

Annual Board Meeting

October 5, 2024

LCCC, Cheyenne, Wyoming

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by President Sharon Bailey. Attendees: Sharon Bailey, president; Adair Walker, vice president; Susan Nelson, treasurer; Stacey Thomas, Terry McDowell, BeLynn Johner, board members; Stuart Thompsen, Chris Jensen, national directors; AnneMarie Johnson, CONQHA Liaison; Lindsay Thomas, Josey Bailey, members.

(Board members not attending: Nicole Ballenger, Linda Henderson, Sarah Campbell, Mark Guynn)

1. 2023 Meeting Minutes

AnneMarie moved to approve the 2023 Board meeting minutes with the addendum as written. BeLynn seconded the motion. The minutes were approved and will be posted to the website.

2. Year End Awards report

AnneMarie presented the year-end awards report. The budgeted amount of \$6800 was exceeded by \$103.38 due to the purchase of photo frames for youth World Show participants.

3. Ongoing business

a. Affiliate agreement

Adair moved to approve the AQHA affiliate agreement when it's received in January. Stacey seconded the motion and the motion carried.

b. Stipends

AnneMarie moved to approve stipends of \$200 for the secretary (Nicole Ballenger) and points secretary (Caitlynn Kauffman). The stipend for the treasurer (Susan Nelson) will remain the same at \$300. Stacey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

c. Memberships in lieu of payments

Terry moved to approve memberships in lieu of payments for both the website (BeLynn) and end-of-year awards (AnneMarie) administrators. Stuart seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

d. Procedures manual

The procedures manual was distributed and there was a brief discussion of updating needs.

4. Treasurer's report

Susan presented the treasurer's report. The bank balance as of September 30 was \$84,211.62. As of September 30, the net loss for the year to date (Nov. 1 – Sept. 30) was \$4,228.52.

Outstanding checks totaling \$2,652.51 will be counted in the actual (final) end-of-year loss on October 31, 2024.

AnneMarie noted that Center of Nation (CON) should have picked up half of the loss realized on last year's convention, which was cancelled due to weather. The total loss was \$2,628.

The Cowboy Summer Classic show realized a profit of \$3,059.17. However, this amount did not cover the year-end award expenses.

The Youth fundraising activities generated a net profit after World Show costs of \$2,594.40.

Stacy moved to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Terry, and the motion carried.

5. Shows

a. Cowboy Summer Classic

- i. Dates are July 9-13, 2025
- ii. Show manager and secretary
- iii. Schedule/format
- iv. Fees (entries, stalls, and shavings)

Stacey suggested Kelsey Rhyne for secretary. She charges \$500/day plus \$1,000 and does not need an assistant. Plus, she stays in her living quarter trailer rather than a motel.

AnneMarie moved we renew the show manager (Lacey Cooper) and accept bids on the show secretary from Sherri and Kelsey. Adair seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The schedule/format discussion centered around whether or not we want to drop two of the six judges. After considerable debate of the pros and cons, Adair moved to retain the 5 day/6 judge format. Susan seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Board agreed to continue the current charges for entries, stalls, and shavings unless Wyoming State Fair increases its fees. AnneMarie moved to retain the current fees for now. Stacey seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

6. Youth adviser report

Lindsay Guynn was unable to attend due to fires in the Sheridan area, but submitted the following notes:

Lindsay was formally appointed youth adviser in Spring 2024. She held a meeting in May 2024 with seven youth. They elected officers: Lindsay Thomas, president; Kayla Gibson, vice president; Roanin Irby, secretary/treasurer; Kristin Bullard, director .

The group discussed fundraising and the Youth World show. They plan to look at and revise their bylaws this winter as well as end-of-year award guidelines.

The Youth had a very successful fundraising year, including \$3,774 raised with the silent auction and 50/50 raffle, and private donations. After accounting for AQHY World Show costs, the youth account has a positive balance of \$2,594.40. Beginning with the 2025 fiscal year, WQHA will separate out the accounts for the Youth from the general membership account.

Eight Youth and nine horses went to the AQHA Youth World show. WQHA sponsored its first ever class at the show, Working Western Rail, thanks to the Bullard family donation. The Justus family, Wizards of Wood, and Guynn Training Center also sponsored attendance and various costs. Notable results included the following:

Level 3: Baliegh Lane and Sweet & Jazzy, World Champion Cutting; Kristin Bullard and Voodoo Doctor, 8th Ranch Riding; Cooper Justus and Rose Pistola, 9th in Working Cow Horse; Baliegh Lane and Blue Holli Ruffles, Finalist in Working Cow Horse.

Level 2: Cooper Justus and Rose Pistola, 9th in Working Cow horse; Baliegh Lane and Blue Holli Ruffles, finalist in Working Cow horse; Cooper Justus and Rose Pistola, top third finish in Ranch Riding.

Level 1: Roanin Irby and NVR Moonshine Dunnit, 8th in Ranch Riding.

In 2025 the Youth will focus on amending the ByLaws, year-end award rules, and increasing membership. They are considering hosting youth clinics or a leadership retreat in 2025 in order to attract new members.

7. New Business

a. Donations

Region Two will be having its 20th anniversary show in 2025. AnneMarie moved that WQHA donate \$500 (a silver level sponsorship) to R2. Stuart seconded the motion, which was approved.

Stuart led a discussion of 4-H donations. He noted there has not been a 4-H Council meeting since 2019. He moved that WQHA provide no general donation for 2025 but welcome and be open to specific 4-H club asks for judging competitions, etc. Stacey seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

b. Official print and digital publications

The Board discussed no longer using Wrangler as our official publication and replacing it with our own publication designed to highlight event and news. AnneMarie moved that we do this—no longer use Wrangler and create a WQHA newsletter—and set up a committee headed by the Secretary (Nicole) to consider options. Susan seconded the motion, which was approved.

c. Level 1 show

Stuart moved we form a committee to explore introducing a 2- day (weekend only) Level 1 show. BeLynn seconded the motion, which was approved. The committee will be composed of Adair, Terry, and Stuart, as well as Sharon.

d. Changing membership year

AnneMarie moved that the membership year (fee year) follow the show points year, which is September 1 – August 31. Stuart seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

e. All around and high point for end-of-year awards

After some discussion, Terry moved that WQHA keep both all around and high point awards but revise the rules to state that a horse/rider team can win only one of these awards. Adair seconded the motion, and the motion carried. If a horse/rider team has the most points in both award categories, the exhibitor will be asked to choose which award they would like to receive, and the exhibitor with the second highest number of points will be named the winner of the other award.

f. Virtual meeting platforms

Sharon reported that a Zoom subscription costs just \$13.30/month billed annually. Adair moved to purchase a Zoom subscription. Stacey seconded and the motion carried.

g. Discussion of officers whose terms are up

Board terms are expiring for Sarah Campbell, Sharon Bailey, and Terry McDowell. Sharon and Terry indicated they are willing to accept renewed Board appointments. Sarah was not in attendance and Sharon recommended Cyndi Robbins to take the vacating position. Board nominations will be accepted at the General Membership meeting.

h. Miscellaneous new business

Sharon discussed ideas for a Board retreat.

Possible dates for the 2025 convention were discussed. The first weekend in October is a good possibility.

Adjournment

Stacey moved the meeting be adjourned. Susan seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned by Sharon.

