

BOD Meeting October 26, 2016

Call to order by **President Nancy Edwards at 7:04 pm.**

President's message: Silence phones; please stand up to talk and talk loudly so everyone on the phone can hear.

Roll call: **An attendance chart is attached to these minutes.**

Minutes from September 28:

- Motion made by Gail Seasor to approve minutes; seconded by Eloise Simons; passed.

Auditor Presentation:

- Bruce Langer from Reily, Penner and Benton walked the Directors through the financial audit.

Treasurer's Report:

- All quarterly taxes have been paid.
- Motion made by Mike Kroll to approve report as provided; seconded by Floyd Finney; passed.

Legislative report:

- Jolene met with the new person who will be in charge of county fairs. Jolene will bring some maps to the January meeting that show the division of animal health veterinary staff and the division of health inspectors. Showing horses is the fastest growing event at the fairs which presents a problem of lack of judges. WHC does hold judge seminars to train judges; a list of certified judges is on the WHC website. Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCAP) is the list used by the county fairs. Jolene will invite the person from DATCAP to the January meeting to discuss how to train more judges and what is needed to be trained.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- The meeting packet has the MHF report. Pat Miller had nothing more to add.

Old Business

WHC Bylaw Submission Review:

- There was one submission regarding the Level 3 membership payment method stating that personal checks used to pay a level 3 membership should not be accepted; only payment by the organization should be accepted. A discussion on this topic talking about the pros and cons followed. More discussion on this topic will be done in January and February before voting commences.

American Horse Council:

- Economic Impact Study of the Horse Industry 2017. We have a copy of the Indiana study results to review to assist us in deciding if we want to commit to the cost of approximately \$25,000. AHC would like a commitment by the end of the year. Once the cost is finalized, Budget & Finance can review the budget and give recommendations to the BOD where the money could come from.
 - The consensus of the BOD is that there is an interest in participating in this study if the cost is affordable.
- A discussion was held on how WHC would use the information gained from the survey.
 - It will help with trails by showing how much money is spent by equine owners. Other non-equine groups are very well versed to cite their financial impact to the DNR and trail development; equine owners need to have financial information to promote equines for the same reasons.
 - Jolene uses the survey information in her work in lobbying; the impact of the equine industry.
 - Pharmaceutical and feed companies look for this information to help decide if new drugs and feed should be researched and developed.

WHC District 3 Equine Facility Education Day Recap:

- Katie Bachhuber gave a summary of District 3 education day. There were 14 attendees.
 - One of the speakers was a lawyer who talked about liability of the horse owner.
 - A veterinarian talked about biosecurity and infectious diseases.

- The last talk was about Wisconsin Horse Council, the Equine Foundation and the benefits of joining these organizations.

New Business

Other:

- District 4 and Friends of Silverwood hosted a Poker Run on trails that aren't open yet for equines. There was approximately \$2000 raised at the event. \$1033 of the money was given to Friends of Silverwood to purchase signs for the trails; it is a multi-use trail.
- During the week, Darla had sent out an update from American Horse Council (AHC) which requires 2 vets and a farrier at each show. Cricket Jewett discussed her group's concerns as a representative of WI Walking Horses with these new regulations. Her group does want to stop the soring but feel that the regulations are poorly written and leave a lot to interpretation. Lee Sackett commented that these concerns are being addressed by the working group that the AHC has created to look at these regulations and the language. Concerned groups should contact the USDA with their concerns on the language.
- 2017 WHC Annual Award Reminder; all information is posted on the WHC website.
 - Level 2 & 3 groups have been send paper copies of the information this year to encourage more participation.

Future Meeting Dates:

- November & December – no meeting
- Next meeting is January 25, 2017

Motion made by Ron Miller seconded Floyd Finney by to adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary