

WQHA Board of Directors Meeting concurrent with Annual Meeting

October 28, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm by President Judy Zeitler.

In attendance: Judy Zeitler, Tim Schmahl, Stephanie Hicken, Ron Miller, Jerry Laumer, Brenda Lindvall, Kelly Ponce, Krystle Kuhse, Jean Sandmire, Linda Berg, Missy Baker, Keri Smith, Alec Martin, Jessica Bradley, Trish Schmahl, Pat Miller, Lisa Zurn, and Patty Johnson.

Not in attendance: Amy Bucholtz, Tony Tousey, Nikki Schultz, Robert Schmitz, Danyelle Gabbert-Wiechert, Jim Ramthun.

Jerry Laumer made a motion to accept the amended secretaries report, and Missy Baker second it. Paid positions are:

Ron Miller - Treasurer, \$1,200.00

Tim Schmahl - Membership & Points, \$2,750.00

Vickie Kettlewell - Directory Editor, \$2,500.00

Treasurer's Report - Linda Berg would like an amended State show P&L sent out to the board.

Linda Berg asked if WQHA made the net income of \$20,853.74 or were there more bills needing to be paid yet. Ron Miller stated there is still a bill with the Alliant Energy Center in Madison for about \$20,000.00. Nikki Schultz is working with the Alliant Energy Center to try and lower that bill. Ron Miller thinks that WQHA will lose money again this year on the State Show.

Linda Berg questioned memberships. Linda Berg believes that memberships are lower than past years. Linda Berg would like to see memberships broken down by lifetime memberships, yearly memberships, 2 year and 3 year memberships. Tim Schmahl will send this report out.

Stephanie Hicken made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, and Jerry Laumer second it.

District 1 and 2 Minutes

We had a great meeting, attendance, and discussion from everyone. It was so robust that I am sure I did not get all the notes from the discussions. Attendees: Send me anything you think I should include and I will add it prior to the annual meeting.

Attendees

Danyelle Gabbert-Weichert, Krystle Kuhse, Judy Zeitler, Amy Bucholtz, Donna Bucholtz, Linda Henry, Jessica Rasmussen-Bradley, Alec Martin, Leah Grundman, Missy Grundman

Nominees

District 1 - Kelly Ponce

District 2 - Danyelle Gabbert-Weichert, Krystle Kuhse, Alec Martin

Directors at large - Amy Bucholz, Jessica Bradley, Leah Grundman

Northern Regional VP – Jerry Laumer

Awards

Items that we can get a bulk deal on

Sheet, Blanket, Cooler possibly by number of awards

Leather Halter with Brass Plate

Coat or wearable

Carhartt coat w logo for multiple awards

State Show Input and Ideas

Set Pattern in Non pro challenge – most of group wanted this one

Dirt was bad, not enough moisture in base. Suggested Mark Zeitler for footing.

Will Madison give any refunds?

Any other grounds may lose some exhibitors. Should we look for options for 2025 elsewhere that can we canceled if all goes well in Madison?

Extra pen was too small

Get AQHA judges that are also Palomino approved so extras are not needed

All Breed classes, one email was for an adult walk trot

Discussed having either a sale or something like Premier or BCF with lower entries. Lots of discussion, but it would require a lot more discussion and a commitment for a several years.

Slots

Some discussion, but No new ideas to bring forward at this time.

Positions to Be Filled

No volunteers Came forward.

General Feedback

Some fun activities like dog race or ride a buck like were done at corporate challenge.

In annual meeting Jerry Laumer nominated Tim Schmahl for National Director, and Brenda Lindvall second it.

District 5 & 6 meeting held on September 26, 2023 at the Stagecoach Inn

Attendance:16

Nominations: District 5 Keri Smith

District 6 Linda Berg

Regional VP Brenda Lindvall

VP Tim Schmahl

Secretary Stephanie Hicken

At Large Directors None nominated

Proposed by-law change: An open seat in a district can be filled with a director at large from any district PASSED

No volunteers for the awards, banquet or slot chair positions

No volunteers for the website, monthly newsletter or directory co-chair

year end award suggestions - none

State show input;

Locations - Would like to stay in Madison if feasible. Otherwise, the wqha board, professional horsemen and the Amateur officers should meet to determine a new state show location if necessary

State show sale -weanlings and yearlings only. Show one time within a 3 year window.

Check out what Congress does.

Keep the palominos. Can other breeds be added?

Give gas gift cards for awards

Slots and non-pro challenge input:

Keep the non-pro challenge classes. Add one more - Rider makes up own pattern to be completed within 2 minutes and winner takes all.

Maybe have the sale and consider dropping the slot classes.

1. District 3&4 Meeting called to order @ 6:30pm September 28, 2023
2. Attendance: Stephanie Hicken, Sherry Albinger, Jean Sandmire, Robert & Katie Schmitz, Trish & Tim Schmahl and Missy Baker
3. District 3 directors:
 - a. Missy Baker nominated for next year
 - b. Need to follow up with Jim Ramthum if he would like to continue to be a director
 - i. Jim said if there were no other volunteers he would take the position
 - c. & Katie Schmitz – Nominated District Directors
4. Danyelle has resigned as Banquet Chairperson – do we have any volunteers?
 - a. Potential:
 - i. Trista & Travis Born – potential to be banquet chair people (Rubicon/Hartford area)
 - b. Potential to move Banquet location for future years to Madison or Wisconsin Dells area?
 - i. Jean Sandmire chairing – possibly in the future
5. State Show: Showing suggestions?
 - a. Slots chairperson: Open position
 - i. Potentially
 1. Lara Simmons – Sponsorships for the buckles – would she be interested in taking over the slot classes
 2. Zietlers
 - b. Presentations & Prizes – Non-Pro challenges keep, Post payout, potential for beginners or opportunity for prizes for different leveling (especially Non-pros), Create your own pattern (generated excitement)
 - c. Potential for level 1 exhibitors: Prizes nice added bonus but payout is exciting – list the payouts or 100% payback on the showbill (suggestion)
 - d. Listing the classes for the end of the day or during the regular show?
 - i. Non-pro/Level 1: create incentive to enter slot classes?
 - e. Open Exhibitors do pattern classes? Horsemanship/Showmanship
6. Several positions that are open – award chairmen (Open): Currently Nicki Schultz' position
 - a. Sherry Albinger along with Gwen (Potential to co-chair)

- i. Sherry gets items at a discount and provides to WQHA
 - ii. Works with Jean & Cindy
7. Website Updates & Email Newsletter: Any interest? No volunteers
8. Directory: Co-chair Missy Baker
9. Facebook Auction: March 14,15,16
 - a. what the money is allocated for?
 - b. Gala-bid (Work with Stephanie Hicken to see how this works instead of using Facebook)
10. Bylaw change: An open seat in a district can be filled by a director at large
 - a. Change makes sense – majority of our district is in agreement to the proposed change for the bylaw.
11. District 4: Jean Sandmire is stepping down
 - a. Jean to reach out to Patty Johnson to see if she would be interested in becoming district 4 representative.
12. Adjourned: 7:23pm

Stephanie Hicken nominated Travis Born for Regional VP of District 3 & 4, and Missy Baker second it. Travis Born accepted Regional VP.

Robert Schmitz has missed 3 consecutive meetings. Per by laws he is off of the board and cannot run for a board position for one year.

Ron Miller made a motion to carry the new slate of directors at large. Jean Sandmire second it.

Ron made a motion to accept the paid positions, and Jerry Laumer second it. Paid positions-add!!!!

Show and Contest Changes:

Tim Schmahl made a motion to have dual approval for the MQHA & WQHA state shows for 2024. Jerry Laumer second it.

Committee Reports:

Awards - Alec Martin will talk to Sherri Albinger to see if she will chair the awards committee.

Banquet - This committee still needs a chair person.

Hall of Fame - Next meeting is December 1st.

Horse Fair - WQHA will have 1 booth. Pat Miller and Ron Miller were at the storage unit and it is full. If anyone goes there they will need a gate code from Ron Miller. Missy Baker and Stephanie Hicken will go to the storage unit to do inventory. Also, will see what can be used

towards the Facebook auction. Missy Baker and Stephanie Hicken will talk to Nikki Schultz first, and will ask about the raffle license that needs to be updated each year.

During the discussion of the raffle license the youth raffles were brought up.

Memberships - There are 494 individual memberships for 2023 which is better than the last couple years. Linda Berg would like a financial report of memberships. Tim Schmahl sent a report of membership types. Kelly Ponce makes a motion to accept memberships online, or with a separate check and membership form filled out fully at any shows, event, or via mail. Jessica Bradley second it. Motion carries. Pat Miller makes a motion to add a 4% convenience fee for all electronic payments, and to revisit this each year. Kelly Ponce second it. Motion carries.

Newsletter & Directory - Missy Baker will co-chair this committee! Directory deadlines are due February 1, 2024. *Table the cost of pages until next year*

Online newsletter - Lisa Zurn will assist with keeping the online newsletter up to date.

Open Show - 60 participants which is up from previous years. There were 20 horse & rider combinations this year.

Scholarships - Jack and Jane Bound Memorial scholarship nominations were due September 30, 2023. The WQHA scholarship nominations were also due September 30, 2023.

Show Coordination -

State Show & Slot Classes - Stephanie Hicken volunteered to chair the slot classes with help from Jerry Laumer, Jessica Bradley, Missy Baker, and Judy Zeitler.

Ideas of showcasing the non-pro challenge and possibly having leveling apply. Payouts could go to 1st, 3rd and 5th potentially. Another idea was to include a trainer challenge (details would be figured out at a later date). Tim Schmahl asked that we have separate forms for sign up are helpful for him.

Recreational Activities -

Website & Emailed Newsletter - Lisa Zurn will co-chair for the emailed newsletter.

WI Horse Council - Surveys are being sent out to businesses that pertain to horses.

WQHA Queen -

Youth - NYATT Congress results - Nikki Schultz was not on zoom to update on this.

New Business -

- Facebook auction - we need donations! Reach out to Missy Baker if you have donations.
- Kim Khuene donated her facility for a clinic that WQHA could put on. Unsure of dates at this time. Kelly Ponce and Judy Zeitler will work on this.
- Stephanie Hicken will ask who is coming to the meetings in person when sending out the agenda going forward. The meetings will be in person with a zoom option.

Meeting dates for 2024:

January 21st - 9:00 am at La Sure's in Oshkosh

March 19th - 6:30 pm at Radisson

May 14th - 6:30 pm at Radisson

July 23rd - 6:30 pm at Radisson

September 17th - 6:30 pm at Radisson

November 2nd - 9:00 am Show and Contest Meeting & 12:30 pm Annual Meeting at Radisson

Jerry Laumer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 pm, and Jessica Bradley second it.