

NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION
Board of Director Meeting Minutes
Oklahoma City, OK
January 21-22, 2012

Approved 4/28/2012

Present: Beth Himes, Rick Clark, Kit Cospers, Terry Griffin, Doug Milholland, Rick Ramsey, Marshall Baird, Jim Blumer, Johnette Burman, Barbara Brookshire, Mike Deer, Brad Giesbrecht, Becky Hanson, Jennifer Hoyt, Jordan Larson, Michael Martin, Dan McGregor, Guy Vernon, Josh Visser, Brett Walters, Brian Welman, Mike Hancock, Roberto Cuoghi, Filippo Masi, Gerd Wilhelm, Lee Foster

Web: Julia Cowan, Susy Baeck, Helmut Schmaus-Gerstenberg, Kim Maharaj, Raul Leal

Not Present: Rosanne Sternberg, Pim Berendse, Todd McCormick, Greg Campagna

Staff: Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Executive Administrator Jessica Johnson, Senior Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Senior Director of Shows & Affiliate Programs Chris Potter, Senior Director of Sponsorship & Television Programming Todd Barden, Senior Director of Marketing Christa Morris, Director of Events Melanie Rinehart, Director of Member Services & Judges Michelle Wrigley, Accounting Manager Chris Mossman, Associate Editor Katie Hendrickson, Manager of RHSF & Youth Programs Shianne Megel, Affiliate Coordinator and Show Department Rep Jamie Boller, *Reiner* Advertising Production Coordinator Bucky Harris, Programmer Analyst / DBA Dan Dobbs, Programmer Analyst / DBA Brian Richardson, Website Admin & Marketing Specialist Haley Carmen

Web Staff: European Programs Advisor Nick Cornelissens

Guests: NRHA Legal Counsel Terry Wiens, Special Investigation Jeff Todd

Call to Order

Beth Himes called the meeting to order at 8:08 am.

Roll call was conducted, a quorum was established.

Closed Session at 8:10am

Open Session at 4:50pm

Roll Call was conducted

Present: Beth Himes, Rick Clark, Terry Griffin, Doug Milholland, Rick Ramsey, Jim Blumer, Johnette Burman, Barbara Brookshire, Mike Deer, Brad Giesbrecht, Becky Hanson, Jennifer Hoyt, Jordan Larson, Michael Martin, Dan McGregor, Josh Visser, Brian Welman, Roberto Cuoghi, Filippo Masi, Lee Foster

Web: Julia Cowan, Susy Baeck

Excused: Marshall Baird, Guy Vernon, Brett Walters, Mike Hancock, Gerd Wilhelm

Not Present: Rosanne Sternberg, Pim Berendse, Helmut Schmaus-Gerstenberg, Todd McCormick, Greg Campagna, Kim Maharaj, Raul Leal

Minutes

November 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes: Rick Clark motioned to approve. Seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Motion passed unanimously.

November 12, 2011 Executive Session Meeting Minutes: Terry Griffin motioned to approve. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

November 18, 2011 E-Vote, November 30, 2011 E-Vote, December 7, 2011 E-Vote, December 8, 2011 E-Vote, December 12, 2011 E-Vote, January 6, 2012 E-Vote: Josh Visser motioned to approve. Seconded by Barbara Brookshire. Motion passed unanimously.

Financials

John Foy presented the December, 31, 2011 Profit and Loss Overview for the NRHA Futurity. According to the financial information gathered, NRHA showed a preliminary negative variance for the Futurity (\$11,465). Slight variances may be seen with the continued arrival of invoices and estimated items not reflected in the financial overview. The 2011 Futurity Sales showed a positive variance in the budget of \$3,828. The Prospect Sale was the most successful, reflecting a positive variance of \$25,516.

Improved International Communications-AR Translation

Michelle Wrigley presented the notice that will be sent to all members that submit documents with insufficient payment or have credit cards that are declined. The notice, along with 15-day and suspension notices, will be sent to the member and will be available in 4 different languages (English, German, Italian and Spanish).

EC Restrictions Policy

The EC Restrictions Policy was sent out via an E-Vote to the Board of Directors following a recommendation to approve by the Executive Committee. The E-Vote revealed the desire to have discussion, therefore, was held until the January Board Meeting. Beth Himes asked if there was any further discussion.

Rick Ramsey motioned to approve the EC Restrictions Policy. Seconded by Josh Visser.

Terry Griffin asked to explain the policy manual history and the update to the revised policy. This was an old policy that wasn't updated into the revised policy book.

Motion passed unanimously.

E-Vote Policy

The E-Vote policy developed by staff was presented by Dan Wall. The Policy will provide guidelines for committees, Executive Committee and Board of Directors conducting E-Votes. Additionally, the policy provides an avenue for members to hold the policy until proper discussion can be achieved.

Rick Ramsey motioned to approve the E-Vote Policy. Seconded by Terry Griffin. Motion passed unanimously.

AGM Dates

Dan Wall asked the Board of Directors if they would like the AGM to be held during the Cowtown Classic or if the show should be stopped for the meeting to improve attendance.

Rick Clark motioned to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation to have the AGM during the Cowtown Classic and to have the meeting on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 9am CST in Ft. Worth. Seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Motion passed unanimously.

NRHA Membership 12 Month vs. Annual

In November, the Board of the Directors tasked staff with researching the impact of changing to a 12 month membership compared to the current annual membership. Michelle Wrigley presented the staff research, which showed the potential financial risk. Staff suggested leaving the membership with the current structure and researching other ideas that pose less financial risk.

Terry Griffin suggested we leave the membership renewal structure as is.

Affinity Credit Card Proposal

Todd Barden presented the facts surrounding the Affinity proposal. The EC reviewed this topic in November and voted to recommend to the Board of Directors.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept the Affinity Credit Card proposal. Seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

Eligibility Task Force

Terry Griffin updated the Eligibility Task Force findings and the proposed 2013 rule change submissions. Findings include changes to the: number of years cumulative, removal of "top" riders and going back to total amount, category 1 restrictions, non pro relinquishments and green reiner eligibility. Additionally, the task force is still analyzing suspended members eligibility, deceased member policy, eligibility policy and youth points in rookie and entry level.

Discussion regarding Level 1 NP having amateur criteria occurred. Dan Wall suggests the Eligibility Task Force go back and evaluate the opportunity of growth with the amateur division.

Terry Griffin noted that she will not vote for Non Pro Level 3 because her immediate family is involved.

Jordan Larson suggested the task force review the possibility of lowering the aged event numbers in Level 1.

Marketing Department Year in Review

Christa Morris gave a departmental update on promotional efforts for 2011. Highlights include the mail chimp distribution service and the advantages in cost and ease, website traffic, social media, advertising and industry promotion.

Susy Baeck and Julia Cowan left the meeting at 5:50pm

Gerd Wilhelm suggested that staff take the initiative to increase advertising efforts in Europe.

Closed Session at 6:05pm

Staff left the meeting

Nomination Procedures- CLOSED

Sunday, January 22, 2012

Present: Beth Himes, Rick Clark, Terry Griffin, Doug Milholland, Rick Ramsey, Marshall Baird, Jim Blumer, Johnette Burman, Barbara Brookshire, Mike Deer, Brad Giesbrecht, Becky Hanson, Jennifer Hoyt, Jordan Larson, Michael Martin, Dan McGregor, Guy Vernon, Josh Visser, Brett Walters, Brian Welman, Mike Hancock, Roberto Cuoghi, Filippo Masi, Gerd Wilhelm, Lee Foster

Web: Julia Cowan, Susy Baeck, Kim Maharaj

Not Present: Rosanne Sternberg, Pim Berendse, Helmut Schmaus-Gerstenberg, Todd McCormick, Greg Campagna, Raul Leal

Staff: Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Executive Administrator Jessica Johnson, Senior Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Senior Director of Shows & Affiliate Programs Chris Potter, Senior Director of Sponsorship & Television Programming Todd Barden, Senior Director of Marketing Christa Morris, Director of Events Melanie Rinehart, Director of Member Services & Judges Michelle Wrigley, Accounting Manager Chris Mossman, Associate Editor Katie Hendrickson, Manager of RHSF & Youth Programs Shianne Megel, Affiliate Coordinator and Show Department Rep Jamie Boller, *Reiner* Advertising Production Coordinator Bucky Harris, Programmer Analyst / DBA Dan Dobbs, Programmer Analyst / DBA Brian Richardson, Website Admin & Marketing Specialist Haley Carmen

Web Staff: European Programs Advisor Nick Cornelissens

Guest:

Call to Order

Beth Himes called the meeting to order at 7:00 am.

Roll call was conducted, a quorum was established.

Closed Session at 7:06am

Nominations- CLOSED

FEI- CLOSED

2012 NRHA Elections & Nomination Deadline

Dennis York outlined the requirements surrounding the election timeline and Nominating Committee deadline. The Nominating Committee needs to have their report presented by April 30, 2012. The Election deadline for Vice President, Executive Committee and By-Laws will be August 28, 2012.

Jennifer Hoyt motioned to accept the NRHA election dates as presented. Seconded by Barbara Brookshire. Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing Body Nominations

Beth Himes summarized the Executive Committee's efforts to nominate three candidates to the Hearing Body. Jessica Johnson briefed the Board of Directors on duties and processes in relation to the Hearing Body. Once the final nominations are secured, this will be sent out via E-Vote to the Board of Directors.

European Derby Amenities- CLOSED

Non Pro Apprentice- CLOSED

Derby Judges - CLOSED

January Judges for Approval- CLOSED

Stewards Committee- CLOSED

Kim Maharaj joined the meeting at 8:04am

Protest- CLOSED

Break at 8:16am

Reconvene at 8:27am

Hall of Fame Nominations - CLOSED

Nomination to EC Officials

Mike Deer and Josh Visser have been elected as Executive Committee Officers.

European Derby Amenities - CLOSED

Rule Change/By Law Deadline

Rule Change deadline is February 15, 2012.

By Law deadline is April 30, 2012, which is 120 days prior to the election.

Open Session at 8:41am

Beth addressed the BOD and Staff regarding the Investigation and moving forward with NRHA.

Events Committee Recommendations

2012 Derby Conditions

Melanie Rinehart presented the changes to the 2012 NRHA Derby Conditions. Four year-old horses must be nominated to the NRHA Futurity/Derby Nomination Program and are eligible for added money increase and nominator incentive. Five and six year old horses are eligible for compete for the added money and nominator incentive; however the incentive money is paid straight to the owner. Medications Fee has been added to the conditions, the fee will be \$10 for all Derby horses. Added money has increased from the nomination funds for the Derby. The Non Pro Derby entry fee has been increased to \$700.

Mike Hancock motioned to increase the number of finalists of Level 4 Non Pro to 30 finalists and Level 3 Non Pro to 25 finalists. In addition, the payout schedule (percentages) of the Level 2 Non Pro will reciprocate the Level 3 Open and the Events Management Committee will adjust the Level 4 Non Pro payout percentages to suit 30 finalists. Seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

Terry Griffin gave the 2012 Derby Task Force update.

Jennifer Hoyt motioned to approve the 2012 Derby Conditions based on John Foy's final financial evaluation. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Cowtown Classic Schedule

Melanie Rinehart presented the 2012 Cowtown Classic schedule including the additional days.

Terry Griffin motioned to approve the schedule as presented. Seconded by Jordan Larson.

Terry Griffin amended original motion to include switching the Non Pro and open Futurity arena and time/date. Seconded by Jordan Larson. Motion passed unanimously.

Cowtown Classic Structure

Melanie Rinehart presented the Events Committee recommendation for the Cowtown Classic added money and class structure. Conversation regarding 10K Open and

Freestyle occurred. Terry Griffin suggested that the 10k Open decrease to 5K and the freestyle added money increase to 10k.

Jennifer Hoyt asked for the Events Management Committee to take the recommendations from the Board of Directors back and work through as a committee.

Ride a Reiner Year in Review

Shianne Megel presented the Ride a Reiner Year in Review. Throughout 2010 and 2011 seven Ride a Reiner demonstrations occurred, including, WEG, American Youth Horse Council Symposium, AQHA Youth Excellence Seminar, United States Pony Club Festival, Cowtown Classic, Culver Academies and Interscholastic Equestrian Association.

RHSF Update

Shianne Megel presented the RHSF program highlights and goals for 2012 and announced the 2012 officers.

Kaylen's Closet

Shianne Megel presented the Kaylen's Closet concept. At every major NRHA event Kaylen's closet will be available, donations benefit the youth foundation.

Staff Update

Dan Wall recognized staff for their outstanding efforts. Shianne Megel, Katie Hendrickson and Jamie Boller were recognized for their recent promotions. New employees Dan Dobbs and Brian Richardson were also recognized as new Programmer Analyst / DBA employees.

Mike Hancock announced 2012 RHSF Officers.

Affiliate Committee Recommendations

NRHA Czech IAP

The European Affiliate Council recommended the IAP status extension for NRHA Czech.

Rick Ramsey motioned to approve the IAP status for NRHA Czech. Seconded by Brett Walters. Motion passed unanimously.

NRHA Germany IAP

The European Affiliate Council recommended the IAP status for NRHA Germany.

Rick Ramsey motioned to approve the IAP status for NRHA Germany. Seconded by Barbara Brookshire.

Nick Cornellisens request that NRHA require NRHA Germany to submit four shows for NRHA approval to be considered with IAP status.

Gerd Wilhelm stated that he is on the committee and all classes will be approved, not only the aged events with NRHA Germany hosted events.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dan Wall thanked Gerd for his hard work in getting NRHA Germany involved and committed to NRHA.

Midwest RHA

The Affiliate Committee is recommending the permanent region change to North Central for Midwest RHA.

Barbara Brookshire motioned to approve the Affiliate Committee recommendation to permanently relocate Midwest RHA. Seconded by Brett Walters.

Michelle Wrigley indentified inconsistent verbiage with the committee recommendation form.

The Affiliate Committee was directed to clean up the recommendation form and sent via E-Vote to the Board of Directors.

Terry Griffin motioned to postpone the motion on the table and conduct an E-vote when prepared. Seconded by Michael Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

RAF Changes

Chris Potter outlined the proposed changes to the RAF Host contract. Professional photos are currently due within 1 business day and results in 5 business days. The Affiliate Committee is recommending the change to photos need submitted within 5 business days to be more consistent with the results and to make it more attainable for affiliates.

Additionally, the submission date has been moved to June 15, rather than July 31.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept the proposed changes to the contract. Seconded by Mike Deer. Motion passed unanimously.

Southwest RAF

Desert Reining Horse Association requested to be withdrawn as the host of the 2012 Southwest Regional Affiliate Finals. Bidding was submitted to all affiliates in the Southwest region. California Reining Horse Association submitted bid and the RAF would be held during the Challenge Event. The Affiliate Committee recommends awarding the Southwest RAF to California Reining Horse Association.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept Affiliate Committee recommendation and award California the 2012 SW Regional Affiliate Finals. Seconded by Terry Griffin.

Johnette Burman commented that the Challenge Event is an excellent home for the SW RAF.

Mike Hancock asked for confirmation that the current RAF gave feedback. Amanda Brumley is President of Desert RHA and submitted a letter, which is on file in the NRHA office.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mississippi Reining Horse Association

Affiliate Committee recommends not allowing Mississippi Reining Horse Association to switch regions.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept the Affiliate Committee Recommendation. Seconded by Jennifer Hoyt.

Dan Wall asked why the committee said “no” to this request and “yes” to the other. Marshall Baird addressed the question and said the decision was based off of membership involvement and entry numbers.

Terry Griffin reminded the Board of Directors that allowing Affiliates to move regions could possibly negatively affect the RAF host.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dan McGregor asked about the region assignment for Idaho RHA. Last year’s move for Idaho was temporary, if Idaho would like to switch regions to Mountain they need to submit a request.

Beth Himes directed the Affiliate Committee to find a way to distinguish region changes by creating a policy or procedure.

European Futurity Update- CLOSED

Youth Update

Shianne Megel updated the BoD on the January Youth Committee Meeting. The meeting discussed the year end fundraising campaign, 2013 rule change proposal regarding youth incentive levels, 2012 raffle program, restructuring the NRHyA Delegate Program and the American Youth Horse Council Symposium.

IT Update- CLOSED

Terry Griffin motioned to adjourn at 10:30 am. Seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Motion passed unanimously.