

WQHA Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2016

Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Fond du Lac

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Stephanie Lynn acting on behalf of President Kathy Doyle at 6:33 pm. Roll Call was taken with 15 voting members in attendance: Stephanie Lynn, Nikki Schultz, Ron Miller, Larry Spratto, LaRue Wills, Michele Andrade, Rhonda Spratto, Cindy Tousey, Jim Ramthun, Robert Schmitz, Pat Miller proxy for Brenda Lindvall, Keri Smith, Linda Berg, Sara Hauer, & Larry Lemke. Additional attendees: Lisa Busby, Jessica Bradley, Tim & Tricia Schmahl.

Secretaries Report – LaRue Wills made a motion to accept, seconded by Ron Miller, motion carried.

Treasurers Report – Ron Miller reviewed the emailed financials dated 8/8/16 & 9/17/16 noting income from State Show and invoices left to pay. Linda Berg would like a report for the Awards & Show Coordination so that the Committee knows “actual” budget and expenses. Difficult to decipher reports as income and expense cross over year end. Discussion regarding what was being posted to Show Coordination vs General WQHA ensued. Nikki Schultz made a motion to move the Membership Salary to a Membership expense and the Board Liability Insurance to the General Fund or where deemed appropriate. Keri Smith seconded, motion carried.

Linda asked if any additional expenses expected for 2016 from the Show Coordination Budget as Kathy Doyle previously requested that money be set aside for needs. Tim Schmahl stated the need to purchase two more iPads at the expense of \$800.

Robert Schmitz asked if Ron could accrue expenses back to previous year to see actual report for Directory, Banquet and Awards categories. Ron Miller noted an Invoice from Infinity of \$420.00 that Nikki will verify with website provider and cancel as it is from the prior site. Michele Andrade made a motion to approve the financial reports, seconded by LaRue Wills, motion carried.

Show Coordination – Linda Berg presented an updated Show Coordination Budget with actual expenses from the August Financials included. It was noted that there is an additional \$600 for ink cartridges that needs to be posted, the \$800 for equipment upgrades thus an 80% budget for awards will be approximately \$16,300. Tim expressed concern to get Show Dates and Meeting for 2017 planning ASAP. Nikki noted IL and MN dates with Corporate Challenge staying in July. Linda Berg discussed Walk/Trot maybe not being viable but Sara Hauer and others expressed the need for these classes and that several used it as a step up to canter/lope classes. *Stephanie to work on Conference Call and then schedule meeting with Kathy Doyle for show managers/chair and do agenda.*

Nikki discussed the need to update AQHA with Level 1 qualifying requirements for WI. This has not been done and exhibitors from Kim Kuehne's barn are requesting to go. *Tim and Stephanie will work on getting previous rules and update as needed with Stephanie submitting to AQHA. Tim will submit reports of state eligible to AQHA for entries mailing.*

National Director Reports – Larry Lemke noted nominations for the AQHA Executive Committee are due November 1st. He also noted that AQHA Rule change forms are available on AQHA.com for 2017 changes. Larry reported that the AQHYA Youth World show had 761 exhibitors, 1096 horses and 2182 entries and congratulated the WQHVA team on their successes. Stephanie Lynn asked about memberships at AQHA and Larry will check on those numbers.

Committee Reports:

Awards – The Committee met prior to the BOD meeting and is moving forward with options and selections. Discussion on the budget was held previously during Financials and Show Coordination. Pat Miller noted she does has a few award that were not picked up at Cap Gun and Michele Andrade suggested selling items at a tack swap if they can't be re-used or donated.

Banquet – Jessica Bradley asked for verification of income goal. Larry Lemke & Tim Schmahl noted that it has been a break even in years past. Jessica requested that the date be announced on the District Meeting notices. Tim Schmahl was asked to assist with the Slide Show. *Larry Lemke noted we need to mail the Banquet notice if no election, or mail with awards letter and also include membership form.*

Hall of Fame – Robert has asked for assistance in nominations for the HOF for horses and people. *Nikki will include the link to the form in the next emailed newsletter and on WQHA facebook.*

Midwest Horse Fair – Ron Miller reported that John Schmahl is working with AQHA on a booth and it was decided to table until November until that is decided. AQHA wants to be in Expo Hall but Pat Miller explained the cost of \$3500 and location is prohibitive. Pat Miller noted that camping opens October 1st and we should reserve space. Larry Lemke and Rhonda Spratto expressed concern over expense versus the return. Jessica Bradley, Sara Hauer and Jim Ramthun noted the need for outreach and the need to continue to network with trail riders, 4-H and open show groups. It was decided to ask WQHA Pro Horseman to each take a shift and Katie Kosobucki suggested that the WAQHA be present as well. It was suggested that any AQHA/WQHA presenters come back to booth after their demos to help attract people to WQHA booth. The MWHF is April 21-23, 2017 which is during Level 1 Championships in OKC. It was also noted that people did ask to purchase wearables so will need to have those available. Rhonda Spratto made a motion to reserve two camping spots, Cindy Tousey seconded, motion carried. *Ron Miller to reserve two spaces.*

Membership – Tim reported 333 membership types, 599 individuals which is up from last year but about average. *The number of District Directors will stay the same for 2017 Tim reported.*

Newsletter & Directory – Becky Ruehle is working on bids for the upcoming publications. Ron noted two invoices are outstanding and he will work with Becky to resolve. *Discussed setting up a wqha gmail account for newsletter to come from instead of individual.*

Open Show Program – Katie Kosobucki reported for Lisa's email the need to redo Walk Trot rules for 2017. There are 7 Bronze, 4 Silver, 2 Gold and 1 Versatility earned currently. She is asking for a stall and a free class for Division winners. It was discussed that this was a good idea to encourage cross over to WQHA/AQHA shows and Nikki will see how many she is requesting.

Scholarship – Nikki Schultz to include link to application on WQHA facebook and emailed newsletter.

State Show – Nikki discussed the results of the survey conducted at end of State Show with results showing majority wanting to stay in Madison due to the special events, needing two rings, etc. She also mentioned the need for shows to require payment for stall reservations in 2017 as those renting stalls and having to pay per stall could have serious financial repercussions with the last minute cancellations and no shows. Larry Spratto expressed positive feedback from exhibitors liking the format, Slots, exhibitor party and getting done earlier than we could at other locations. Larry Lemke noted other show rotating judges and schedule to make things work well. Larry Spratto made a motion to stay in Madison for 2017, Jim Ramthun second, motion carried.

Website – waiting to update with WAQHA tab or info. *Need to update membership receipt for 2017.*

Wisconsin Horse Council – Pat Miller asked for anyone that had a horseperson that was deserving recognition by the WI Horse Council to go to their website and complete application. A member does need to nominate so let her know if you need assistance. There are also Achievement awards thru the WHC given out at MWFH which are due in January and those forms are on their website also.

Youth – Nikki Schultz reported that the Youth had a successful Youth World Show and would be competing at NYATT during Congress.

Bylaw Review – tabled until next meeting pending outcome of the District Meetings input on moving the Annual Meeting to Banquet weekend or leaving as is with a General Membership Meeting in January.

Old Business: Michele Andrade has May and September dates in Manitowoc. Nikki Schultz requested submission of a proposed budget and will email Michele a format to use and submit prior to next BOD meeting. Larry Lemke noted that Horse-A- Rama may be interested in assisting with show.

New Business: Kerry Hanson has asked WQHA to cover the increased cost of the Congress Queens application. Larry Lemke made motion to pay in full, Robert Schmitz seconded, motion carried. Ron noted he has not paid Kerry and will submit payment in full. Nikki will get invoice/application from Kerry.

DISTRICT MEETINGS:

Districts decided to hold meeting on October 5th at 6:30 pm. District 1 – location pending, District 2 – Machine Shed in Appleton, District 3 & 4 – MJ Stevens, District 5 & 6 – Moy's in Elkhorn. Nikki has postcard template available by email to use if anyone would like it.

Agenda's:

- District Directors, Regional VP & Officer nominations for 2017
- Nomination for AQHA National Director
- Discuss Moving the 2017 Annual Meeting to Sunday after the Banquet
- Discuss any other needed Bylaw Changes
- 2017 Show Schedule Suggestions (limited facility dates open)
- 2017 Year End Award Requirements, Show & Contest Rule Changes
- Any additional suggestions

Annual Meeting: Job Descriptions, year end report and applications for paid positions are due by October 30th. The Board to review during the Annual Meeting. **NOTE: Date is Tuesday, November 1st**

AQHA National Director: Larry Lemke noted anyone can run with the AQHA selection committee making final decision after nominees are presented during their meeting held at the AQHA convention.

Marshfield Show Update: Larry Spratto noted there were calls made to AQHA raising concerns and submitting complaints regarding the show. He noted that there were issues going on behind the scenes that negatively affected the show. Stephanie Lynn suggested AQHA needs to address with the person contacting them. Ron Miller, Nikki Schultz and Stephanie noted the need for the BOD and members of the WQHA to support shows and ensure their success.

Committees for 2017: Tim would like to send a promotion our to WQHA members to join committees.

Nikki will check the membership letter that is emailed to those completing online memberships and have that added. Tim will need to send confirmation of membership & committee info to those mailing or submitting at shows. Stephanie Lynn to review the template for memberships.

Ballot Counting Meeting: the counting will be held *Tuesday, December 6th*.

Ron Miller made a motion to adjourn, Rhonda Spratto seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:57 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 1st at 6:30 pm for the BOD and the WQHA Annual Meeting 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