

**National Reining Horse Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
NRHA Office
Oklahoma City, OK
April 2, 2006**

Approved June 11, 2006

Present: President, Dell Hendricks; Vice President, Kim Sloan; Elected Board Members, Anne-Marie Burns, Doug Carpenter, and Rick Weaver; RHSF President, Frank Costantini; Board of Directors members, Lisa Cover, Walter Fuchs, Helmut Gerstenberg, Lance Griffin, Steve Harris, Sam Houston, Colleen McQuay, Bill Peel, Flis Sassella, Rosanne Sternberg, Dave Young, and Vaughn Zimmerman.

Not Present: President Elect, Mike Boyle; Immediate Past President, Bill Bradley; Elected Board Members, Troy Heikes, Marc Wagman, and Dave Wilkins; Board of Directors members, Nick Cornelissens, Dave Dorland, Terry Griffin, Greg Hill, Paul Kratschmer, Eugenio Latorre, Anat Kirshner Leventhal, Dale Lopp, Jeff Petska, Michele Pfender, Chris Potter, Bob Thompson, Monica Widh, and Francois Zurcher

Staff: Executive Director, Dan Wall; Chief Financial and Operations Officer, John Foy; Sr. Director of Publications, Carol Trimmer; Sr. Director of Affiliate and Alliance Programs; Executive Assistant, Susie Trimmer; Manager of Membership Services, Tobi Coleman; Director of Events, Robert Simpson; Director of Information Technology, Dennis York; Supervisor of Membership Services (Shows), Melanie Rinehart; Supervisor of Membership Services (Derby & Futurity entries), Jennifer Hettinger; Supervisor of Membership Services (Memberships & Licenses), Michelle Wrigley; and Horse Show Manager, Todd Knerr.

Guests: Nanette Till, Ashley Fuchs, and Sarah Locker Cash Bridges came late.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. and roll was called.

APPROVE CORRECTION TO MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2005 MINUTES

Susie Trimmer noted that on page three of the minutes; an entire paragraph under USEF/FEI Report had been omitted at the January meeting when the minutes were originally approved. Lance Griffin moved to approve the correction as written. Seconded by Kim Sloan. Motion passed.

APPROVE JANUARY 21 & 22, 2006 MINUTES

Lance Griffin moved to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Dave Young. Motion passed.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE CONVENTION FEBRUARY 17, 2006

Kim Sloan moved to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Frank Costantini. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Committee Chairperson, Anne-Marie Burns gave the report. She reported that our total year to date net income for G&A is -\$6,882 which is \$161,335 under budget. Futurity is operating at \$7,095 under budget. The Reiner is \$52,401 over budget. This is primarily due to an increase in printing costs and postage rates. The Convention was under budget by \$51,204. Anne-Marie stated that all in all, we are operating under budget which is good.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Tobi Coleman reported that membership and licensing processing is currently within 10 days of the date it is received. She also stated that Membership Services has reached two milestones within the past week. Member #50000 has been assigned to Donna Reinarts. She is a new Non Pro member and will soon compete in her first show. Also, license #540000 was issued to Red Smarties owned by Eric Mercier from Canada. Membership Services is also closely working with Debbie Drinko to implement the International Affiliate Program.

Membership & Licensing Stats - Tobi reported total members are up 26 members over the same time period last year; however, US and Canadian members are down by 180 and 75 members respectively. International members are up by 281 and we have had 1,037 brand new members since January 1. The Board then discussed possible reasons why people do not renew. Tobi went on to report that in 2006, 1,143 new licenses have been issued and 862 licenses have been transferred.

Show Approvals – Melanie Rinehart reported that there are currently a total of 342 shows approved for 2006. Of the 342, 55 are international shows. She stated that at the rate approved shows are growing, we will have over 600 shows approved this year. Colleen McQuay requested that on future comparisons, the show classification levels be included. The Show Standards Committee and the Affiliate Committee were directed to study the increase of shows versus the decrease in members.

Futurity Entries – Jennifer Hettinger reported that as of March 28, there are a total of 599 entries. She noted that late entries may be in mail that has come in since March 28 that are not processed. Jennifer went on to report that 316 entries have designated Open, 75 have designated Non Pro, and 208 did not designate at all.

Derby Entries – Jennifer also reported that to date there are 301 horses entered in the Derby. As of the cutoff date for February late entries, we were down by 16 entries. Jennifer noted that many people are indicating when they call that they are waiting to enter their horses to ensure that they're ready.

Sire & Dam Program – Michelle Wrigley reported that 366 breedings have been donated to date and 210 have been sold. She stated that 58% of the breedings have been sold. A total of \$183,250 has been collected not including holds.

Bill Peel asked about the Rookie Professional class and how it is being received. Kim Sloan stated that right now, not many shows are offering it, but that it will take promoting the class and getting it out to people and letting them know that it is available. He said that it was offered at the Las Vegas show in March.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Thirteen proposed changes were submitted at this Board meeting. They were submitted by the Israel Reining Horse Association, Dave Young, Dawn Kidd, the Eligibility Committee, and staff. Debbie was directed to talk to Anat Leventhal about two changes the Israel Reining Horse Association submitted.

Break 9:10 a.m.

Reconvene 9:25 a.m.

Dan Wall introduced two new employees. Robert Simpson has been hired as the new Director of Events and Dennis York was hired as the new Director of Information Technology.

YOUTH REPORT

NRHyA President, Ashley Fuchs reported that the Youth are working on various activities for the Year of the Youth. Among them are the Equine Affaire at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, a Youth Rookie Day to be held in Ardmore on July 15, and a Youth workshop in Ohio August 19-20. They are tentatively working on Youth judging workshops to be held late in the summer or early fall. There will be a Youth Leadership Conference July 13-15, 2007. The Youth are raffling a two-year-old colt donated by Frank Costantini and Walter Fuchs through the Futurity where the drawing for the winner will take place.

The Youth are also planning activities for the Derby. They have asked permission from the Aged Events Committee to hold a 4-H/FFA day on Saturday, May 20, and a fundraiser cookout is planned for Saturday night.

RHSF UPDATE

Frank Costantini reported that a Rookie Day was held in Arizona on April 1, 2006. A total of 19 people participated and \$3,200 was raised. There are Rookie Days scheduled for Ardmore, OK and Woodside, CA and additional Rookie Days will be scheduled for New York, Canada, North Carolina, and Great Britain. There will also be a Youth Rookie Day in Ardmore.

The Taste of Reining will take place again at the Derby. It will be held May 19 before the finals. The same types of restaurants as last year will participate.

Frank also reported that there will be another gala at the Futurity. It will take place either Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday and will be located either downtown or at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

A broodmare has been donated to the RHSF to be auctioned at the Derby Spotlight Sale. She is by Primary Pine (A Famous Amos) and out of Miss Stampede Dude who is a daughter of Blondys Dude. She is an open mare, but Frank will be talking to breeders about having her bred before the sale.

2006 CONVENTION REPORT

Dan Wall reported that Convention was a success. Attendance was up across the board possibly due to the changed format. There were 178 full Convention registrations, 129 Banquet only, and 14 Youth.

2007 CONVENTION

Dan stated that we are currently looking at going back to Las Vegas in 2007 and looking at New Orleans for comparison purposes. However, we have not yet received bids. Frank stated that he called his contact at South Coast and we would have a bid by mid-week. Dan said that we are still under contract with St. Louis, but we are looking at ways to buy out the contract.

HORSE TV/AQHA ALLIANCE

Dan Wall stated that the Executive Board approved a contract for Horse TV and AQHA to produce a show to be televised for the Derby. No agreement was signed for the Futurity.

Closed Session 9:44 a.m.

Break 9:59 a.m.

Reconvene 10:20 a.m. – Open Session

FAIRGROUND RENOVATION PRESENTATION

Tim O'Toole and Bill Allen from the State Fair of Oklahoma gave a Power Point presentation on the progress of the fairground renovations. They stated that Gordon Cooper Boulevard will be closed for loading and unloading at the Derby. They also stated that the Barn 3 sale facility will be operational by the Futurity. They went on to answer various questions from members of the Board. They stated that the final completion date for all renovations will be mid 2009.

Break 10:45 a.m.

Reconvene 10:49 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affiliate Committee – Chair, Kim Sloan reported that the Committee discussed attendance, format, and time changes for the Affiliate Congress at the Convention. They finalized the US redistricting proposal and Kim presented it to the Board. Debbie Drinko handed out a map with the new districts marked. Kim stated that they had input from the majority of the US affiliates. Dell stated that southeast Idaho normally shows in Wyoming and Montana and to not show in western Idaho. Following discussion, the Affiliate Committee agreed to move the southeast section of Idaho to the district that Montana and Wyoming are in. Flis Sassella moved to approve the redistricting proposal as amended.

Seconded by Kim Sloan. Motion passed. Kim went on to report that the Affiliate Committee has affiliates to approve as new affiliates. They recommended to the Board that Silver State Reining Horse Association, Prince George Reining Horse Association and the Quebec Quarter Horse Association. Kim Sloan moved to approve the above mentioned associations as NRHA affiliates. Seconded by Lisa Cover. Motion passed. Kim stated that the Committee is currently reviewing an established show policy. Kim then presented a list of Affiliates, National Association Affiliates (NAA), and NAA's that are wishing to participate in the International Affiliate Program. Lance Griffin moved to approve NRHA Czech as an NRHA Affiliate. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed. Kim Sloan moved to approve the Austrian Reining Horse Association, Israel Reining Horse Association, NRHA Sweden, and NRHA Switzerland as National Association Affiliates. Seconded by Colleen McQuay. Motion passed. Kim Sloan moved to approve the Austrian Reining Horse Association, Dutch Reining Horse Association, NRHA Belgium, Israel Reining Horse Association, and NRHA Switzerland into the International Affiliate Program. Seconded by Lance Griffin. During discussion, it was noted that Austria, Israel, and Switzerland will elect to have dual memberships. Following discussion, motion passed.

Aged Events Committee – Vice Chair, Colleen McQuay reported that the Committee met on April 1. They developed a task list and timeline, are working on developing a formula for a mare incentive program, reviewed a Non Pro Derby proposal for 2007, and are working on developing a plan for the Futurity awards ceremonies. The Committee has approved the addition of the Rookie Professional class at the Derby, added a CRI/CRIO at the Futurity, and addressed the day stall fee at the Derby and Futurity. The Committee proposed a change to the 2006 Derby Schedule. They proposed to move the Collegiate Reining Championships from Friday to Saturday following the Youth. The youth class would start at 8:00 a.m. Colleen moved to approve the change to the 2006 Derby schedule. Seconded by Sam Houston. Motion passed.

Eligibility Committee – Chair, Kim Sloan, reported that the Committee met on April 1. They reviewed a Worldwide Eligibility policy which was approved by the Executive Board. They also discussed the Rookie Professional class, the introduction of new Youth and Non Pro classes, and discussed classes within each Category in relation to eligibility. As a result of these discussions, they proposed some rule changes for 2007.

Information Technology Committee – Chair, Kim Sloan, reported that the Committee met on April 1. They discussed making the website more informative to prospective and current members. Other items of discussion included using the website to deliver to a broader base of people involved in western disciplines, making database queries accessible to people, implementing the Olympic Dream web page, and the new show program. The new show program will be run parallel to the current program at the Derby and will launch at the Futurity. Future projects include implementing the Dell Server 2850 into the Network in a June to July 2006 timeframe, and researching increasing the size and bandwidth of our web hosting site to accommodate the increasing need for information.

International Affiliate Committee – Chair, Lance Griffin, reported that the Committee met at the Convention in Las Vegas. They discussed and explained the IAP and distributed a draft of the guidelines and the application. Helmut Schultz gave an update on the 2006 European Championships. Ann Hagaman updated the Committee on the Masters in Denver. Reports were presented by 14 countries. Tami Wagman informed the Committee of a Reining demonstration that would be held July 4-5 in Moscow, Russia; and Rosanne Sternberg reported that there was a Reining demonstration held in Arabia in January.

Professionals Committee - Tobi Coleman reported that the Committee met on April 1. They discussed topics for the NRHA Professionals Newsletter, discussed industry job postings on the NRHA Professionals page on the website, and discussed developing rider meetings at the major events. Their stance on the drugs and medications policy will be forthcoming and they have drafted a policy for the reinstatement of NRHA Professionals status following disciplinary action. Future projects include developing clinic guidelines/information packets and developing a Top 20 for Intermediate and Limited Open.

Reiner Committee – Co-Chair, Frank Costantini, reported that the Committee met via conference call March 1. They discussed new staff, *Just the Facts* regarding the *Reiner* changes and delivery issues, and the November issue being the commemorative issue. They also discussed having the December issue for sale at the Futurity, developing an advertising package for Trainers and Breeders to be launched in late summer, packaging *Reiner* advertising with Futurity event promotion, and updating and distributing the *Reiner* Reader survey.

Rules and Regulations Committee – Chair, Flis Sassella, reported that the Committee met via conference call March 15. Topics of discussion were the work the committee did in 2005, improving the performance of the committee, *Handbook* production schedule, rule change Fact Sheet, possible rule change proposal, and reviewing rule change proposals as they come in.

Sale Committee – Staff Liaison, Debbie Drinko, presented a review of the Futurity Sales stating that they netted over \$302,000 and the preview was extremely successful due to changing it to Thursday. The Derby Spotlight sale has 54 consignments and will take place in barn 7. Debbie stated that all of the fees and the procedures for 2006 will be the same as in 2005.

Show Standards Committee – Chair, Colleen McQuay, reported that the Committee met on April 1. Todd Knerr and Cheryl Magoteaux were added as members to the Committee. They discussed an established show approval policy, the Show Stewards Program, and the Show Representative Report.

Closed Session 11:55 a.m.

Lunch Break 12:05 p.m.

Reconvene 1:25 p.m. – Open Session

COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

Sire & Dam Committee – Chair, Vaughn Zimmerman, reported that the Committee met on April 1. They are currently discussing online bidding and raising the purchase rate. Vaughn stated that they hope to have a proposal at the June Board meeting.

Medications Committee – Chair, Steve Harris, reported that the Committee met on April 1. They are continually working on developing a medications policy. Steve presented to the Board an outline of the Medications Committee's position on drugs and medications. The outline was discussed in detail. Kim Sloan moved to approve the position outline as written. Seconded by Lisa Cover. Following more discussion, the motion passed.

Finance Committee – Chair, Anne-Marie Burns, reported that the Committee met on April 1. They finalized their goals for 2006, reviewed a funding request from the Non Pro Committee, evaluated investments, approved a new credit card processor, and approved a staff request for replacement copiers and printers. Anne-Marie stated that the copier/printer upgrades were going to cost \$41,000, therefore, requires Board approval. Anne-Marie Burns moved to approve the request. Seconded by Kim Sloan. Motion passed.

Strategic Planning – Dell Hendricks stated that the goal of the Committee is to have a business plan done by the end of the fiscal year. The committee members are Dan Wall (Chair), Anne-Marie Burns, Greg Hill, Rosanne Sternberg, Kim Sloan, Dell Hendricks, Rick Weaver, and Dave Wilkins.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susie Trimmer, Executive Assistant.