

**National Reining Horse Association
Minutes of the Officers and Executive Board Meeting
Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center
Oklahoma City, OK
January 28-29, 2008**

Approved March 27, 2008

Present: President, Dr. Kim Sloan; President Elect, Rick Weaver; Vice President, Allen Mitchels; Past President, Mike Boyle; Elected Board Members, Doug Carpenter, Kit Cospers, Greg Hill, Dale Lopp, Colleen McQuay; and RHSF President, Bill Peel.

Not Present:

Staff: Executive Director, Dan Wall; Chief Financial and Operations Officer, John Foy; Sr. Director of Publications, Carol Trimmer; and Executive Assistant, Katie Borum.

CALL TO ORDER

President Sloan called the meeting to order at 7:57 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 21-22, 2007 Executive Board Meeting: Rick Weaver moved to approve. Seconded by Mike Boyle. Motion passed.

September 27-28, 2007 Executive Board Meeting: Mike Boyle moved to approve. Seconded by Bill Peel. John Foy stated that on page 2, under the finance section, to add “field work” in the sentence, “John Foy announced that the 2006-2007 fiscal year audit “field work” is complete. First and second amended their motion. Mike Boyle moved to approve as amended. Seconded by Bill Peel. Motion passed.

October 13, 2007 E-mail Vote: Bill Peel moved to approve. Seconded by Mike Boyle. Motion passed.

December 6, 2007 Executive Board Conference Call: Mike Boyle moved to approve. Seconded by Colleen McQuay. Motion passed.

December 21, 2007 E-mail Vote: Rick Weaver moved to approve. Seconded by Colleen McQuay. Motion passed.

December 31, 2007 E-mail Vote: Bill Peel moved to approve. Seconded by Mike Boyle. Motion passed.

January 16, 2008 Executive/Board Meeting and Executive Session: Mike Boyle moved to approve. Seconded by Allen Mitchels. Colleen McQuay stated to change pg. 2, paragraph 14, to change “President Sloan stated that he would discuss the Professionals Committee Secretary position with the head of the committee.” Bill Peel noted that “ad hoc” is two words. He also asked to pull Rick Weavers motion on page 1 out of Allen Mitchels’ notice of motions. First and second amended their motions. Mike Boyle moved to approve as amended. Seconded by Allen Mitchels. Motion passed.

FINANCE

John Foy presented the financial statements for fiscal year 7-1-07 to 12-31-07. John also presented an update on the audit report. Due to the short timeframe from the end of the fiscal year to the August General Membership meeting, John was directed to notify the membership that the audit report will be presented at the general membership meeting during the convention. Bill Peel suggested dedicating one of the monthly Reiner issues as an “Annual Report” issue as an educational tool for the membership. The Executive Board members were in agreement this would be beneficial to the membership. John was also directed to investigate the integration of a new financial software package into the new IT package.

Break 8:55 a.m.

Reconvene 9:16 a.m.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Kit Cospers, part of the ad hoc committee appointed by President Sloan at the January 16, 2008 meeting to review the Code of Conduct policy, presented a revised version for the Code of Conduct. The Executive Board decided to send the revision to legal counsel for review and then present it to the Board of Directors for approval during the Convention board meeting.

Break 10:07 a.m.

Reconvene 10:17 a.m.

AGED EVENTS WORKSHOP

Colleen McQuay reported that the January 15, 2008 Aged Events workshop was very productive and went well. Several proposals were heard from members outside of the committee and parts of each were blended together to form the best plan.

Kit Cospers presented a proposal from Joe Cunningham’s for review.

Colleen noted that the task force discussed splitting the yearling and two year old nomination fees into two payments to make it easier on the membership. It was also noted that the prize money designation could be adjusted annually during the approval of the Futurity and Derby conditions.

Allen Mitchels addressed the need to identify an exit strategy.

Rick Weaver moved to present the proposed Futurity/Derby nomination plan brought forth from the Aged Events Workshop to the Board of Directors for approval. Seconded by Greg Hill. Motion passed.

Break for Lunch 11:15 a.m.

Reconvene 11:56 a.m.

Staff member Melanie Rinehart entered 11:56 a.m.

PLAQUE PRODUCTION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Melanie Rinehart presented bids from 4 companies for the production of NRHA plaques. After discussion, the Executive Board decided to continue with our current provider.

Bill Peel moved to recommend to the Board of Directors at the March meeting to increase the plaque fees to maintain the same profit margin effective in June. Seconded by Mike Boyle. Motion passed.

Staff member Melanie Rinehart excused 12:30 p.m.

IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

An update was presented on the progress of the Implementation Task Force.

Executive Session 1:08 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session 1:13p.m.

Dan Wall, John Foy and the Chief Operating Officer, if one is in place, to present a 2008/2009 business plan by March board of directors meeting Also brought forth from the task force, was the need for new employee training and a Chief Operating Officer.

REINING AUSTRIALA

Kim Sloan presented a letter from Reining Australia regarding a serious Equine Influenza outbreak in their country requiring a lockdown for the past several months. They have a continental championship rapidly approaching and are requesting permission to postpone the show due to the lockdown. Reining Australia also requested that should the lockdown continue for an extended period of time that they be allowed to waive the qualification procedures and entries will be open to all exhibitors.

Mike Boyle moved to allow Reining Australia to move the date of the NRHA Australian Affiliate Championships until the lockdown is removed and allow the waiver of qualification procedures. Seconded by Greg Hill. Motion passed.

Break 1:48 p.m.

Reconvene 2:12 p.m.

Discussion about Futurity and Derby event management. Dan Wall presented an update on protests/investigations.

Executive Session 3:03 p.m.

Break 3:20 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session 3:26 p.m.

FUTURITY NOMINATION PROGRAM

Discussion was held regarding the proposed Futurity/Derby Nomination plan. Mike Boyle moved to send an e-mail survey to members who made the first payment to the Futurity Nomination Program, but did not make the second payment, to determine the reason for dropping their nomination. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

Adjourned for the day at 3:39 p.m.

Reconvened on January 29, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. Closed Session

Present: President, Dr. Kim Sloan; President Elect, Rick Weaver; Vice President, Allen Mitchels; Past President, Mike Boyle; Elected Board Members, Doug Carpenter, Kit Cosper Frank Costantini, Jr., Greg Hill, Dale Lopp, Colleen McQuay; and RHSF President, Bill Peel.

Not Present:

Staff: Executive Director, Dan Wall; Chief Financial and Operations Officer, John Foy; Sr. Director of Publications, Carol Trimmer; and Executive Assistant, Katie Borum.

CALL TO ORDER

President Sloan called the meeting to order in *Executive Session* at 8:00 a.m.

Break 8:45 a.m.

Reconvene in Open Session 8:55 p.m.

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

Dan Wall presented an update on the status of sponsorship agreements. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of professional sports marketing agency to help in obtaining national level sponsors. Greg Hill noted this is a current project of the Marketing Committee.

Executive Session 9:20 a.m.

Reconvene in Open Session 9:33 a.m.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Rick Weaver moved to approve the Code of Conduct presented by the ad hoc committee, pending review by legal counsel and modifications. Seconded by Bill Peel. Motion passed.

Break 9:45 a.m.

Reconvene 9:51 p.m.

TROPHIES

Dan Wall presented a proposal to extend NRHA's contract with Midwest Trophy Mfg. through 2009. With the extension Midwest agrees to maintain the current trophy pricing structure through the remainder of 2008. Dale Lopp moved to accept the proposal. Frank Costantini. Motion passed.

Following discussion, it was decided to submit a rule change to make trophies optional on a permanent basis.

AFFILIATE APPLICATIONS

President Sloan presented two affiliate applications submitted by the South Florida Reining Horse Association and NRHA Mexico. He noted that both applications met all criteria for affiliate status set forth in the *NRHA Handbook*.

Mike Boyle moved to approve the affiliate application submitted by the South Florida Reining Horse Association. Seconded by Allen Mitchels. Rick Weaver abstained. Motion passed.

Staff member Tobi Coleman enters 10:28 a.m.

Tobi Coleman answered questions from the Executive Board regarding NRHA Mexico's affiliate application.

Staff member Tobi Coleman excused 10:30 a.m.

Allen Mitchels moved to approve the affiliate application submitted by NRHA Mexico subject to them changing their bylaws to remove "NRHA" from their affiliate name. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed. Rick Weaver went on record, saying that more NRHA-approved shows are not necessarily better. Bill Peel was directed to draft a proposed by-law change protecting the acronym NRHA.

Break 10:41 a.m.

Reconvene in Executive Session 10:55 a.m.

Reconvene in Open Session 12:36 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL REINING

Frank Costantini gave a report on the Reining Summit he recently attended in Europe; Windsor, England and Geneva, Switzerland. Representatives from ten European countries were present. The major news was the possibility of the inclusion of Reining in the Royal Windsor Horse Show as well as an NRHA European Futurity and Derby, for which an underwriting sponsor has been secured. No NRHA funds will be used. Frank noted that the planning and financial aspect of these potential events will be a strategic priority for the Reining Horse Sports Foundation (RHSF).

Allen Mitchels moved to give a vote of confidence on the further development of these projects by the RHSF. Seconded by Mike Boyle. Motion passed.

Break 1:20 p.m.

Reconvene 1:30 p.m.

REGIONAL ELECTION PROCEDURES

A proposal by Gary Pipkin concerning the new regional affiliate elections was discussed including the possibility of an electronic balloting system. President Sloan directed Kit Cosper to investigate various companies offering this service. President Sloan also directed Dale Lopp and Kit Cosper to draw up a basic set of election procedures to present to the Affiliate Committee for review. Kit Cosper and Dale Lopp were directed to draft criteria for the elections for review by Wednesday a.m. (January 30) following the Board of Directors meeting. The executive board will reconvene to review the proposal.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Borum, Executive Assistant.