMC shall fill any vacated MSMC Director positions.
- Section 10. Attendance. Any MSP Board Member missing three consecutive meetings will be automatically forfeit their Office or directorship and a vacancy shall be created. The two Board Meetings immediately prior to and following the Annual Meeting shall count as only one “miss”.
- Section 11. Elections. The annual election of Officers and Directors shall be on the basis of at large voting for all positions (MSMC Directors excepted) by all active members in attendance at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 12. ASI Representative. The MSP Director or Delegate to the American Sheep Industry Association or any subsequent National Sheep Organization to which MSP holds membership shall automatically be the MSP President, or their designee in the event the President chooses not to assume this role.

Offices Up For Election

President-

Vice-President-

Treasurer-Re-elect-Debra Minish

District 1-

District 3-

District 54-

At-Large (Rachel)-

At-Large (Ray)-

It was discussed that Travis Ellis can't be on the committee since he is running for reelection. The committee was reformed to be Matthew Anderson, Dan Rhoades, Harold Eckler, Larry Henneke and Ray Jones to meet the constitution guidelines.

B. Annual Conference-November 22, 2025-Carver Farm in Jefferson City, MO from 9am - 2:30pm

1. Ideas for speakers
 - a) Hands-On presentation:
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
2. Cooking Contest Committee
 - a) Prizes
 - b) Categories
3. Youth Conference
4. Vendors

C. Starter Flock - Hadley Cline, Sarah McLaughlin and Levi Thompson

It was decided to have MU come and do a carcass quality presentation covering what the live animal looked like, ultrasound data with carcass, why did it grade the way it did and then cut up the carcass in front of the audience. In addition, an update from MO Dept. of Ag on vet updates, update from Lincoln University and then a vet to talk about medicines and items you should have on hand to help animals as proactive approaches for treatment.

There was a lengthy discussion about having a cooking contest. Instead of having it at the annual meeting it was suggested that we try to have it at the State Fair during the first weekend. Larry Henneke volunteered to talk to authorities and find out what we need to do to get things done and make this happen. Larry Henneke, Kevin Minish, Britton Francis and Elizabeth Kiefer said that would help with the planning of this event. Klarissa DeOrnellis will be asked to do the youth conference again. It was decided to have the vendors again this year in the whole back room separated from the youth conference.

IV. New Business

A. ASI Nominations-**Nominations Open for American Lamb Board and Sheep Center-Due August 22**

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) is seeking nominees to fill four positions on the American Lamb Board, as current members' terms will expire in early 2026.

ASI is encouraging sheep producers and lamb feeders to apply to be placed on a nominating slate for USDA Secretary Rollins to consider appointing a director on our lamb checkoff board. ASI is now gathering nominations for the following positions:

- One producer with 100 or fewer lambs
- One producer with more than 500 lambs

- One feeder at large
- One first handler

Either the small-scale (≤ 100 lambs) or large-scale (> 500 lambs) producer must be from **Region II** (west of the Mississippi River). The feeder at large must be from **Region I** (east of the Mississippi River).

ASI encourages interested individuals to visit www.sheepusa.org or contact the ASI office for a nomination form. Completed forms must be submitted to ASI by **August 22, 2025**.

The current directors whose terms are ending include Jeff Ebert (KS), Gary Visintainer (CO), and Don Hawk (OH), all of whom are term limited. ASI must submit at least two nominees for each of these three seats.

In addition, ASI is seeking nominations for one producer director and a director with experience in finance and management to serve three-year terms on the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) Board of Directors. Bob Buchholz (TX) and Faye Schalesky (SD) currently hold these seats. ASI is accepting NSIIC nominations through August 22, 2025, ahead of the USDA's submission deadline of September 8, 2025.

For more information, contact **Peter Orwick**, ASI Executive Director, at **(303) 771-3500, ext. 103**, or peter@sheepusa.org.

[ALB Application form](#)

[NSIIC Application Form](#)

Cord mentioned these nominations but there was no formal action taken.

B. Make it With Wool-Jeanne Shuck

1. October 4 in Perry, MO at VFW hall
2. Possible talk/fashion show/ display at annual meeting
3. Register by Sept. 15 at National Make it With Wool site
4. Last year winner was a young man from Columbia, MO-Ethan Barner

Christy gave an update on the recent years of Make it With Wool.

C. Sale of Champions donation-\$500 last year

Discussion was held about whether the donation needed to increase and was a donation already made for Sale of Champions and Best of Missouri. Ed DeOrnellis was there from MSMC to talk about what they will be contributing. It was decided that the donation had already been made and to leave it at the current amount for this year. Cord Jenkins and Christy Green will be present at the sale to represent Missouri Sheep Producers.

Ed DeOrnellis left the meeting at 6pm.

D. Kenya Trip

Cord let those present know that the Missouri Department of Agriculture is taking its inaugural small ruminant trade trip to Kenya September 20-27. Cord and Christy Green will be going on the trip in conjunction with Darren Hoffman and Dallas Breshears from Missouri, two people from Indiana and 5 from Tennessee. The mission of the trip is to develop relations with the Kenyans and see what genetics we might be able to offer them from Missouri that can help them improve their operations.

E. Request for Payment from Lois

Cord discussed a conversation with Lois about being dissatisfied with not paying Chris Durrill for events that she has been doing on wool. No action was taken at this time.

F. Marque Renshaw- possible representation

Christy let the board know of a MSP member, Marque Renshaw, that has reached out asking if she can represent MSP at events that Christy can't be at due to scheduling conflicts. The board agreed that was fine as long as she did so in a positive manner and didn't expect any compensation.

G. Scholarship presentation-Saturday, August 9 during the fitting contest

Cash Honeycutt, Emma Butler

Not present:Kylie Miller and Madison West(Basic training)

Christy asked all board members to stay after the meeting to have a picture with the scholarship recipient that would be presented after the meeting.

H. Lead Line Contest-Sunday, August 10 at 1pm

I. Demonstrations taking place at State Fair (Thursday at 1:30, Friday at 3:30, Saturday at noon and Monday at 3) (Wool on Monday by Chris Durill and Aug 15 by Lois)

Christy let the board know that demonstrations will be taking place.

J. Funding request need to be due on December 1, 2025

1. Baa Girls-[see attached letter](#)

K. Spring Field Day update-45 people

Christy and Larry gave a quick update of what occurred at the Spring Field Day and the overall perception. Christy stated that at this point we have acquired two new members from that day.

L. MOACTE conference update

Christy let the board know about her positive interactions with teachers at the MoACTE conference in Springfield on July 20-23. She also talked about the cooking demonstration that Dana Jenkins and herself did for the MoEFCS conference. There was lots of positive feedback and questions about cooking and funding.

M. Governor's Dinner at Missouri State Fair-August 13, 2025-Cord and Christy will be attending

Cord Jenkins and Christy Green will be attending the dinner on behalf of Missouri Sheep Producers.

V. Upcoming Events

A. Drive to Feed Kids-Tuesday, August 12-Christy attending

B. Governors Dinner at Missouri State Fair-August 13, 2025-Cord and Christy will be attending

C. Lincoln University small ruminant field day-August 22

D. Missouri Department of Agriculture small ruminant Kenya trip-Sept 20-27

E. Farm Fest - October 3, 4 and 5 in Springfield, MO

F. Make It With Wool contest-October 4, Perry, MO-VFW hall

G. Ozark Fiber Fest-November 7-8, 2026 in Steelville, MO

H. Governor's Conference Best of Missouri -November 13 (5-7pm)

Ray Jones, Rebecca Roberts, Larry Henneke, Christy Green, Harold Eckler, Deb Minish, Kevin Minish, Mac Finley and Misty Finley all want to attend the Governor's Best of Missouri.

I. Annual Meeting-November 22, 2025

J. ASI National convention-Reno, NV-January 28-31, 2026

Travis Ellis would like to attend the ASI Conference on behalf of Missouri Sheep Producers

Harold Eckler brought up that a member had spoken to him about distributing and posting the newsletter. Christy Green had corresponded with the member about this topic and told them that we don't post the newsletter because it is considered one of our membership benefits. It was discussed that members can do whatever they want with the newsletter once they receive it but we won't be posting it.

At 6:30pm Harold Eckler made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Larry Henneke seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned.