

**National Reining Horse Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Cox Convention Center
January 30, 2010**

Approved 04/09/10

PRESENT: President Rick Weaver; Allen Mitchels, Terry Griffin, Dale Lopp, Beth Himes, Mike Hancock, Frank Costantini (WEB), Andre DeBellefeuille (WEB), Mike Deer, Tom Foran (WEB), Jennifer Hoyt, George King (WEB), Tim Lynch (Phone), Michael Martin (Phone), Dan McGregor, Rick Ramsey (WEB), Woody Taylor (WEB), Guy Vernon (WEB), Brett Walters, Robert Welle (WEB).

NOT PRESENT: Rosanne Sternberg, Mark Schols, Susan Camfferman, Renzo Canciani, Rick Clark, Nick Cornelissens, Julia Cowan, Luis Cruz, Katarina Dorminy, Nancy Eppers, Helmut Gerstenberg, Anat Kirshner, Raul Leal Cavazos, Matt Mills, Helmut Schulz, Wim Van Gemert, Judith Vetter, Josh Visser, Flemming Winberg.

STAFF: Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Sr. Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Executive Assistant Debby Hutchinson, Reiner Assistant Editor Katie Hendrickson, Reiner Production Coordinator /Designer Bucky Harris, Accounting Manager Chris Mossman, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Director of Marketing Todd Barden, Manager of Marketing and Communications Christa Morris, Website Designer & Internet Marketing Specialist Haley Carmen, Manager of Events & Shows Melanie Rinehart, Manager of Member Services & Judges Program Michelle Wrigley, Show Department Supervisor Jessica Johnson, Member Services Representative Futurity/Derby Nomination Program, Manager of RHSF and Youth Program Brian Bendele, Brad Ettleman (WEB).

CALL TO ORDER

President Weaver called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was announced.

President Weaver expressed how well the Board of Directors performed in 2009. Their achievements include the approval of the Grass Roots/Entry Level Program. The Futurity/Derby Nomination Program in 2009 saw an increase over 2008. Key priorities for 2010 will be: WEG, IT Project, and the commitment to a Medication Policy. The priority of these projects needs to be considered when discussing new programs and activities. President Weaver thanked the board for their contributions.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mike Hancock made a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2009 meeting. Second by Dale Lopp. Approved unanimously.

Mike Hancock made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2010 E-vote. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CFO John Foy gave an overview of the Financial Statements and Recession Alert Report.

Old Business

RHSF report - Liaison Brian Bendele, new Manager of RHSF and NRHA Youth Program, presented an RHSF update. Recapped 2009 and reviewed programs for 2010.

New Business

- A. Vacant Northwest Region Director Seat. Seat is not yet filled. Several suggested possible candidates.
- B. Approve New Committee Chairs and Members- A new list was presented and changes/updates were made. Those board members on web and phone are to be e-mailed the revised Committee List. Motion to approve by Dale Lopp. Second by Jennifer Hoyt. Unanimously approved.
- C. Approval of Hearing Body Members – Terry Griffin moved to approve. Allen Mitchels seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. 2010 East Central RAF Host - Dale Lopp advised that two bids were received for the new East Central Regional Affiliate Finals. The Affiliate Committee recommends the Ohio Valley Reining Horse Association be awarded the contract. The show would be held on the Ohio State Fair Grounds. Mike Deer moved to approve the Affiliate Committee's recommendation. Dan McGregor seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- E. Montana Silversmith Trophy Production Update - Todd Barden – Passed out sample trophies and a letter that was sent to Show Secretaries and Managers. Terry Griffin asked that a picture of the new trophies and cost be posted on the website to encourage shows to use the standard NRHA awards.

2010 Annual General Membership Meeting Date and Location: Annual Membership Meeting will be August 21, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the NRHA Office. Motion to approve by Brett Walters. Seconded by Beth Himes. Motion passed unanimously. Executive Director Dan Wall discussed the need to schedule Town Talks at each RAF to encourage member participation.

2010 Bylaw Vote and Officer Elections. - Mike Hancock moved that Bylaw and officer elections close August 31, 2010. Second by Brett Walters. Approved unanimously.

Futurity/Derby Nomination Program Update - Executive Director Wall advised that there are currently 2950 nominations. In addition, there were 33 yearlings nominated as well. Currently, there are 49 weanlings nominated for the NRHA European Futurity Nomination Program.

Futurity Review - Brad Ettleman presented the 2009 Futurity Event Recap and Evaluation. He will be sending out a survey to exhibitors. Ettleman recommends that we add money to step up the Freestyle competition and to move the Rookie class to the Adequan® Championship Arena. Ettleman plans to expand vendor space to increase revenue. It was noted that the Sire & Dam Committee wants a better location for the booth and stallion auction.

2010 Derby schedule – Brad Ettleman discussed and presented the proposed schedule. Beth Himes moved to approve. Dale Lopp seconded. Passed unanimously. Executive Director Wall asked that the Non Pro changes be promoted as well.

Break: 5:21 p.m.

Reconvene: 5:35 p.m.

Given the weather conditions President Weaver advised that he was going to attempt to complete the meeting on the 30th; accordingly, items that need to be voted on will be addressed first.

NRHyA YOUTH TEAM TOURNAMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP ADJUSTMENTS – Presented by Brian Bendele.

NRHA Youth Committee formed a scholarship sub-committee to investigate the current scholarship programs. It was noted that if all scholarships currently awarded were paid today a deficit would exist.

The Youth Committee and RHSF Board of Directors approved the recommendation of the scholarship sub-committee to alter scholarship funding to not only relieve NRHA of this liability but to also focus efforts toward developing programs that truly align with the NRHyA mission of developing youth leaders.

The recommendation was to split the current allocation of \$3,600 in scholarships awarded to YTT in half and award \$1,800 in scholarships to all 13 Regional Affiliate Final YTTs. The second part of the recommendation was to allocate \$5,000 back into the current merit-based programs such as RHSF Scholarships and Varsity Reining Club Scholarships, with the intention that this number could rise and fall with funding. Lastly, it was recommended that the age to recapture scholarship funds be lowered from 25 to 23. This was determined as a more appropriate age of a youth who has completed their collegiate careers, and will go into effect for scholarships awarded in 2010.

Mike Hancock moved to approve the NRHyA scholarship proposal as recommended by RHSF. Second by Mike Deer. Passed unanimously. Both recommendations approved
Frank Costantini left at 5:21. Back at 5:56 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATION TASK FORCE UPDATE –

Rick Ramsey presented an overview of the CAC Task Force proposal. EC recommends for the board to see what has been drafted. Mike Hancock advised that this is not a bylaw but a policy. Ramsey said the proposal was based on one representative for every 500 members. Before it is approved it needs to be given to the European reining community for their recommendation. Ramsey advised that it can be approved at the April board meeting.

MEDICATIONS TASK FORCE UPDATE – President Weaver presented a hand out of the Task Force's Timeline. The goal is to have a policy in place to vote on in 2011 to take effect in 2012. Allen Mitchels suggested that anyone that had questions or reservations to give them to Task Force Liaison Christa Morris and she would get them to the Task Force.

Robert Welle left meeting - 5:59 p.m.

In response to Andre DeBellefeuille's question, Weaver advised that there is no international representation currently on the Medications Task Force. DeBellefeuille asked that the Task Force include someone from outside the U.S. Weaver agreed to strongly consider a change to the task force if the appropriate candidate could be identified and willing to serve on the task force. Mike Hancock moved to endorse the medications' timeline, seconded by Brett Walters.

This timeline will give the membership significant time to digest the Task Force's recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

NON PRO/AMATEUR TASK FORCE

Chair Beth Himes advised that the Task Force is looking at three main issues. 1. Redefine the current non pro definition 2. Amateur Division 3. Entry structure and division allocations.

IT PROJECT

Terry Griffin presented an update and defined what the project encompasses. We still need to develop a show management package. Original project did not include the Reiner department. Unanticipated project changes have resulted in a need to upgrade the Reiner equipment. Staff has been testing module release #1. Release #2 will be completed by the end of February. Document imaging almost ready. Web portal when installed will be at a minimum what members currently receive, with the possibility of some new reports. Terry noted that we expect to go live on the new system in June. The Executive staff needs to learn the software. Terry recommended for James Gant and Lance Ahlson to be cross trained and the need for a "dot net" person in house. Kim Sloan and Dennis York were thanked for all of their help on the IT project. Terry will bring a budget to April meeting to review any potential cost overruns.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE TIMELINE

The regional director election schedule was presented to the Board for their review and approval. Motion to approve by Brett Walters. Seconded by Dale Lopp. Motion passed unanimously pending review by the RDNC.

SIRE & DAM COMMITTEE

Michelle Wrigley requested for the Board to extend the deadline for 2009 Sire and Dam donations to March 31, 2010. Motion to approve by Terry Griffin. Seconded by Beth Himes. Approved unanimously.

Break 6:45 p.m.

The Sire & Dam Committee asked for approval to present a Sire & Dam trophy to the dam of the highest-placing Sire & Dam offspring. Allen Mitchels agreed to sponsor the trophy for 2010 since it was not in the current budget. Motion to approve by Allen Mitchels. Seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Morrison trophy will be utilized. The board agreed this should be added to the next budget.