

Application for ABR Board of Directors 2010

Name: Heather Cram

Farm Name: Silver Bridle Ranch Alpacas

Address: 9300 Schumaker Rd **City:** Bennett **State:** CO **Zip:** 80102

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ABR Farm Member YES NO Became member in 2009 (year)

AOBA Farm Member YES NO

I understand that being an ABR Board of Directors member requires that I attend regular board meetings and devote eight (8) hours or more per week carrying out the duties of my position. **Initial**

I am interested in being considered as a candidate for the following open positions in 2010:

Vice President (2 year term) _____

Director – Marketing (2 year term) _____

Secretary (2 year term) _____

Director – Programs (2 year term) _____

Director – Fiber (2 year term) _____

Please respond to the following questions and submit to the Chair of the Nominating Committee no later than August 25, 2009.

When did you purchase your first alpaca? April, 2009 # in current herd 6 Huacaya- 6 Suri- both -

Have you every held office or served as BOD member in a corporation? Non-profit? for Profit?

Name/type of company: Trustee (chairperson) for self-funded health trust providing health insurance benefits to roughly 2000 lives, both active and retirees.. West Metro Firefighters Health Benefit Trust Fund 1996-current

How would you describe your organizational skills & follow-through?

I have great organizational skills. My full time job is as a lieutenant on West Metro Fire Protection District. In that capacity I have to keep my crew, training calendar, building inspections, hose testing, and day to day duties up to date and organized. My part time job as the Chairperson for the Health Trust has me organizing monthly meetings, preparing agendas, contacting contracted companies and preparing the budget. The 2009 budget was for \$5.7 million dollars.

What Committee leadership or Board roles have you held in ABR [Required for President by By-Laws]?

I have not held any leadership or Board roles with ABR.

What are the three (3) most important issues that you feel ABR should address in the next 2 years?

Bring more training to the members. Utilizing the expertise of the long standing members of ABR, I feel that the Board could offer more trainings, or at least have a information board where breeders could post upcoming trainings that they are offering.

Bring the alpaca industry more into the public eye. I know that this is an ongoing goal of the Board, but I have noticed that when I talk to people they always say "What do you do with an alpaca?". I'm not really sure how to tackle this on a larger level, but I believe keeping ABR strong is a sure way to start.

Fiber. What to do with it, where to process it, what are its uses? I have met many long time alpaca breeders that still have 2-3 years of fiber in their barn. Not because they don't know how and where to get it processed, but because they still don't know what to do with it after it is processed.

What particular skill sets would you bring to the ABR BOD?

I hope that I can bring a fresh outlook on some old topics. I know that I have a lot to learn, and that is what I plan on doing. I am a highly organized person with a lot of background in leadership and developing programs.

Your response to the above will be sent to the ABR Farm Members with the ballot for the election. Please limit your total response to two pages, please. If you have questions, please contact Andrew MacArther, Chair of the Nominating Committee, andrew@springtoofarm.com, 303-246-5858, or Carl McGill, ABR Past President, Carl_Freda@msn.com, (303) 840-8261