

**National Reining Horse Association  
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
NRHA Office  
Oklahoma City, OK  
April 2-3, 2009**

*Approved May 28, 2009*

**Present: President, Rick Weaver; Vice President, Allen Mitchels; Elected Board Members, Kit Cosper, Mike Hancock, Greg Hill, Beth Himes, Dale Lopp.**

**Not Present: Mark Schols.**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Weaver called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m. on April 2, 2009 and roll was called and a quorum was announced.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**January 14, 2009 Conference Call:** Kit Cosper moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

**February 13, 2009 E-vote:** Kit Cosper moved to approve the E-vote. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed.

**February 20, 2009 Conference Call:** Allen Mitchels moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Kit Cosper. Motion passed.

**March 17, 2009 Conference Call:** Kit Cosper moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

*NRHA Legal Counsel, Terry Wiens and Michael Joseph of McAfee & Taft joined.*

**NAA MATTER**

A request was sent to the NRHA Executive Committee and Board of Directors from Reining Alberta to remove Reining Canada's NRHA NAA status. NRHA solicited opinions from both Terry Wiens and Michael Joseph as to the validity of Resolution #02-09 seating the NAA representatives to the 2009 NRHA Board of Directors. Both attorneys presented their findings that the resolution in question was a properly passed resolution.

*Break 2:47 p.m.*

*Reconvene 3:10 p.m.*

The matter was discussed at length and the Executive Committee accepted legal counsels' position to move forward.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

John Foy presented the year to date financial statements. Foy also presented monthly recession alerts as requested by the Executive Committee.

*Break 4:30 p.m.*

*Reconvene 4:35 p.m.*

Foy stated that work will soon be starting on the 2009-2010 operating budget.

### **AUSTRALIA CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Dan Wall presented a new structure proposal for the NRHA Australian Affiliate Championship.

*Melanie Rinehart entered 4:50 p.m.*

Dale Lopp moved to approve Wall's proposal for the NRHA Australian Affiliate Championships as presented. Seconded by Greg Hill. Motion passed.

Beth Himes moved to approve the following exemptions for Australian shows through August 2009. 1) Allow Australian shows to run the Novice Horse classes using Reining Australia eligibility only. 2) Reining Australia eligibility- open to any horse who has earned less than \$1000 in earnings (excluding aged show monies). 3) Allow Australian shows to run the Rookie Level I class only. Himes further clarified her motion that should anyone qualify for the NRHA Top Ten, the NRHA eligibility rules would apply. Seconded by Kit Cosper. Motion passed.

*Melanie Rinehart left 5:10 p.m.*

### **AQHA ALLIANCE**

Dan Wall stated that the alliance with AQHA had not yet been finalized but should be completed in the next 7-10 days. Wall stated he was still in negotiations.

*Todd Barden entered 5:15 p.m.*

### **FEI WORLD CUP/ REINING DEMONSTRATION**

Dan Wall announced that there would be a small Reining demonstration at the FEI World Cup in Las Vegas. He said that the world's top three dressage riders and the top three jumpers in the world would be competing against each other. Wall pointed out the tremendous amount of promotion this would generate for Reining and thanked Mike Boyle and Tom Foran for generously donating horses for the event.

*Adjourn for the day 5:30 p.m.*

*Reconvene April 3, 2009 at 8:10 a.m.*

**Present: President, Rick Weaver; Vice President, Allen Mitchels; Elected Board Members, Kit Cospers, Mike Hancock, Greg Hill, Beth Himes, Dale Lopp.**

**Not Present: Mark Schols.**

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

**Guests: NRHA Legal Counsel, Terry Wiens.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Weaver called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. on April 3, 2009 and roll was called and a quorum was announced.

### **ENTRY LEVEL SHOW FORMAT TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Beth Himes presented an update on the progress of the Entry Level Show Format Task Force. Himes explained the task force was proposing three new show formats and one new class format for a proposed 2010 rule change. She also said there was still much work to be done on the proposal. Dan Wall noted the task force unanimously supported each component of the proposal.

Allen Mitchels moved to recommend the Entry Level Show Format Task Force's proposal to the Board of Directors. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

*Break 9:10 a.m.*

*Reconvene Executive Session 9:45 a.m.*

*Break for Lunch 11:16 a.m.*

*Reconvene Executive Session 12:14 p.m.*

*Reconvene Open Session 12:36 p.m.*

### **EUROPEAN FUTURITY UPDATE**

Dan Wall presented a report on the European Futurity. Wall said the event was a huge success and offered guests the first ever on-site member services. Jessica Johnson, Christa Morris and Melanie Rinehart, who all attended the European Futurity, gave reports also. Wall noted the European community wants to have a Foal Nomination Program in Europe. Wall thanked all of the show management and staff for their great work.

*Break 1:05 p.m.*

*Reconvene Executive Session 1:07 p.m.*

*Reconvene Open Session 1:15 p.m.*

## **FEI/USEF DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

NRHA and AQHA have agreed to a working relationship to make sure that FEI Reining continues. Allen Mitchels advised that he has a fundraising program in place to help supplement fundraising funds if needed.

Mike Hancock moved to recommend to the full board for approval the recommendation submitted. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

*Executive Session 1:50 p.m.*

*Break 2:03 p.m.*

*Reconvene Open Session 2:15 p.m.*

## **SIRE & DAM POLICY**

The Executive Committee had previously requested copies of the Sire & Dam Program Policy. The policy was distributed for review.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL/ POLICIES FOR APPROVAL**

Several proposed policies for the Policies and Procedures Manual were reviewed. A policy regarding board meeting agendas submitted by Judy Caton was presented. Discussion was held.

Greg Hill moved not to recommend the Board Meeting Agendas policy submitted by Judy Caton for approval to the Board of Directors. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed.

Three policies were submitted by the Judges Committee. All three were discussed and sent back to the Judges Committee for further review and changes.

A policy was submitted by Mike Hancock regarding Executive Committee and Board of Directors expense reimbursement.

Allen Mitchels moved to recommend the Executive Committee and Board of Directors Expense Reimbursement policy as amended for approval to the Board of Directors. Seconded by Kit Cosper. Motion passed.

*Executive Session 3:28 p.m.*

*Open Session 3:30 p.m.*

## **USEF COMMITTEE LIAISON**

Dan Wall presented a letter from the USEF inviting the NRHA to send a representative from the NRHA Judges Committee to serve on the USEF Licensed Officials Committee.

Kit Cosper moved to appoint Ollie Griffith to the USEF Licensed Officials Committee. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed.

## **TEACHING PANEL ADDITION**

The Judges Committee presented a request to add Eugenio Latorre to the Teaching Panel.

Allen Mitchels moved to approve Eugenio Latorre to the NRHA Teaching Panel. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed.

*Melanie entered 3:35 p.m.*

## **WARM-UP AFFILIATE CHALLENGE**

Discussion was held regarding a show being advertised as the Warm-Up Affiliate Challenge by the Texas Reining Horse Association.

Allen Mitchels moved to recommend to the Board of Directors to not allow this show to take place. Seconded by Kit Cospers. Motion passed.

## **HIGH ROLLER CLASSIC SHOW CONFLICT**

Discussion was held regarding the date conflict between the Las Vegas High Roller Classic and several regional affiliate finals. Dan Wall noted there was no violation of the *Handbook* in approving all of these shows on the same date. Concern was expressed for the possible impact on the regional affiliate finals.

*Break 3:57 p.m.*

*Reconvene 4:13 p.m.*

## **REINING CANADA**

Discussion was held regarding the issue surrounding Reining Canada and the request to remove their NAA status.

*Break 4:58 p.m.*

*Reconvene 5:03 p.m.*

*Terry Griffin and Andre DeBellefeuille entered*

Terry Griffin and Andre DeBellefeuille appeared on behalf of Reining Canada to express their concerns over the request of Reining Alberta to remove their NAA status. The matter was discussed at length.

*There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted by Katie Wagner, Executive Assistant.