

Wyoming Quarter Horse Association Board Meeting

October 30, 2021

Little America, Cheyenne, Wyoming

To be read and approved at the 2022 convention

Attendees: Adair Walker, President; Debbie Unrein, Vice President; Nicole Ballenger, Secretary; Susan Nelson, Treasurer; Kristin Lyons, board member; Lisa Young, board member; Brittany Johnson, board member; Linda Henderson, board member; Terry McDowell, board member; Sara Campbell, board member; and AnneMarie Johnson, CONQHA representative. Attendees constituted a quorum for voting.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Adair Walker at 9am.

2. Reading of the minutes from 2020 Board Meeting

Nicole Ballenger read the minutes from the 2020 Board Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Ongoing Business

- a) Treasurer's report. Susan Nelson gave the treasurer's report and handed out a profit-loss statement. The current checking account balance is \$63,443.63, which accounts for all outstanding bills with the exception of the payments owed to AnneMarie Johnson for awards (\$8,984.71) and the bill we'll receive from Little American for the banquet and meeting room (anticipated to be about \$5,000). When these two items are paid, the checking account balance will be approximately \$50k, slightly higher than last year's (historically high) end-of-year balance.

Susan also reported that the Douglas show earnings (income – expenses) were \$18,313.45. This amount is somewhat less than last year's show earnings for several reasons: we had fewer entries, an additional show day, and a more expensive show manager. In discussion, Board members reported they had received only positive feedback about the show's format, including the extra day.

Susan noted that donations by businesses and individuals were a big success, totaling \$4,603 and including a \$1300 sponsorship by the Douglas Tourism Board to contribute to advertising expenses. The cash award envelopes in the trail course mailbox were a big hit. Seth Fender (trainer) says he would like to contribute to next year's mailbox envelopes if he can get some advertising out of it (which we think can be done, and is something for the show committee to discuss).

There was one bad check received, for which there was a \$25 charge, but the issue was resolved inside of two weeks. The writer of the check was not reported to AQHA due to the quick resolution.

Terry McDowell commented that she liked seeing the very detailed expenses shown in last year's Treasurer report. Debbie concurred. Susan agreed to provide this detail to the Board.

Kristin Lyons moved to approve the treasurer's report. Terry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b) Awards report

AnneMarie Johnson presented the awards report. She had an awards budget allocated by the Board of \$8,875 and a total of \$9,010 to spend after accounting for cash received from those who overspent their award amounts. She spent \$8,984.71 for a "savings" of \$25.

Awards were split between those who requested cash and those who received an item (or items) they selected and AnneMarie purchased. Checks are due to those who requested cash (plus to AnneMarie). Two people on the cash awards list requested their 2022 memberships be deducted from their cash award.

There was general discussion of the recognition by members that WQHA awards are really great, and appreciation for how much of the show receipts go directly back to the members.

Brittany Johnson moved to approve the awards report. Linda Henderson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

c) Approval of affiliate agreement

Adair proposed that we continue our affiliate agreement with AQHA. In order to be the state affiliate for Wyoming, WQHA must follow AQHA rules.

Terry moved to approve the affiliate agreement. Brittany seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

d) WQHA representatives to Regional Committee

Chris Jensen and Krystal Peterson have been our representatives to the AQHA Regional Committee. Their terms are still current, so there is no need to appoint any new representatives this year.

e) Approval of Wrangler as official print publication

Adair noted that \$8 of each membership is paid to Wrangler for publishing our WQHA show calendar and listing our officers, contact info, and our website link, plus publishing periodic articles about our shows and members. In addition, each WQHA member should receive a subscription for both the print and digital versions. Brittany Johnson is not receiving hers and others may not be as well, indicating we need to update the membership list with Wrangler. Susan and Nicole agreed to handle this.

Brittany (who manages the website) would like to post a link to the digital editions that carry articles about WQHA, rather than posting .pdf copies of those articles.

Terry moved to continue to use Wrangler as the official print publication. Kristin seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

4. Donations

- a) In the past WQHA has provided a bronze level sponsorship in the amount of \$250 for the AQHA Region 2 show. Adair received a thank you from Chris Jensen for this sponsorship.
- b) We have also contributed a donation of \$50 to the 4H Horse Council.

Debbie moved that we continue these two contributions at the same amounts for 2022. Linda seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

5. Show changes and dates

The 2022 Cowboy Summer Classic show dates are July 12th – 17th, with classes starting on the 13th. RMQHA has already asked for the dates for its calendar. Adair reported that she has already received the contract for the Douglas fairgrounds, but hasn't yet had a chance to see if it's changed in any way from the 2021 contract. We have been paying about \$3,000/day for the facility minus a 10% discount. We paid more in 2021 than 2020 because of the extra day.

- a) Bids for show management and c) show secretary

Debbie has just recently received two preliminary bids, from Doug Hammack (which would include booking through the EZ Horse Show system) and Heidi Lane. In both cases, the manager would provide or hire a show secretary. Considerable discussion ensued about what we need in a show manager and what responsibilities they'd take on versus the show committee. We had some preliminary discussion of the relative prices and services offered by these bidders, and decided we needed more information from

both of them before making a decision. AnneMarie may also provide the Board with names of possible show managers.

b) Add a stall coordinator/shavings person

There was also considerable discussion about the time required for the show committee and other volunteers to provide shavings and bed stalls, and whether it would be preferable to turn this over to a show manager despite the added expense. Debbie mentioned it may be possible to have Bomgaars provide and deliver shavings. Prior to the start of the 2021 show, John Sedgwick, Krystal Jackson, along with Board members Adair, Debbie and Linda, contributed many hours of their own time and hours of long-distance driving to the fairgrounds in order to prep and paint trail poles, pick up and deliver shavings, and bed stalls. Adair noted that the show committee could not have done it without John and Krystal's help, and that we owe them much appreciation.

c) See above

d) Plan for bad checks

Last year we agreed to a policy for handling bad checks, including charging the writer of the check all bank processing fees, other fees reflecting any other costs to WQHA, and reporting the writer to AQHA. We had also agreed to put this information on our show bill. The board agreed to continue this policy—though quickly resolved issues need not be reported to AQHA—and to make sure the policy appears on the show bill for 2022.

e) Late cancellation for stalls/shavings orders

The Board agreed we do need to select a date by which cancellations of stall and shavings orders would have to be received in order for the cancelling person to not be charged. Cancellations are costly for WQHA as the Douglas fairground charges WQHA according to numbers of stalls used and shavings are purchased ahead of the start of the show. We decided to continue this discussion at the General Membership meeting.

f) Show committee for 2022

The Board agreed to recruit and hopefully form a show committee during the General Meeting.

One issue discussed for the show committee is to ensure sufficient numbers of circuit awards are on hand at the show and that circuit winners receive their awards before they leave. A number of circuit winners in 2021 did not receive their awards (typically glasses with the WQHA logo) because we did not have enough on hand or because the exhibitors left the show before the awards were set out. Susan will order more of the glasses and try to get them to anyone who did not receive theirs at the show.

g) Show approval fees revisited

Last year the Board voted to increase show approval fees from \$65/judge to \$75/judge. The change was approved but not put in place during 2021. This year we need to make sure it is, and that this as well as other rule changes are announced. The Board agreed we need to go forward with the change. Terry suggested we consider a larger fee for larger organizations, and Linda suggested we add an exhibitor fee on top of the flat fee.

Linda moved that the Board should present the proposed (revisited) increase to \$75 plus a “small exhibitor fee” at the General Meeting. Brittany seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

6. New business

a) Clarification of rules on points accrued from shows held after 9/15

Debbie proposed to change the WQHA show qualifying year from the calendar year to September 1st through August 31st. This would make it clear in which year points earned at a WQHA-approved show held in the fall, more specifically at RMQHA’s Rocktoberfest shows, would be counted, i.e., in the following calendar year. [This year, consistent with the proposed rule change, Rocktoberfest points count toward the 2022 show year.]

Debbie also proposed another change to the rules, that in the event of a high-point tie that the “number of judges shown to” be the tie breaker.

The Board agreed to present these proposals to the General Meeting for further discussion.

b) Adding a permanent section for CONQHA on the WQHA website

Board members had previously agreed to do this temporarily at least because CONQHA’s site was not functional and Brittany has already done much of the work. The Board discussed permanently combining the sites and to compensate the website administrator given the amount of work involved.

Brittany (the current website administrator) noted that we pay GoDaddy \$160/year for the site. She suggested CONQHA pay half.

Adair moved we go forward with the proposal to combine the websites permanently and to request CONQHA pay half the annual GoDaddy website fee. Debbie seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Brittany then made a motion that she do the website work in exchange for memberships in both associations. Nicole seconded the motion, and the motion was passed by the Board.

c) Discussion of payment for website manager

See b) above.

Other new business: A discussion concerning future Convention dates ensued and the Board agreed to take the discussion to the General Meeting. The key concern is avoiding show dates, in particular Rocktoberfest (typically mid October) and the AQHA World Show (the end of October into November), and holidays. Another concern is ensuring that the point secretary has time to get year-end points compiled and the awards coordinator has time to purchase awards in plenty of time to have them on hand for the Convention.

7. Adjournment

Terry moved the meeting be adjourned. Brittany seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Continuation of the Board meeting following the General Meeting

Following the General Meeting, which met from 1 pm – 3:15pm, the Board reconvened briefly to consider the reappointment of Susan Nelson to serve as Treasurer for an additional year. The Board voted on and approved this appointment. As noted in last year's minutes, the treasurer must be a WQHA member but need not be a Board member.

