

## BOD Meeting August 28, 2019

Call to order by **President Nancy Edwards at 7:00 pm.**

**President's message:** Silence phones and speak loudly so directors who are calling in can hear. Directors on the phone should mute their phones to prevent background noise.

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

### Minutes from June 26:

- Motion made Gail Season seconded by Ann Murphy to approve minutes from June meeting. Passed.

### Treasurer's Report:

- The auditor have begun their audit. Ron and Meagan have been tasked to write a liquidity policy and present it to the BOD for approval. The audit report should be back to WHC by the October meeting.
- McFarland State Bank contacted Ron to see if there was anything the bank could do for WHC (we currently have a CD at this bank). It was discovered that past officers still had signing authority at this bank.
- Treasurer's report approved by Mike Kroll seconded by Lori Helmer; passed.
- Diane Sackett is the new treasurer for EF; there are no new reports and signing authority cards are being arranged at the bank.

### Legislative report:

- AB 130- this is the bill to eliminate the first year license fee for veterinarians and vet techs- no hearing is set yet for this bill.
- AB 332- this is the bill to eliminate trail passes for equestrians on WI trails. Jolene explained that the funds for trail passes go into the Program Revenue part of the Conversation Fund within the DNR. The money stays in the fund and cannot be used for outside expenses. Anne Murphy stated that neither MI nor MN have trail passes but are considering putting them in place. This bill does not look it will get a hearing.
- SB 139- this is the bill that covers sexual contact with animals. The bill has been in the Judiciary committee for 7 months and has not moved; it does not appear to be going anywhere. Jolene will follow up on this and see if it can move forward.
- Jolene reports that Columbia County is using their own money to widen the shoulder of the roads from 3 to 6 feet to allow buggies with wheel width 5'6" to fit on the shoulder better and be off the road.
- Jolene stated that she has not heard any reports this summer about road damage from horse shoes.

### Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- The communication from the MHF is in the meeting packet.

## Old Business

### Level III Member Bonus Application:

- A document was included in the meeting packet that describes the new program that replaces the Championship Challenge. The program is a \$500 bonus plan that level III organizations could apply for to use for awards, reduce competition costs, etc. The projected cost for this program would be \$7200 (\$9000 cost is offset by the cost of membership fees) if all qualifying Level III members would apply for this bonus.
- This program would go into effect immediately.
- The rules, as written, states that level III members cannot ask for this bonus if they have received money from another WCH source. A discussion was held. If a level III organization seeks a trail grant, they would then be disqualified for this bonus for awards for a show as the program is currently written. Motion made by Lee Sackett to allow Level III organizations to request Bonus Bucks even if they have received other money for nonrelated projects from WHC sources; seconded by Lori Helmer; passed. The Bonus Bucks documentation will be updated to reflect this change.

### WSHCEF Update:

- EBOD received a proposal from the WHC which defined how the EF plans to move forward. Jim Harris is the new president, Gail Seator is the Vice President and Diane Sackett is the secretary/treasurer.

- Jim Harris gave a summary of how the EF got to the state that they are in today. EF plans to keep the winter event going. Jim said he welcomes ideas from members on how other foundations are operating and working. Nancy will be contacting some other state horse councils who have foundations and seeking information.
- Nancy thanked Jim, Gail and Diane for stepping up to keep the Equine Foundation going.

### **New Business**

#### **Membership Changes:**

- Mike Kroll led the discussion on the possibility of making a senior membership fee. The Budget & Finance committee looked at it and decided a discount was not feasible and will not recommend a senior discount.
- A youth membership was also discussed. Right now youth cannot join the WHC; a person needs to be 18 to join. Instead of creating a youth membership, it may be a better idea to give more money to a youth organization. The level II membership cost was discussed to move from \$45 to \$25/year; no action taken.
- Young adult membership (18-26 years old) was also discussed. Would it be worthwhile to get a young adult membership person to assist with getting more exposure? No action was taken.
- Dan Grunewald asked if a WIAA membership could be tied into a WHC membership for the youth. The cost of the WIAA membership fee is \$35- could we raise it to \$45 and now these kids are also WHC members. More discussion will be held on this in the future.
- Mike would like to put a statement on the Level III membership saying 'we strongly suggest to get involved with WHC'
- Lee Sackett talked about getting our message out as to who the WI Horse Council is and why the organization is important. People in the state do not know there is a horse council. We need to promote our programs such as scholarships, liability insurance, sponsorship, etc. This discussion takes it back to having an Executive Director who can promote the council. Future discussions will be held on this topic.

#### **Public Relations- Farm Tech Days Recap:**

- Lori gave a summary of her day at Farm Tech Days. She said the day went well when she was there. Lee held two clinics a day that were well attended. One of the clinics was on how to get your horse used to drones.
- Jason gave a summary of the Jefferson Draft Horse Association. They had multiple teams at the event and they had good crowds when the teams were hitched up and working. The arena was dragged between demonstrations by draft teams pulling a drag.

#### **Annual Awards:**

- Pat Miller led the discussion; the meeting packet has the list of awards and information on how to nominate: January 10 is the deadline for awards except for Horse of the Year which is December 1.

#### **WHC Office Record Retention Discussion:**

- Darla has been cleaning up some of the older files. Our auditors said we should keep records for 7 years. If any committee chair wants to go through the older records they should contact Darla; records need to be gone through before the February 2020 meeting.

#### **Other:**

#### **Proposed Bylaw Forum Submission Deadline Reminder: Oct 1:**

- Reminder to get these in before the deadline

#### **Coalition of State Horse Council's 2019 Fall Conference:**

- Nancy and Lee will be going to Denver in October for this meeting.

#### **Shepard Fest 2019- September 7:**

- The proceeds of this event benefit the Whitewater Area Mounted Search Team and Wisconsin Large Animal Emergence Response.

#### **Future Meeting Dates:**

- September 25, 2019
- October 23, 2019

Motion made by Scott Steer and seconded by Ron Miller to adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller  
WHC Secretary