

BOD Meeting June 26, 2024

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

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

Minutes from May 22, 2024:

- Motion made by Floyd to approve the May 22 minutes, seconded by Ron. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Ron has the agreement letter with Visa (Huberty) for the annual review. They will start the review in September but have already contacted the WHC treasurer and MHF Executive Director for some reports.
- Ron spent time at the banks getting Cricket on the WHC accounts as she will be taking over the treasurer job on July 1st. Ron will finish the year-end reports and turn over the equipment to Cricket. Ron gave Cricket a glowing recommendation that she would do well as our new treasurer.
- Scott motions to accept the treasurer's report as presented and a big thank you to Ron for his work over the past 22 years, seconded by Nancy. Passed.
- Ron thanked Pat Jenkins for her past president time at District 5; Pat is no longer the District 5 president.
- At the end of July, the Equine Foundation will attend the Pet Palooza at the Dodge County Humane Society along with District 3. It is a good local PR opportunity and a way to advertise the Springbrook event in February to local people.
- The WSHCEF financial report was in the meeting packet.

Legislative report:

- Jolene explained the process that is in place in WI for lactating cows being tested for bird flu. Because of this process, the state veterinarian may not be able to attend our September meeting as previously planned. Jolene will let us know if her attendance needs to be rescheduled.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- A report was included in the meeting packet. Scott Steers recognized Pat Miller for her years of service with the MHF; Pat's term on the MHF BOD ends on June 30, 2024.

Committee Reports:

- Annual Awards- Pat Stevenson; Darla updated the nomination forms for 2025 and posted them on the website.
- Budget & Finance- Nancy Edwards; Huberty will be the auditor for 2024 for the financial review.
- Bylaws- Dana Sechler: There will be some changes submitted for the fall by-law deadline.
- Districts- Katie Bachhuber; letters have been sent out to the districts and some responses have been received.
- Judges Program & Seminar- Dana Neary-Panella; Darla reports that all information has been updated and is on the website.
- Member Services- Mike Kroll: Heartland Equestrian Center in Custer joined WHC as a level 3 member.
- Policy & Procedures: no meeting is scheduled at this time.
- Public Relations- Bonnie Shepherd: Bonnie has an email list of events for the WHC PR committee to attend. If anyone has an event that WHC could attend, contact Bonnie. Volunteers are needed to attend any events. Bonnie reported that the Round Up program is going on at this time but an update cannot be reported as it is an individual program and no way to track the participation rate until the maps are returned in early 2025. Darla mailed out the Round Up maps to level 1 members. Darla is also working on promoting our store participants to members to help with sales and having members go to the stores.
- Scholarship- Linda Ernsberger: scholarship information is posted on the WHC website.
- Sponsorship- Cricket Jewett: completion reports are arriving, and Cricket will try to get another group to present at another WHC meeting.
- Technology- Dana Sechler: nothing new; some projects may be upcoming with the new budget.
- Trails- Floyd Finney & Cricket Jewett: the trail school was held in June and was a success; a new person will be taking over for Floyd. Cricket recognized Floyd for his work on the trail school and trail committee for the past years!

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Determine the Needs of the Equine Industry- Anne Murphy: Veterinarians would like to do client education; it is hard when clients don't want to be educated. The farriers are considering helping to mentor younger farriers to improve the profession.
- Round Up: Bonnie Shepherd: see note above.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy: nothing new until fall when people have more time.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber: districts are thinking that quarterly meetings would be more beneficial than monthly meetings. A by-law change would be needed for this to happen.
- CPA Update- Nancy Edwards: nothing new
- Redesign WHC Logo- Logan Sechler: new banners are being ordered this month.
- Long-Range Strategic Planning Process Status: another session will be held in the fall.

Old Business

Update on Reworked Code of Conduct: (Nancy Edwards, Dana Sechler, Heather Kuenzi):

- The old and new wording for the Code of Conduct is in the meeting packet. The articles of incorporation terminology has been removed from the new Code of Conduct document as it has nothing to do with the directors.
- Joe Parr asked what the process is if a member of the EBOD violates the Code of Conduct because the final bullet point on the new Code of Conduct states that any violation of the code should be handed over to the EBOD for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action against any director is defined and outlined in the WHC by-laws.
- Rae motions to approve the new Code of Conduct; seconded by Cheryl. Passed.
- The new Code of Conduct will be sent out with new memberships in the fall for directors to sign.

Final review and approval of the budget:

- The final review of the budget was presented at the May meeting. Katie asked why the Equine Foundation budget requests were cut in half on the budget. Nancy was uncertain about the reasoning for those cuts to the proposed budget as she left her notes from the B&F budget meetings at home. Dana explained that multiple requests were cut before the B&F was aware that there was a surplus of funds from the current budget. The B&F felt that those committees who had their requests cut could come to the B&F committee during the year and ask for additional funds.
- Lee motions to postpone the vote on the budget until the question regarding the EF cuts; seconded by Scott. Lee withdraws his motion and makes another motion.
- Lee motions that the \$6500 be restored to the Equine Foundation; seconded by Ron. Passed
- Gail motions to accept the proposed budget with the amendment of the Equine Foundation money; seconded by Cheryl. Passed.

New Business

Recap of Coalition of State Horse Council's June Meeting: Nancy Edwards:

- Nancy discussed the highlights of the Coalition of State Horse Council. A key for all equestrians is to meet with their local legislators before there is a problem and get introduced.
- Some other topics of the meeting included: what types of help are being asked for regarding equines, euthanasia reasons, horse rescues being more efficient, and rehoming equines.
- Darla sent out the AHC email to all WHC members which includes links to listen to all of the seminars that were presented.
- Ron discussed that the US Dept of Agriculture could start attending any equine event, including trail riding, and inspecting the health of equines. As the WHC, we may need to look at taking an active role in communicating this information but we will need to wait and see if anything does develop.

Other:

- The MHF volunteer shirts are available for directors to take home!
- **Reminder of Deadlines:**
 - WI Farm Technology Days- August 13-15. District 1 plans to have some volunteers at this event.
 - Proposed by-law changes- August 21
 - Villa Louis Carriage Classic- Sept 6-8
 - WHC Sponsorship Application Deadline- September 30

Future Meeting Dates:

- July 24, 2024- TBD
- August 28, 2024
- September 25, 2024
- October 23, 2024
- November 2024- NO MEETING
- December 2024- NO MEETING

Motion made by Ron and seconded by Scott to adjourn at 8:19 pm.
In recognition of Ron Miller's service, a decorated cake was served after the meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary