

## BOD Meeting February 22, 2023

The meeting was held via Zoom and conference call due to weather conditions.

Call to order by President Nancy Edwards at 7:03 pm.

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

### Minutes from January 25, 2023:

- Motion made by Dana to approve the January 25 minutes, seconded by Floyd. Passed.

### Treasurer's Report:

- The financial information is in the meeting packet; there is nothing more to add.
- Floyd motions to accept the treasurer's report as presented in the packet, seconded by Pat. Passed
- WSHCEF financial report was in the meeting packet.

### Legislative report:

- Jolene talked about the governor's budget.
  - The budget includes 6 new employees to be added to DATCP for a disease prevention response unit. Does WHC want to register in favor of this part of the budget (a vote would not be for the entire budget, only this part of it)? Anne mentioned that DATCP is very busy dealing with the Avian Flu. Republicans are against adding personnel because they don't want to grow the government and have more expenses. There was no written information in the meeting packet about the cost of this part of the budget; it is hard to vote without having numbers to consider. No action was taken on this matter.
  - Part of the budget is to move the state park law from 35% to 40% of total electrified sites. Dana moves to support this part of the budget; seconded by Katie. Passed.
  - The budget wants to add more employees to the Livestock Premise ID department to get these registrations done; there are not enough people to do the work. Anne is opposed to adding people to data entry positions. The Livestock Premise registration is a good communication to alert owners to outbreaks of diseases. Floyd motions to support this part of the budget; seconded by Pat. Roll call vote resulted in failure: 10-yes, 16-no, 3-abstain.
- LRB-0290/1 bill is relating to animal cruelty and the penalty for such acts is the basis of this bill that is in the meeting packet. Jolene has some issues with the bill. The bear hunters already have a carveout for their dogs in this bill meaning that their dogs and their treatment would be excluded from the bill. Jolene wants to know if WHC wants a carve-out for equine if they support the bill. Floyd opposes the bill for being too vague and could affect things such as rodeo; even with a carveout for equine, rodeo could be affected because of the other animals involved in the sport. Dana motions we oppose the bill as currently written; seconded by Jim Harris. Passed. Jolene would like some rodeo people to testify when the bill comes up for public discussion.
- A request was made for directors to attend the Ag Day at the Capital. Floyd, Nancy, Dana, Logan all planning to attend.
- A discussion was held with Dana on WHC becoming a member of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation. In past years, WHC sent a contribution to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation in order to attend Ag Day at the capital. Dana recommends WHC join the WI Farm Bureau Federation for an annual fee of \$55. A discussion followed. A suggestion was made by Lee to 'trade' memberships with the WI Farm Bureau; this will allow communication on both sides. If we join the WI Farm Bureau, we would join at a county level which would be Columbia County and not a state membership. You join to be a member of the WI Farm Bureau Federation, but you pay the county fee based on the county where you live in. Dana will get more information to bring back to the next meeting; he will also inquire about trading memberships with them. No other action was taken at the meeting.
- Lee discussed a move with motorcyclists. The group will be meeting in March to ask legislatures to ban autonomous vehicles until it is proven that they recognize more than cars and trucks on the roads such as cycles. Lee wanted to know if WHC would join forces with the motorcyclist group as horses may not be recognized by the autonomous vehicles. Lee will get more information about this subject for the next meeting. No action was taken at the meeting.

### Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- A report was included in the meeting packet; nothing additional to report.

### PR Committee Update:

- There is a sign-up sheet in the meeting packet for volunteers for the WI Farm Tech Days being held in July.
- There is a sign-up sheet available for directors to help on the WHC booth at the MHF.

### Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Redesign of the WHC logo through a contest update: The decision was made by the committee to not go through a contest. Several logos will be presented at the annual meeting by the committee to be reviewed and possibly approved.
- Determine the needs of the Equine Industry update: Michele does have some questions to work with for the survey- it is a work in progress at this time; no survey has been sent out.
- Research potential for an Executive Director or a PT Marketing person update: a report will be presented at the annual meeting.

**Technology Committee Report (Nancy Edwards):**

- There is a new conference phone for the office due to the new phone system.

**Old Business****Proposed Bylaw Change Submission- Final Review:**

- The updated by-laws and proposed changes are included in the meeting packet. The vote for the bylaws will be set up and sent out to directors this week via survey monkey. The biggest change in the bylaws was the youth membership addition and having a second date within the year for a change requested in the bylaws.

**WSHCEF Winter Fun Day Report:**

- Jim Harris reported that the Winter Fun Day had a perfect weather day. The volunteers that help are critical to make the event successful. A big thank you for everyone who helped and attended the event.

**Election Procedures for 2023** (*procedures & self-nomination forms along with completed nominations are included in the meeting packet*).

- All of the nominations are included in the meeting packet. Anne, current VP, is running for President which leaves the VP position open and no one nominated for it. Anyone can nominate tonight and then get the nomination papers into the office. Anyone interested can send their intent to nominate for VP to Darla. Both Dana and Katie self-nominated.

**New Business****MHF Ticket Request Form:**

- The form and attendance chart are included in the meeting packet. Complete the ticket request form and return to the office by March 8. Tickets will be handed out at the annual meeting in March.

**Budget Deadline Info:**

- The Budget Request form is in the meeting packet. The requests need to be submitted to the WHC office by April 8.

**Coalition of State Horse Councils Report & Hosting Fall Meeting 2023 (Nancy Edwards):**

- Nancy will type up her notes and send them out the board.

**Other:**

- **Reminder of Deadlines:**
  - Sponsorship Program Submission Deadline- 2/28/23
  - Self-Nomination Form for Nomination from the floor at 2/22/23 meeting (this is delayed two days due to the meeting being virtual) due 3/3/23
  - MHF ticket form submissions due 3/8/23

**Future Meeting Dates:**

- March 22, 2023- ANNUAL MEETING with a guest speaker. Pizza at 6:30 with the meeting at 7:00 pm at WHC office.
- April – NO MEETING
- May 24, 2023
- June 28, 2023

Motion made by Floyd and seconded by Dana to adjourn at 8:29 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller  
WHC Secretary