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ETGRA BoD Mtg 11/15/2022

Minutes of Meeting

Officers attending: Tony Thomas, President(6:40) ; Curtis Shoemaker, VP(BOD); Pat Thomas, Treasurer (6:40); Andrea Thompson, Secretary

Directors attending: Gwen Vandermartin, Dempsey Walton, James Kyle (6:45), Charles Johnson, Donnie Driver

Members: Jonathan Saint

Meeting called to order 6:34 pm by Curtis Shoemaker

**Minutes** –September minutes read by Andrea Thompson. Gwen Vandermartin-motion to approve minutes as written, Charles Johnson, 2nd, minutes approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:**  -emailed and presented by Pat Thomas- Scholarship fund-no activity- $2580.07, Disaster fund-no activity- $700. Youth fund- $1442.56-$30 memberships and $10 correction, Building fund- $6405.59-transfer not yet done from BF to GF for survey. BF deposits of $65 for renewals. General fund- -$4507.57-utilities paid-balance $4621.90. Total in all accounts $15,750.02. Motion made by Andrea T to accept treasurer’s report, Donnie Driver 2nd, motion approved

**Membership:** Gwen- 41 total members, including October new members, none due in November, 2 in grace period.

**Website**-Jonathan Saint volunteered at general membership meeting to rebuild website. Website is now up and functioning, new domain name-ETGRA.org. Online membership section still being tweaked, will publish member list of members who checked allowing publication of information on renewal forms-will include name and phone number. Gwen will review current member list to send to Jonathan. Facebook page is up and being monitored by Andrea T and Fred V.

**Building:** No report

**Dairy-**Gwen- received deposit back from Corsicana

**Sale:** Kim Keplar has agreed to work on sales, but is not available for conference calls.

**Education:** Andrea-will contact PVAMU to request speaker regarding antiparasitics for goats.

**Scholarship:** Andrea T-scholarship was awarded to Madelynn Ford at October general membership meeting. made scholarship certificate, took pictures and submitted article to Rusk newspaper.

**Youth:** Lea Owens volunteered to take over youth program-she ordered ETGRA logo tumblers agreed to at general membership meeting to be donated for awards to county fair market shows.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**  Tony Thomas-property valuation $183,000 per realtor, who recommended selling for $185,000. James Kyle-feels that selling property will destroy organization. Jonathan S-agrees that selling property will also cause membership to decline. Andrea T. asked about ballots sent out voting to sell property-16 of 36 ballots were returned, only 1 (verbal vote at general membership meeting by member who stated he had mailed in ballot) was to keep property. The remaining 15 votes were to sell. Gwen V-participation by members is poor for activities, regardless if a meeting or an event such as a sale or show. Charles Johnson left conference call at 7:07 pm.

Tony stated that a 501c3 CPA is needed to determine how sale would affect non-profit status. Donnie Driver stated that he agrees with James K-if property is sold, ETGRA should disband and give all funds to a medical charity, not a scholarship or other Ag-based non-profit. Curtis Shoemaker discussed that originally in ETGRA, the building and property bills were managed through income made from sales and shows, not from membership fees. Jonathan S asked if selling only part of the property would be possible-Tony answered that due to easements in place and limited highway access, not feasible. Jonathan stated he is trying to raise interest in the organization. Pat Thomas-a large percentage of current members are not actively participating in the organization.

James K-motion made to table sale of property for another year, Donnie Driver 2nd.

Roll-call vote-for tabling sale: James Kyle, Donnie Driver, Curtis Shoemaker, Tony Thomas, Pat Thomas, Jonathan Saint.

Opposed-none

Abstain from vote-Andrea Thompson, Gwen Vandermartin, Dempsey Walton

Nomination forms-Gwen will be sending forms out in early December. All officer positions are open in 2023, 2 full-term director positions-Gwen and Curtis are open, Dempsey is moving out of state-has 2 years remaining on his term which need to be filled.

Next General Membership meeting will be January 14-nominations and education

December is typically face to face budget meeting-many have conflicts on various weekends. Curtis S asked how much budget has increased year to year-motion made by Curtis S. to vote tonight to add 10% to current budget and approve without additional face to face meeting. Donnie D. 2nd, 2023 budget approved.

Curtis S-does not have trailers at property yet, so no extra electricity is being used.

Next conference call 12/13/2022 at 6:30 pm.

Tony asked Gwen to write out steps for organizing show and sale.

Motion made by Donnie D to adjourn, 2nd by Gwen V, meeting adjourned 7:37 pm.

Submitted by Andrea Thompson, Secretary