

**National Reining Horse Association
Executive Committee Meeting
NRHA Office
April 8, 2010**

Approved 06/08/10

Reconvened 8:03 a.m.

PRESENT

President Rick Weaver, Dale Lopp, Beth Himes, Rosanne Sternberg, Terry Griffin and Mike Hancock.

NOT PRESENT

Mark Schols and Allen Mitchels (sick).

STAFF

Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Sr. Director of Publications Carol Trimmer and Executive Assistant Debby Hutchison.

***WEST COAST RHA CIRCUIT SHOW**

For approval, the EC determined that the WCRHA needs to have a pre-entry into their program, 7-year-old & up, Category 6 or Category 2 Derby, no WCRHA membership required, then they can have a \$500 added open. Jessica Johnson to call the WCRHA and advise them of the EC's recommendation concerning their show approval. WCRHA withdrew their application later in the day per Jessica Johnson. – See later in meeting minutes.

DALE WILKINSON

Findlay College would like their final reining (for seniors) of the year to be named for Dale Wilkinson and NRHA to provide the awards: Beth Himes made a motion for a Lawson perpetual trophy and an annual plaque to be awarded to the winner. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

TROPHYS

The Executive Director noted Kit Cospers had contacted him regarding complaints from members about the color change of the pewter trophy. Executive Director Wall reminded everyone the reasons for the trophy changes, which were unanimously approved by the NRHA Board of Directors. Changes were made to reduce the cost of shipping, the cost of producing the "bronze" trophies. Terry Griffin suggested posting a blast on the NRHA website explaining the changes and reasons for the changes.

8:30 a.m. Manager Brian Bendele joined the meeting

RHSF UPDATE

Manager Bendele passed out the Reining Horse Sports Foundation's Agenda. Regarding the WEG Suites, President Weaver said to consider advertising that it is first come, first serve on the Suites with hotel rooms. He also stated that Brian needed to research the possibility of available RV rental sites, which could be offered to Suite holders instead of motel rooms. Suite holders will be part of a select group; includes VIP Party, Suite access, tickets, plus additional amenities. Executive Director Wall feels the need for personal contact/touch to sell suites. Need to inform Board of Director's of liability that NRHA has if RHSF doesn't raise enough to cover their commitment. Brian would like the 100 Grand Club to become an annual program so it can become self-sustaining.

Even if RHSF didn't exist NRHA would be doing all this. NRHA has to own this. Need to set an internal goal. Bendele advised that staff has been working on a new rhsf.com website. Hoping for launch end of April, first of May.

Passed out handout about the Dale Wilkinson Memorial Fund.

The RHSF Board will meet this evening at 5:00 p.m.

9:26 a.m. Manager Brian Bendele departed the meeting

Break 9:28 a.m.

Reconvene 10:09 a.m.

IT UPDATE

Terry Griffin - passed out a handout. Regarding the financing of the new upgrade – The project began drawing on the financing in September 2009, monthly payments are being made, and there is additional board designated funds available. Some new items/programs had to be added to the original specification, which increased projected overrun costs. This is also due to the fact that the committee didn't take into account the infrastructure, and now IT is experiencing failures. IT is trying to fix the problems. It is time to bite the bullet and fix the infrastructure (anything that you are going to be working on, per COO York). Griffin believes that we don't budget enough annually for the computer area. Reiner department was not originally included – thus there is no room in IT projected costs. Question was asked, why is telephone system included but no *Reiner* in the IT budget? Dennis York responded that the telephone system included because it ties into the computer system. The needed upgrades to the *Reiner* include; new server, 2 new work stations, printer. Mike Hancock made a motion to make multiple purchases not to exceed \$15,000 to complete the *Reiner* upgrades. The funds are to be charged against IT project reserves. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed. President Weaver was concerned and asked, "Are we patching and not fixing the situation and is the *Reiner* budget enough?" Terry Griffin and Chief Operating Officer York will create and present a committee report to the Board of Directors to include those things that impacted the overrun and delays.

Break 11:17 a.m.

Reconvene 11:35 a.m.

Jessica Johnson joined the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

HARD ROCK YOUTH DERBY

Jessica Johnson provided an overview of the Hard Rock show and stated the show manager didn't send in for approval of the Youth Derby division. Mike Hancock moved to approve the Youth Derby division and fine the show \$150. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Jessica is to write a letter notifying the organization of the fine and Executive Director Wall will review prior to mail out. Motion passed.

Jessica Johnson departed the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

Closed Session 11:43 a.m.

Break for lunch: 12:18 p.m.

Reconvened Open Meeting 1:02 p.m.

MIDWEST TROPHY UPDATE

Executive Director Wall updated the Executive Committee on NRHA outstanding inventory, which consists of ½ trophies and ½ parts, bases, plates, etc. Discussed the best way to use the bronzes – discussed inventory numbers. NRHA will negotiate with Midwest to reduce debt. Beth Himes made a motion to accept Executive Director Wall's recommendation to use the remaining inventory for the Derby and Futurity. Seconded by Mike Hancock. Motion passed.

*WCRHA is withdrawing their shootout proposal, which was presented by Melanie Rinehart and Jessica Johnson earlier. (See earlier in the minutes.)

Break: 1:36 p.m.

Reconvened 2:06 p.m.

Executive Director Wall and Manager Bendele have been charged with reaching out and creating an alliance with IHSA. There is an opportunity to display NRHA trophies at their headquarters. Wall and Bendele were directed to send new trophies for this purpose. Dale Lopp made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mike Hancock. Motion passed.

EUROPEAN FUTURITY

Executive Director Wall presented the concept of an NRHA European Derby, and relationship with Europeans – IRHA Maturity would become NRHA Derby in 2011 and they would host the Derby. Board of Directors member Roberto Cuoghi, President of IRHA, Filippo Masi, and Simona Diale were part of the negotiations and their goal is to raise \$150,000. IRHA will put up \$100,000. This new event could be announced in principal this weekend with a signed agreement of intent – with two weeks left for European program nominations. President Cuoghi has been very supportive of NRHA, FEI, etc. Mike Hancock moved to follow up on \$25,000 commitment with a written agreement. Executive Director Wall to negotiate with host. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed.

SIRE & DAM

Sire & Dam Chair Vaughn Zimmerman has asked to add Steve Simon to the committee, which necessitates Board of Directors approval. The question was asked if Zimmerman is in contact with new program representative Karen Shedlauskas. Michelle Wrigley advised that he is. Not looking to Task Force for any guidance.

TEACHING PANEL RECOMMENDATION

Judges Committee would like to add Bub Poplin to Teaching Panel. He has been on the committee for three years. Dale Lopp moved to approve addition of Bub Poplin, seconded by Mike Hancock. Motion passed.

BOARD MEMBER REPLACEMENT

Arie Huijberts , emailed Chief Operating Officer York about replacing Wim Gimmert on the Board of Directors meeting this weekend. Mr. Huijberts needs to send an email on behalf of the affiliate advising of his replacement as the representative and that he was properly elected.

ENTRY LEVEL CLARIFICATION

Melanie Rinehart outlined why there are problems tracking money in the entry level. Only points; no money, is awarded. Exclude Category 10 earnings. The Ride N Slide monies are recorded. Beth Himes made the motion to approve the show department's Entry Level Clarification. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed. Departmental update will be presented to Board of Directors.

AFFILIATE TOOL BOX

Manager Bendele and Jessica Johnson provided a presentation of the Affiliate Tool Box CD that was provided to all Executive Committee members. It is an 80-page word document with all information in a central point now. All affiliates will be mailed a CD.

BULK MAILING

Dennis York – explained handout on proposal and estimated savings. Dennis recommends going with RK Black. Mike moved to forward the proposal to the Board of Directors for approval. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed.

AMATEUR/NON PRO

Beth Himes updated the committee and advised that the Amateur/Non Pro Committee will have a meeting tomorrow. She discussed the progress and what still needs to be addressed. There was new discussion on the definition of a Non Pro.

MEDICATIONS

President Weaver has scheduled a Medications Task Force meeting on April 22, 2010 in Oklahoma City for a workshop.

SHOW APPROVAL

Show Department asked for approval of the Valley Summer Warm-Up, Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia, Canada, show scheduled on top of the Derby. Motion to approve the show was made by Dale Lopp, Seconded by Terry Griffin. Motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION: 4:28 p.m.

Compensation Committee – Mike Hancock

Respectfully submitted by Executive Assistant Debby Hutchinson.