

WQHA Board of Director's Meeting

September 22, 2015

Faro's Restaurant, Fond du Lac

NOTE: SOME INFORMATION IN THESE MINUTES WERE AMENDED AND CORRECTED BY A CONFERENCE CALL WITH AQHA ON SEPTEMBER 23RD. PLEASE REFER TO THE MINUTES OF CONFERENCE CALL FOR VERIFICATION.

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Doyle at 6:32 pm. Roll Call was taken and with 17 Board members in attendance: Kathy Doyle, Kathy Schroeder, Nikki Schultz, Larry Spratto, LaRue Wills, Michele Andrade, Rhonda Spratto, Cindy Tousey, Jim Ramthun, Robert Schmitz, Danyelle Gabbert, Brenda Lindvall, Keri Smith, Linda Berg, Sara Hauer, Larry Lemke, John Schmahl. Additional Attendees: Diane Baier, Doug Baier, Jessica Bradley, Gina Lohman, Scharleen Schmahl

Secretaries Report – A motion was made by Larry Lemke and seconded by Keri Smith to accept the July 23, 2015 Minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report – Ron Miller emailed financials noting State Show expenses were still outstanding and his concern for financial status of the Association breaking even this year. Ron was unable to attend the meeting due to surgery so no discussion on reports. Cindy Tousey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Brenda Lindvall. Motion Carried.

Show Coordination – Kathy Doyle reported the Marshfield shows had been given to WQHA by AQHA. A lengthy discussion regarding the management of these shows occurred. Cindy Tousey asked about working with the interested Marshfield group who previously ran the shows. Kathy Doyle stated that if the WQHA Affiliate does not maintain ownership of the shows and lets another interested group run the shows in 2016, they would be lost to WQHA in the future or could even be moved out of state to a new manager such as like what happened to the Eau Claire shows and Bobbi Jo had been talking to Jay Thesing, JR Reichert and others. She expressed the needed income for WQHA. She stated that she has asked Kathy Schroeder to head the Show Committee to run the shows. Several Board members voiced concern about financial loss incurred by the show, Kathy Schroeder reported she had several interested backers that would cover any losses and she had been in contact with several members in the community interested in putting on the shows. Nikki Schultz provided the Board with an emailed letter from Kay DeBoer that had been sent to Kathy Doyle and explained that they had been in contact with AQHA. Nikki also stated that she felt these were still that groups shows and that they previously ran these shows with additional profit going to a benefit group in need such as Children's Hospital, etc. She stated that just because Bobbi Jo Stanton hadn't done the necessary paperwork didn't make these shows WQHA's. Sara Hauer asked for names of the various interested people in the various groups so we all knew who was being referred to. Kathy Doyle noted the District II group ie Kay Deboer, Dawn Beihoffer & Mel Sann had expressed interest. Kathy Schroeder couldn't recall any names of those she had been in contact with but had them listed at home in her notes.

Kathy Schroeder stated that she had been in contact with the Fairgrounds and they agreed to 2014 pricing. John Schmahl stated concern working with the group due to problems in the past and that AQHA wouldn't approve shows unless the application came from WQHA. Brenda Lindvall asked that what occurred many years ago with the shows not be discussed as pertaining to now.

Kathy Doyle stated she had talked to Mel Sann and he didn't seem like he knew about the updated rules pertaining to Show Management having to attend AQHA management school. She said he wasn't familiar with Leveling and current show and contest rules. Kathy Doyle stated Kathy Schroeder had attended the class.

Larry Lemke also stated he didn't think approval would happen unless the application was sent by WQHA. Larry suggested we keep the shows and let the interested District II group run them with WQHA assistance. If all went well then they could possibly take the shows over in 2017. He doesn't think WQHA Can afford to give away the potential income.

Nikki Schultz asked if this could be tabled until the October meeting to get some of our questions answered by Kay. Kathy Doyle stated and John confirmed that we could not wait until the October meeting to get answers from the Marshfield group as AQHA needed an answer from us and was expecting one after this meeting.

Larry Spratto and Cindy Tousey suggested that the original District II group be allowed to run the shows as they were their shows prior. Linda Berg is concerned about level of prizes and support for entries. Robert Schmitz stated that these shows were District II's previously and should remain in their management.

Larry Spratto stated that he did receive a text confirmation that Jay Thesing would not be asking for WQHA approval for 2016. Larry felt that the income from the entries from the Marshfield shows would be enough to help WQHA and that we shouldn't keep the shows just because we need the money.

Michele Andrade made a motion that WQHA affiliate keep control of shows in Marshfield for 2016 and submit the application to AQHA. She amended to add and work with the Marshfield group to run shows. 2nd Amendment to Motion: send a letter or email to interested Marshfield parties asking them to be part of Show Committee and then review response at next Board Meeting. ***Nikki Schultz will email Kay DeBoer to update them on the status. Kathy Schroeder was asked to call interested parties as soon as possible and ask them to be part of Show Committee.*** Jim Ramthun seconded as amended the second time. Motion carried with continued discussion.

Sara Hauer wants Marshfield to be contacted first before application is sent to AQHA and many Board members agreed with that recommendation. Cindy Tousey and Robert Schmitz reiterated that Kay DeBoer and Mel Sann be asked to be part of the Show Committee.

Show Dates for 2016:

- Memorial Day – 4 judges, Oshkosh (It was noted that Corporate Challenge has moved to July due to an issue in scheduling with fairgrounds in St. Paul)
- Paper Valley – 6/2 – 6/5, 4 judges Oshkosh
- Cap Gun – 6/16-6/19
- Escanaba – 6/25 – 6/28, off Wed then 6/30 – 7/3
- Marshfield – 7/21 – 7/24
- BQHA – 9/25-9/28 per emailed BQHA Minutes and discussion Nikki had with Bob & Marcia Smith.
- Silver Dollar – 9/25 – 9/28 back at Oshkosh. John and Diane stated they have received approval for these dates. Nikki had received information from AQHA that they were still working on July applications and expressed concern that these were the only dates BQHA could get at Jefferson.
- State Show – 9/2 – 9/5

Show & Contest Meeting will be held at 8:00 am on 10/31 to discuss the show calendar as members are concerned with schedule.

Committee Reports:

Banquet – No Report

Hall of Fame – Robert is needing three volunteers to fill open positions on selection committee

Horse Fair – No Report

Membership – Nikki shared Tim's emailed report of District Director counts for 2016

Newsletter & Directory – Gina Lohman introduced herself and expressed interest in being the Editor for the Directory and Newsletter. She currently does ads as well as the Buckskin Directory for WI. She has several contacts for printing bids and feels that she can offer cost effective bids. She requested copies of the printed files and digital files of previous publications. Kathy Schroeder stated she had gotten a new computer and deleted all file and thus had no files to give her. She also stated that Addie at Strawberry Fields was not interested in working with WQHA anymore.

Open Show Program – Kathy S contacted Barb Shudy to let her know that no funding from District 5/6

Scholarship – No Report

State Show – Nikki Schultz provided a spreadsheet of income and expenses for the 2015 WQHA State Shows. Due to the increased fees charged by those in paid positions over, the increase in prizes and awards costs over what was bid, the judges flights, and the necessity of hiring a grounds crew to drag, all made it difficult to maintain the profit the State Show Committee has had the last few years. Nikki expressed her concerns to Show Manager Lisa Busby with judges last minute flights and charging for full days by Judges and Stewards for all five days. The profit currently was approximately \$4500 but Nikki stated the invoices from Initial Design and final billing from Alliant were still outstanding. She expected Initial Design to be approximately \$3500. She said the only expense not approved by the Board prior was the Grounds Crew but a week prior to the show 5 trainers stated they would not attend if footing wasn't addressed. Thus the committee did decide it was a necessary addition to ensure attendance. Stephanie Lynn is working with Lisa Busby to tighten up Judges contracts and flights. Nikki suggested it may be time to bring in Mark Harrell to manage, she shared costs of \$450 per day plus expenses for Harrell or Broke Girls Equine Management team.

Horse Council – No Report

Youth – Nikki reported that seven WQHYA would represent WQHYA for NYATT at Congress. Currently they have more in their account than at this time last year so will finish the year in good shape.

National Directors – Kathy Schroeder had nothing to report from AQHA. Larry Lemke noted the changes to the Incentive Fund.

Old Business – A reminder to Directors regarding District Meetings. Nikki will email a postcard format for anyone interested in using layout.

New Business – Linda Berg explained an analysis she had completed for the number of classes for year end awards comparing 2014 to 2015. In 2014, there were 81 classes of which 56 or 69% received Grand/Reserve. In 2015, there are 129 classes of which 58 or 45% will receive a Grand/Reserve award. In 2014 there were 6 classes that did not get G/R and in 2015 there will be 46 classes not meeting the 15 judge requirement. ***She will email Nikki Schultz the spreadsheet to share with the Board.***

Kathy Doyle said she had been contact by Omega Fields regarding an Affiliate Incentive Program which she will forward to Stephanie Lynn to include in the Member Benefits program.

Motion to Adjourn by Larry Lemke, seconded by Jim Ramthun, motion carried at 9:10 pm.

Next Meeting – Show & Contest at 8:00 am, Board Meeting at 10:00, Annual Meeting at 1:00 pm
Kathy Doyle will contact Holiday Inn & Conference Center in FDL to arrange for meetings, etc.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Schultz

(Note: Action Items are Bold and Italicized)