

BOD Meeting March 27, 2024

Call to order by **President Anne Murphy at 7:00 pm.**

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

Minutes from February 28, 2024:

- Motion made by Ron to approve the February 28 minutes, seconded by Floyd. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report is included in the meeting packet.
- The new credit card has been received as the old one expired.
- Pat Jenkins wanted to know why the district money is not shown on the financial reports. Ron will work with N4N to try and get that issue fixed so the money shows up on the financial reports.
- Ron had requests from District 1 & 5 asking for their financial amounts since it is missing on reports; Ron sent that information to those districts.
- Ron explained why the financial review took so long to be finished by the CPA firm and sent it to WHC. Ron explained that CPA firms are busy, and we are a small organization, so we fall on the bottom of the list of priorities.
- Floyd motions to accept the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Cheryl. Passed.
- WSHCEF financial report was in the meeting packet.

Legislative report:

- Dana reports that the legislature is finished for the year so no new bills will be passed. The next legislative session will begin in fall.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- A report was included in the meeting packet; nothing additional to report.
- If anyone would like to volunteer, we are still looking for help. Call the MHF and talk to Sharon if you or anyone you know is interested. For every 3 hours a person works, they receive a free one-day pass.

Committee Reports:

- Annual Awards- Pat Stevenson; the award ceremony will be held on Sunday at the MHF.
- Budget & Finance- Nancy Edwards; budgets are due by April 8. Ron talked about how the B&F committee was formulated to oversee the treasurer and create the financial policies. Over time, the B&F committee has deteriorated into more of a budget committee. With a new treasurer starting in July, Ron feels that the B&F committee should be reformulated to go back to the original purpose. The B&F should be the ones to find and hire the annual audit firm; look at the investments. B&F should become more involved with the finances of the WHC.
- Bylaws- Dana Sechler: the next deadline for bylaw changes is fall; 10 days before the October meeting.
- Districts- Katie Bachhuber; a letter going to level 1 directors is in the meeting packet.
- Judges Program & Seminar- Dana Neary-Panella; The event, on halter and Western Pleasure, will be held on Saturday, April 6 at Stevens Point. The event will also have a section on how to do video judging.
- Member Services- Mike Kroll: Cowgirls for Agriculture was the last level 3 member.
- Policy & Procedures- no meeting has been held yet.
- Public Relations- Bonnie Shepherd: there are sign ups to work at the WHC booth during the MHF. Set up will be done on Wednesday, April 17 at 1-2 pm.
- Scholarship- Jill Feller- full report for 2024 was in the February meeting packet. Linda Ernsberger will be the new chair of this committee as it transitions over to the Equine Foundation. All documents have been updated with the Equine Foundation name and Linda has been sent all of the needed documents for the program.
- Sponsorship- Cricket Jewett: the committee met last week. There were 17 applications and over \$31,000 was awarded. The dressage group that received sponsorship last year has provided us with lots of free advertising and marketing.
- Technology- Dana Sechler: all technology is working well.
- Trails- Floyd Finney & Cricket Jewett- a report on trail grants is in the meeting packet. The trail school is full and will run June 9-12th.

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Determine the Needs of the Equine Industry- Anne Murphy: The vet/medical questionnaire will be reviewed after the MHF.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy: the youth membership will be able to see the judging seminar at no cost.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber: the district letter discussed in the February meeting was created and circulated to the district committee to review. The letter is in the meeting packet and was reviewed by the BOD. The letter will be sent out electronically to level 1 members. Lila suggested that the letter be handed out at the WHC in addition to sending out the letter to level 1 members.
- CPA Update- Nancy Edwards: nothing new

- Redesign WHC Logo- Logan Sechler: the updated logo was included in the meeting packet. The changes that were suggested at the February meeting were made to the logo. A discussion followed on the logo. There were both positive and negative comments.
 - Nancy motions to accept the logo; seconded by Rae. A roll-call vote was required. Passed 20-14.
- Long-Range Strategic Planning Process Status: there will be a meeting later in the year.
- WHC Roundup; Bonnie reports that the maps are done and available to hand out to level one members at the MHF. The contest runs from May 10- February 28, 2025. The prizes are gift certificates that can be used in any of the 16 tack stores listed on the WHC Roundup map.

Old Business

Election for 2024 (*procedures are included in the meeting packet*).

Nominated are:

- Vice President: Katie Bachhuber
- Member-at-Large: Cricket Jewett
- Midwest Horse Fair Board: Jim Slovik (two openings)
- Budget and Finance: Gail Seasor
- Equine Foundation: Jennifer Julison
- Motion made by Lee to accept the nominated directors by unanimous status; seconded by Nancy. Passed.
- Motion made by Nancy to destroy the ballots; seconded by Rae. Passed.

Distribution of MHF tickets and programs:

- Tickets were distributed after the meeting.

New Business

Review Code of Conduct Form (old and new versions in meeting packet):

- Cricket provided an updated version of the Code of Conduct. The article of incorporation is hanging on the wall in the WHC office, but it is referred to in the Code of Conduct, yet it is never provided to directors for reading. A discussion followed on the two versions of the document. Three volunteers, Nancy, Dana, Heather will wordsmith the Code of Conduct and present it at the May meeting.

Review of Director Responsibilities (copy of director welcome letter in meeting packet):

- Each district is allowed to have two directors for their district. Darla passed out page 12 & 13 from the WI bylaws that discuss districts and director responsibilities. There were no questions and no discussion on this subject.

WHC Treasurer Job Description (in meeting packet):

- Ron is retiring at the end of June, and we are looking for a new treasurer. Darla has some applications available if anyone wants to apply.

Other:

- **Reminder of Deadlines:**
 - Budget Submission Deadline- 4/8/24.

Future Meeting Dates:

- April – NO MEETING
- May 22, 2024
- June 26, 2024
- July 24, 2024
- August 28, 2024
- September 25, 2024
- October 23, 2024
- November 2024- NO MEETING
- December 2024- NO MEETING

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Floyd to adjourn at 8:42 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary