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The regular annual meeting of the Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board was held June 2, 2026, at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in Lower Conference Rooms 1 & 2 at 2270 Old Penitentiary Rd, Boise, ID 83712. The meeting was called to order by chairman, Steve Wilder, at 9:13 a.m.

Roll was called by Steve Wilder. The following board members and guests were present: Steve Wilder, Chairman; Dr. Tony Parsons, Board Member; David Dalling, Board Member; Dillan Henslee, Board Member; Jack Blattner, President, Idaho Wool Growers Association; Liz Wilder, Executive Director Idaho Wool Growers; Phillip Soulen, Guest; Jade Etelu, ISGHB Secretary; Dr. Kelly Scheuer, USDA APHIS; Kelly Nielsen, ISDA Administrator; Llyod Knight, Deputy Director ISDA; and Patxi Larrocea-Phillips, Director of Governmental Affairs, Idaho Wool Growers Association.

Dr. Tony Parsons moved to approve the minutes of the last October 2025 meeting as written. David Dalling seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve Wilder provided the chairman's report. He welcomed board members and guests to the meeting and introduced Jade Etelu, the new director of the board. He acknowledged the resignation of board member Carol Finney, recognized Carol for her contributions to the board, and introduced Phillip Soulen, the nominated replacement for her position. Lastly, Steve announced that Liz Wilder, director of the Idaho Wool Growers Association, will be resigning from her position in late September. He thanked her for all her hard work over the years, which has been integral in the partnership between ISGHB and IWGA.

Jade Etelu provided the secretary's report. She shared a snapshot of the Idaho sheep industry and statistics supporting the success of the industry over the past year. She then provided an update on the 2026 vaccine. The *Campylobacter* vaccine is near the end of the vendor quotation stage with Idaho Department of Agriculture and Animal Health Lab, and final approval will be upcoming soon. There are currently 22,000 doses left of the previous vaccine, ready for distribution as needed. Dr. Parsons opened discussion on interest in the board creating a *Chlamydia* vaccine. He explained that *Chlamydia* cases in sheep seem to highly outnumber *Campylobacter* cases. Liz Wilder and Jade Etelu noted previous conversations with Animal Health Lab on the constraints of *Chlamydia* culture stabilization and the need for another lab to take on this task if the board wishes to pursue. David Dalling moved that the Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board explore the development of a *Chlamydia* vaccine and await further action until research is conducted. Dr. Parsons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jade continued the secretary's report with a focus on promotion and education. To expand promotion of the board and enhance educational outreach to stakeholders, she attended several events since starting in January both in support of the IWGA and in representation of the sheep

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and goat health board, created press releases and an ISGHB newsletter, and has begun redesigning the board's website.

Steve Wilder introduced Kelly Nielsen from ISDA. Kelly gave a comprehensive financial update. He explained spending authority versus actual spending, provided detailed information on trends for 2025 fiscal year revenue and expenses, and explained how statewide budget cuts would affect funding for the coming fiscal year. The ISGHB is in healthy financial standing.

Liz Wilder, director of the Idaho Wool Growers Association, gave an update on the current state of the industry. She highlighted the great position of the market for lamb and wool, new leadership at Superior Farms and the ASI Association, and current challenges faced by ranchers and producers in labor and draught conditions. She also shared upcoming events: 2026 Range Tour: June 24th – 25th, 105th Idaho Ram Sale: July 10th – 11th, IWGA Annual Meeting: October 1st, West Central State Wool Growers Convention: November 5th – 7th, and the 2027 American Sheep Industry Convention: January 13th – 16th. Liz shared success with the Sheep in the Foothills event on May 9th held in Avimor, in Eagle, ID. The event hosted around 1000 attendees and was extremely successful in showcasing both the sheep industry and range land.

Patxi Larrocea-Phillips provided a legislative report on the 2026 legislative session. He discussed administrative rules and highlighted the importance of House Bill 539 in relation to board as the state health authority for sheep and goats. This bill was passed by legislature and signed into law in mid-March and changes the criteria for state agencies issuing temporary rules. Patxi explained the importance of understanding this process if a health emergency comes forward this year. Patxi explained that the IWGA worked hard this legislature to ensure stability and continued authority remains with the Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board considering Idaho DOGE Task Force operations.

Dr. Kelly Scheuer with USDA, APHIS Veterinary Services shared scrapie testing information for the fiscal year to date. Totals for scrapie surveillance sampling are currently 206.5 out of the minimum 500 credits for sheep, and 77 out of the minimum 53 credits for goats. She is confident that sheep sampling will reach or surpass minimum requirements before the end of September. Dr. Scheuer also shared that the USDA plans to lower the minimums for scrapie sampling in fiscal year 2027 to 480 for sheep and 54 for goats. She states that the U.S. is on a good track to be scrapie free by 2028 if current trends continue.

Jade shared additional secretary report on the ASI Scrapie Education Programming Grant that IWGA received last month. IWGA and ISGHB will collaborate to implement programing through dispersal of educational materials. Plans to distribute scrapie education materials include; collaboration Idaho livestock auctions that include sheep & goat sales, tabling at county fairs, inclusion in shipments of fair sashes to county fairs, through collaboration with extension offices, and sharing in newsletters, and on websites and social media.

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Jade continued the secretary's report by transitioning to new business. After conference with ISDA fiscal, she will be working with ISDA to create an ISGHB budget for fiscal year 2027. David Dalling expressed interest in continuing with short-term meetings for approval of spending of board funding for secretary travel and programming. Chairman Steve Wilder explained the importance of ensuring the board can meet during those intervals effectively, to ensure secretary duties are fulfilled in a timely manner with required board approval.

Jade shared the previous ISGHB co-location agreement with IWGA that is set to expire on October 1st. Liz Wilder explained that the co-location agreement is signed every 5 years and was granted to allow the board's office to be housed outside of the ISDA. Dr. Parsons moved to extend the agreement for co-location between the Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board and the Idaho Wool Growers Association for another five years. Dillan Henslee seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Steve Wilder entertained any motion to enter executive session from the board and the board concluded there was no need to do so.

Announcements: Liz Wilder announced that the IWGA Annual Meeting is to be held on October 1st at Ag West in Twin Falls, Idaho and that ISGHB is welcome to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 p.m.