

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING AGENDA

Dec. 11, 2008

7 p.m. Holiday Inn Express – Bloomington, IL

Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present. Phone calls from several people trying to call in made everyone aware that there was a phone problem. The meeting was switched to a different conference call service in order to solve the problem. Those present were: Gene Allen, Joe Glassford, Cheryl LaMaster, LeaAnn Koch-Bingham, Nancy Allen, Connie McLaughlin, Brian Jallas, John Boxell, Chris Arentsen, Jake Lane, Lowell Osterbur, John Dobbs, Doug Ronk, Pam Sigler, Kandi Lane, Jake Lane, Lori Jallas, Pat Fewell. Those present by phone were Francine Barnes, Cherylann Easley, Ken Freeman, Brad Kearns, Nicole Barnes, Mark Niebrugge.

1. **Minutes & financials:** The minutes were approved as written. A question was asked regarding posting the minutes in the Yearling and on the website. It was mentioned that due to legality concerns, organizations have limited what is put in their minutes to motions and discussion topics. Discussion details are not included. Joe Glassford made a motion, seconded by John Boxell, to print all approved minutes in the Yearling as soon as possible after they have been approved. The motion passed. The cost of the organization cell phone (\$70-73 per month) was questioned. Even though the phone is a little more expensive than a land line, the accessibility to the organization during regular hours or at a show offsets the expense. Even if the office location changes, the phone number can remain the same. Joe Glassford made a motion, seconded by LeaAnn Bingham, to keep the phone. The motion passed. Cheryl LaMaster said she would check the existing plan to see if it is the best for our needs at the moment.

2. **Convention:** Gene stated that the convention is for all our members and should be as nice as possible. Pam Sigler requested a budget for the upcoming convention. Certain convention costs would not be known until the reservation numbers are known. Friday night will be similar to last year with a Board meeting and a reception. Removing the Friday activities would probably change the costs of the rest of the convention. After some discussion, Pam's budget was set at \$2000, slightly higher than last year. Saturday will consist of morning meetings, lunch, an afternoon professional horseman panel, afternoon educational clinics, the afternoon race and recreational ride meetings, a reception for members who placed at the various World Shows, dinner, awards, and entertainment. The awards section will be shorter this year. Only those present will be announced; others will be on a printed list. Although Mark Niebrugge will get outside contributions to the convention if possible, the show committee will probably be asked to help subsidize the convention as in the past. Chris Arentsen made a motion for the show committee to donate "\$2000 plus" to the convention. The motion was seconded by LeaAnn Bingham and was approved. Mark Niebrugge asked people to start considering the location of the 2010 convention. Keeping the convention away from the big market locations does keep the costs down. In 2010 the Central Vice President will be expected to assist with running the convention. Joe Glassford made a motion to keep the convention in Effingham for 2010 and have Pam Sigler assist the Central Vice President. LeaAnn Bingham seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. **Election results:** John Boxell made a motion to accept the election results as presented by Cheryl LaMaster. Brian Jallas seconded the motion. The motion passed. Since District 12 received no votes, the new board will have to appoint someone as a director for that area.

4. **AQHA director:** A new AQHA director is needed for Illinois due to Karen Bingham moving to director emeritus status. Applications need to be into AQHA by Feb. 1st. AQHA would like the state affiliate to recommend one person. Applicants need to be involved at the state and/or national level. Mary Hannagan had been a director in the past and will be asked if she is interested in applying.

5. **Amarillo conference:** The conference will have a different format this year. The emphasis will be on marketing and promoting the Quarter Horse in new areas. Gene & Nancy Allen, LeaAnn Bingham & Randy Smith from Race will attend the Feb. 12-15 conference.

6. **AIM plan:** Cheryl LaMaster presented information regarding the 2008 follow-up plan and the upcoming 2009 plan. She mentioned that she would like to explore an open show program as part of the 2009 plan. Doug Ronk mentioned that during the leadership conference he attended AQHA was focusing on this concept. Cheryl would like to look and the Wisconsin and Indiana plans and develop a plan to fit our needs. Doug mentioned Mindy Riden as a person to possibly help run such a program.

7. **Recreational riding:** Ed Lawrence reported on the fun at the trail ride. People would like to come back to the same location next year. Bob Chatterton will be helping with the 2009 ride. The ride would like to do something with horse rescue as a charity next year as well as trail preservation. They hope to get Jim Edgar to participate in the 2009 ride. Gene challenged the Board members to attend the ride next year. For the horseback riding piece, 13 riders turned in hours in 2008. The top rider turned in over 1000 hours on 3 horses. Recreational riding will have a committee meeting at the convention.

8. **Suggestions for operational changes from member:** The Board received a letter from Bill Ford calling for some changes and making some recommendations. Since Gene felt that the ideas covered several areas and would take some time to discuss, he felt it might be best to appoint a committee of committee chairpersons and other committee members to discuss the letter's comments. Gene tabled the topic until the next meeting.

9. **Website:** Several people commented on how nice and user friendly the new website is. Gene thanked Cheryl for re-designing the website.

10. **Youth:** Kandy Waldie was complimented on the good job she did with the youth in 2008. Tammy & Paul Rogers for taking over as youth directors in 2009 by Kandy will assist by keeping the World Show part.

11. **Fall shows & futurity:** Julie Ehler received a grievance regarding the non-pro class at the futurity. The grievance stated that a rider in the class was not a non-pro even though she presented an amateur card to us. Letters were sent to the 2 letter writers explaining that the state affiliate does not have the power to rule on non-pro status. The matter was referred to AQHA. AQHA contacted Gene and suggested that we hold the prize money until AQHA made a ruling. The matter has been tabled until AQHA rules. Connie McLaughlin reported that the futurity results were ready and would be put into the next Yearling. Joe Glassford commented on the proposed maturity classes that had been previously voted upon. The futurity committee will look at this idea again and make recommendations at the next meeting. A motion to that effect, made by Joe Glassford, seconded by John Boxell, passed with one opposing vote. Brian Jallas commented that although many people seemed for the idea at the time of proposal, most have since changed their minds.

12. **Race:** Gene Allen reported on the races at Hawthorne in 2009, with more coming in 2009. Gene suggested race members should join both associations to increase our numbers and work more closely together. The race general fund has \$1452 in it. Gene would like to get more information on the website about upcoming races and results.

13. **Advertising:** Connie asked about placing some advertising about the futurity, stallion auction, etc. We had not placed any advertising since July. Joe Glassford recommended using Midwest publications, such as Horse Power & Horse Circuit News, as well as publication in surrounding states. Connie will use her judgment.

14. **Shows:** The 2009 fall shows will be in DuQuoin since we lost our dates at the fairgrounds. The spring shows will be in Springfield as usual. Southern novice shows will be with the Clay City shows. A novice show has been approved in the morning with split combined shows starting later on Saturday afternoon and continuing into Sunday. We lost money on all our 2008 shows except the fall shows. We bought a lot of awards in 2008, have some left for 2009. By year end we will have about \$76000 in the show account. Cheryl LaMaster is hiring judges in 2009, from a list of judges given by Board members. Cheryl will be the show manager for our shows except for the fall shows. The show committee will continue to contribute funding to other association function.

15. **Yearling:** Connie McLaughlin reported that she had a new print shop for this next Yearling.

16. **Other:** The association received a letter from the Region 3 committee thanking us for our support. John Boxell's name was sent to AQHA, on behalf of IQHA, as our 2008 most valuable professional horseman. Doug Ronk presented information from the leadership conference he attended. He commented on AQHA's new focus upon community approach, 4-H, saddle clubs, etc.

17. **New business:** The 2010 Regional experience was discussed. Location possibilities include St. Paul, Madison, and Springfield. People from farther south do not usually attend at St. Paul due to the distance. Our regional attendance was huge in 2008, second only to Ohio in size. According to recent information from AQHA, they will not be supporting the regional shows as much in the future. They will not be providing the seed money, not be sending as much staff to support the shows, and not paying for the awards. Concern was expressed about funding and who would be responsible.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.