

## WQHA Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2016

Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Fond du Lac

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Doyle at 6:32 pm. Roll Call was taken with 15 voting members in attendance: Kathy Doyle, Nikki Schultz, Ron Miller, Larry Spratto, Michele Andrade, Rhonda Spratto, Jessica Bradley proxy for Cindy Tousey, Katie Kosobucki proxy for Jim Ramthun, Robert Schmitz, Danyelle Gabbert, Pat Miller proxy for Brenda Lindvall, Keri Smith, Becky Ruehle proxy for Sara Hauer, Larry Lemke, John Schmahl. Additional attendees: Diane Baier, Lisa Zurn, Lisa Busby, Scharleen Schmahl, Anne Lemke

**Secretaries Report** – Larry Lemke made a motion to accept, seconded by Ron Miller, motion carried.

**Treasurers Report** – Ron Miller reviewed the emailed financials noting \$41,897.98 in Checking/Savings and \$4,160 in Accounts Receivable. Larry Lemke asked that financials be prepared by category so the income and expense for each line item is together. Ron also discussed the proposal made by LaRue Wills (Ron emailed for review on 2/21/16 to the BOD) asking that the Scholarship money be set aside in a separate account. Ron stated he was comfortable moving the funds to a CD account as the WQHA will not have a \$10,000 loss on publications this year, showing over a \$4,000 profit. Show approvals have been paid early this year also. It was discussed that the earning of a CD is minimal. Larry Spratto suggested moving WQHA funds to a money market account and if the minimum can be met, then put scholarship funds into a separate money market account. That way the Scholarship Fund, \$6847.32, would show up on the financials as an Asset line item but not be locked into a CD. Michele Andrade made an initial motion to move the Scholarship funds to a 6 month CD but amended the motion to move funds into a Money Market Account, seconded by Danyelle Gabbert, Motion Carried. The Awards money will remain in the WQHA General Account due to cash flow needs.

**Show Coordination** – Kathy Doyle read the Committee Report. We have received the insurance charges from most of the shows for 2016. The show insurance policy has been received and I will be bringing copies to the meeting for show secretaries and managers. Copies were sent by the Insurance Company to each facility. We have however, had problems with this in the past so copies will be given to each show manager as well. Tim will be letting us know about any equipment changes that need to take place. IPads, laminator and any computer replacements needed for the shows.

Ron Miller provided the Income and Expense for Show Coordination which included Awards, Insurance, Show Approval Fees, etc. to the BOD. Kathy Doyle submitted a 2016 proposed Budget for Show Coordination to the BOD.

Lisa Busby reported she has received requests for 67 Back Numbers to date and has prepared Bar Codes for these. Pat Miller made a motion to charge \$10 for Reserved Back Numbers/Bar Codes for 2016, seconded by Larry Spratto, motion carried. Discussion on 9000's being "free" at shows but exhibitors cannot use the same number all season. A member requested a 9000 back number but since those are "free" numbers they cannot be reserved.

Nikki Schultz brought up an emailed member question regarding Coggins being 1 year from draw date versus on a calendar year. Since 2014, WI has recognized 1 year from draw date so shows will need to also.

**National Director Reports** – Larry Lemke & John Schmahl discussed the AQHA National Convention and provided the BOD with the 2015 AQHA Executive Summary. Stats show entries were down in Wisconsin last year, nationally youth is down nearly 20%. Danyelle Gabbert asked that some of the Association positives be

noted as well such as Novice Amateur and Select growth, significant growth in Ranch Riding. Nikki Schultz noted that there are a number of new small fry and youth that have been in contact for 2016 so that is promising.

John explained that their committee votes on agenda items, the General Membership then votes on items, then items are discussed at the Show Council where rulings can be changed. Final rulings are then made by the Executive Committee. Thus, towards the end of April members will see the final AQHA rule changes.

Larry Lemke noted the results of the AQHA Survey with 73% of horse owners being women that own 1-3 horses. Anne Lemke noted that the Paint and other Shows are providing scholarships to encourage youth to attend shows. Year round sports and other activities are drawing youth away along with expense.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Awards** – The BOD reviewed the updated 2014 & 2015 awards spreadsheet emailed by Linda Berg noting that if 2016 requirements had been used in 2015, the awards cost would have increased from \$10,950 to \$14,225. Becky Ruehle reported that they picked up left over awards from Pat Gauthier and will contact and distribute as much as they can to the winners. They will then set a date for arrangements to be made for items and then re-use leftover items. They are currently collecting ideas and pricing for 2016 awards items.

**Banquet** – Jessica Bradley reported that the committee met and reviewed five options for dates and locations for the 2016 Banquet including FDL, Madison (where the Pinto Banquet is held), Radisson in Green Bay, Stevens Point & Oshkosh Best Western Premiere. The committee voted to move up a week so not conflicting with potential playoff games and the Super Bowl, and to hold it in Oshkosh at the Best Western Premiere which is newly renovated and is within walking distance to other venues that may encourage families and spouses to attend for the weekend. The hall can seat up to 240, rooms were \$89.99 and minimum food with bar was less than other facilities. They have a pool and entertainment venues. She explained that the ½ page ad was an open space in the Newsletter and was a “save the date” ad. Larry Lemke asked that the Committee ensure the room rate is locked in so it doesn’t bump up if play offs. Nikki suggested that if there were concerns on the contract we contact Brooke Alexy to review. Danyelle Gabbert noted this venue is an opportunity to create an “event” weekend for family and spouses. Michele Andrade made a motion to accept the Best Western Premier in Oshkosh for January 28, 2017 pending review of contract language. Larry Spratto seconded; motion carried. Jessica additionally noted that the contract needed to be reviewed, signed and returned in the next week if possible so we do not lose the date.

**Hall of Fame** – Robert has contacted the three new committee members. The Nomination forms for HOF has been updated and is on the WQHA Website and was in the Spring Newsletter. Anne Lemke asked if the rules had been reviewed, Robert noted that will occur when the Committee meets prior to the review and voting for induction. The Hall of Fame nomination form is updated and on the WQHA website.

**Midwest Horse Fair** – No report.

**Membership** – Kathy Doyle read the membership report emailed by Tim Schmahl with 451 total members to date, 232 membership types. Nikki noted that Tim will update the membership list to a shared google doc so that Lisa Zurn, Ron Miller and Becky Ruehle can view updates. Ron noted that the new website Online Membership application is working well and now he and Tim can review memberships submitted online easily.

**Newsletter** – Becky Ruehle reported that the Hard Drive has been purchased. The Spring Newsletter had 1000 copies printed with 250 going to MW Horse Fair, 125 to Diane Baier and Lisa Busby to distribute at the first shows, some to Lisa Zurn for Open Shows and extras provided to vendors, vets, etc. upon request. Pat Miller asked about advertising being sent a 2<sup>nd</sup> copy. There was discussion on this. Jessica Bradley made a motion not to automatically send out additional copies but rather as requested, Michel Andrade seconded.

Motion Carried with Larry Lemke dissenting vote. The suggestion was made to put a note on the invoice asking advertisers if they would like additional copies, or upon their ad reservation to ask.

**Open Show Program** – Lisa has Open Show awards not picked up at Banquet and will distribute.

**Scholarship** – No Report.

**State Show** – Nikki provided the BOD copies of the 2015 final income results and the proposed budget for 2016. She noted they are looking for volunteers to assist with the show and help with getting sponsorships.

**Website** – report from programmer was handed out and discussed. It was noted that the old website was not PCI compliant and was using an iframe format. The new website is compliant and provides secure transactions for the online membership with an Instant Payment Notification (IPN) to membership chair and treasurer. The new site provides Google Indexing so WQHA can be easily found, is designed to ease navigation for mobile devices and has a faster load time. UsAgNet asks that we all proof the site.

Katie Kosobucki asked if the Amateur Association could have a tab on the website. Kathy Doyle expressed concern that they would then be viewed as affiliated with WQHA and may require an insurance rider or Board Insurance. *She will check on insurance and report back.* In the meantime, Nikki noted that related associations have membership forms and links up on the current website as they have been in the past.

**Wisconsin Horse Council** – Ron Miller reported that the WHC held their annual Judges Seminar & Certification at Rawhide Boys Ranch in New London. The inclement weather decreased attendance but it was a successful event. AQHA National Director Lance Treptow assisted and Michele Andrade noted trainer Doug Tooley also assisted on the committee.

**Youth** – Nikki Schultz reported that the Youth will kick off their annual raffle at the Midwest Horse Fair. Youth World letters of intent are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Bylaw Review** – tabled until next meeting. Linda Berg *will mark up and send Bylaws so the BOD can review and discuss prior to the District Meetings.*

**Old Business:** Michele Andrade requested assistance and direction on hosting an event in 2017. Jessica Bradley and Katie Kosobucki will assist. It was noted that since the Youth hold an AQHA Intro show in Elkhorn, perhaps North or Northwest would be a good location. It was also noted that the Fuzzy Wuzzy show was always a success to start the year.

**New Business:** Kerry Hanson has asked to represent the WQHA for the Congress Queens Contest. John Schmahl made a motion to approve Kerry as the WQHA queen candidate, Rhonda Spratto seconded, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at the FDL Holiday Inn and Convention Center. (Dinner will again be available to purchase by ordering upon arrival at the meeting.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Schultz

WQHA Secretary