Laura Meyer, President of the American Oxford Sheep Association (AOSA) welcomed the crowd of approximately 80 people as she called the Annual Meeting of the AOSA to order. Edward Bowman, AOSA Director from District 6, gave the invocation before the meal.

Following the meal, catered by Hamilton’s Catering, President Meyer introduced the officers and directors of the Association.

Stacey Gadsby, chairperson of the National Oxford Queen Committee, introduced the 2016/2017 National Oxford Queen, Annie Schoetmer of Indiana.

President Meyer and Secretary David Trotter then presented awards to the exhibitors of the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion rams and ewes from the show held earlier in the day judged by Steve Reid of Missouri.

- Grand Champion Ram – Apple 16-14 NNP RR – Apple Oxfords, Indiana
- Grand Champion Ewe – Winning Ways Sheep Farm 16-301 NNP RR – Winning Ways Sheep Farm, Illinois
- Reserve Grand Champion Ewe – Dover Genetics 1604 NNRR – Dover Genetics, Illinois

The breeder of the 2015 Futurity Champion Ewe Lamb was also recognized; Austin Grace of New Hampshire.

It was announced that the Board of Directors had determined that there would not be a ram sift for this year’s national sale. The Board of Directors also determined that the floor prices for the sale would be $250 for lambs and $300 for yearlings.

Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting and the annual financial report were presented in the Annual Meeting report booklet and were discussed by David Trotter. Bill Edwards made a motion, seconded by Ric Issacson, to accept both documents as prepared and printed. On voice vote, the motion was approved without objections.

David Trotter gave a brief oral report regarding Association activities and his responsibilities during the past year.

Under “Old Business”, the following were reported on by the Board of Directors to the membership:

- Creation of a Nominating Committee – The Board reported that after much discussion it was decided to instruct the Secretary to include the director positions that would be up for election at the Annual Meeting in each year’s spring newsletter. This action would avoid amending the current Bylaws of the Association.
- Allowing Mail &/or Proxy Votes for Matters at the Annual Meeting – The Board reported that no action on this item would be taken at this time to avoid amendment to the current Bylaws of the Association.
- Conducting a Business Meeting of the Association at NAILE – The Board reported that due to the costs of such a meeting and the potential for a minimal attendance by members, this proposal will not be enacted at this time.
- Addition of a “Youth At-Large” or “Jr. Liaison” Director – The Board reported that because junior members do not currently have voting rights according to the Bylaws, this proposal will not be enacted at this time.
There was no “New Business” offered for discussion.

Justin O’Brien introduced and thanked the donors for the 2016 Foundation Flock: Ron Brockmann, Ron Shrout, Phil Crome (Rocky Hill), Ryan Grimme (Cedar Lane Farm), and Gerald Thoma. Justin also introduced the winner of the 2016 Foundation Flock, Cory McClees of Washington, OK.

The floor was then turned over to the Chairperson of the Hall of Fame Committee for the presentation of the 2016 inductee, Larry Derricks of Illinois.

Special recognitions and awards were then presented to youth who participated in the Oxford Scavenger Hunt which followed the show earlier in the day. Abby Allison and Jillian Bingen presented awards for this activity to: Hunter Mott, Luke Mumm, Suzanne Shields and Alex Angus. Abby and Jillian also discussed Junior plans for activities at NAILE and an on-line fund raiser that is being planned.

The floor was then opened for nominations for judge for the 2017 National Oxford Show and Sale. Wayne O’Brien nominated Bobby Spoonster, Darrell Hall seconded the nomination. Ron Brockmann nominated Phil Crome, Bill Edwards seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, LeAnn Hall made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Tony Weber and on voice vote the motion was approved with no objections. Voting for the two judge nominations was conducted by ballot and Phil Crome was selected as the first choice.

The next item of business was to elect Directors for Districts 4 and 7. Currently, Lisa Mott serves as the District 4 Director and has asked not to serve a second term. Keith Stumbo has served 2 terms as the District 7 Director and is term limited. President Meyer and the entire membership present, thanked both Lisa and Keith for their service to the Association with a round of applause. For the position of Director in District 4, Darwin Hall nominated Kermit Daniels, seconded by Audrey Angus; Duane Grimme nominated Darwin Hall, seconded by Wayne O’Brien. With no other nominations, Justin O’Brien made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Rex Decker; on voice vote the motion was approved. Ballots were distributed and Kermit Daniels was elected. For the position of Director in District 7, Beth Allison was nominated by Tony Weber, seconded by Bill Buckland. With no other nominations, the nomination process was closed by the president and Beth Allison was elected by acclamation.

The Directors announced that the 2017 National Oxford Show and Sale will return to Springfield, IL on June 16 and 17. The Association’s Annual Meeting will be on June 16, 2017. At the 2016 National Sale, the ad on the AOSA web page will be offered for sale to two buyers for the duration of 1 year.

With no other business or announcements, Tony Weber made a motion, seconded by Justin O’Brien, to close the Annual Meeting and adjourn to the activities of a benefit auction (lead by Larry Derricks) of donated items for the funding of the Association’s expenses with the All-American Junior Sheep Show. On voice vote, the motion was approved with no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Trotter
Secretary/Treasurer