

BOD Meeting September 28, 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 August 24:

- Motion made by Steve Haase to approve minutes; seconded by Ron Miller; passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The audit report will be presented at the Oct meeting.
- Motion made by Floyd Finney to approve report as provided; seconded by Eloise Simons; passed.

Legislative report:

- Ag Day at the capital will be March 8.
- Road funding issues is an important topic for everyone. Jolene reported that there was someone who came to her because they were using a town road for trail rides and it was closed down by the county and this is perfectly legal. Legislators are mainly concerned about the Amish on town roads and any damage caused by their buggies and wagons. There is no funding for roads from the states so there are *Just Fix It* meetings being held on Sept 29th in every county in WI to discuss the roads; the public is invited to attend these meetings. Funding efforts and use of that funding will be discussed.
- A WHC member contacted Jolene about the wording on the AHC Horse Protection Act which followed with a discussion with the BOD. AHC has an action committee with a draft letter ready to send out to committee language to review; once reviewed the letter will be released. AHC wants to be sure that their actions and the wording of the Act would not affect other horse events other than the soring issue. The original wording of the Act did cause concern regarding pads that are used on horses and it was interpreted as any use of pads on horses was no allowable. Farriers reading the rule and not putting any sort of pad on any horses so the wording has had an effect in areas where it was not intended to. The wording has been changed to exclude therapeutic or preventative pad use; these types of pads can still be used.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- Pat Miller gave a figure of what the profit from MHF which is higher than past years. The auditors are looking at the books now so the amount may show up differently from what Pat announced. There is money after the budget that will go into the reserve fund which will bring the reserve fund near to where it had been before using the money for Taking the Reins events.

Old Business

WHC Bylaw Submission Form & Timeline- Deadline 10-1-16

New Business

American Horse Council:

- Economic Impact Study of the Horse Industry 2017
 - A letter was sent to state horse councils and state agencies asking for our involvement in this study. The proposed cost is \$25,000 to participate and then the state would receive a 'break-out' of their state. The last horse survey done in WI was in 2007 and the cost was \$25,000.00.
 - The State Department of Agriculture used to do a survey every 5 years. Since 2011, the state no longer does the surveys but contracts through the federal department of Ag Statistic Surveys (AgSS). AgSs will do a survey for us but we would need to supply a list to them of who to send the survey to and we would also have to create the questions for the survey. The approximate cost for this would be \$10,000.00 just to get the list of horse owners. We have no information as to what sort of follow up would be involved with having a survey done on our own such as would the AgSS call survey people who did not respond? Would they send reminders to participants?

- Since the last AHC survey, the states that paid to be involved in the survey seem to be favored in Washington DC meetings. WI was not a state that participated in that survey.
- AHC would like a commitment by states by the end of the year and the money by April. They would like to have the study done within six months.
- WHC will purchase some of the AHC 2005 studies from their website to look at the questions asked to see if it would be beneficial to us. We will discuss this topic again at the October meeting as we need a decision before the end of the year.

WHC Logo/Name on the Drag Equipment at the Alliant Energy Center

- Nancy received an email from Lori Helmer about the drag equipment at the Alliant Energy Center. Lori was at a clinic and noticed that the drag has the old WHC logo on it and it was hard to read. Is it possible to update the logo and name so it sticks out more to anyone seeing it? A discussion followed but no further action was taken. Pat will discuss at the next MHF meeting about announcing the WHC donation of the drag at each event when the drag is used to provide more exposure to the organization.

Other:

- October 23rd- District 3 is holding an Equine Education Day in Oakfield from 9:00- 3:00; signup sheets were passed out. Further information about the event can be received by contacting Katie Bachhuber.
- 2016 Coalition of State Horse Councils (CSHC) Fall Meeting- Oct 28-30 in Kansas City, KS. Lee Sackett and Nancy Edwards will be attending.
- 2017 WHC Annual Award Reminder. The website is updated with the information for nominations and forms. Deadline for awards is in January.

Future Meeting Dates:

- October 26
- November & December – no meeting

Motion made Floyd Finney seconded Ron Miller by to adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary