

BOD Meeting August 25, 2021

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 or on Zoom can hear. Directors on the phone and Zoom should mute their phones and computers to prevent background noise.

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

Legislative report:

- Jolene is working with Megan to get money back from the state for not being able to hold the MHF due to testing and vaccinations being held at the Alliant Energy Center. It is a slow process and they will keep working on it.
- Jolene sent Megan a communication about Alliant Energy Center requiring vaccinations before entering a ticketed event.
- Senator Andre Jacque is very ill in the hospital and is on a ventilator. He is in stable condition but still is very ill.
- Animal Wellness Action report- groups in Idaho and CO are trying to create bills that would disrupt ranching and animal husbandry processes. Nancy put some information in the meeting packet for directors to read regarding these attempts.

Minutes from June 23, 2021:

- Motion made by Ron Miller to approve the June 23 minutes, seconded by Anne Murphy. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Ron and Megan wrote the document asking for forgiveness on the PPP loan and it has been submitted to the state. Ron will report back once he hears from the state.
- The Workers Compensation audit has been completed. WHC owes \$16 but the MHF will receive over \$200 back.
- Scott moves to accept the treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Gail Seasor. Passed
- Equine Foundation's report: The EF has sponsored some youth events and is starting to plan for the 2022 Winter Event.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- There is a report in the meeting packet. The MHF board is planning for the 2022 event as normal.

Old Business

DEI Discussion: Public Relations Statement Recommendation Review & Vote:

- Directors' comments on the PR publication are in the packet. The most comments on the PR statement were the idea of WHC starting a program with youth. The concern is if WHC could start a program and if they did, who would run it, how it might work, etc.
- The last statement of the publication is good as it states "*WHC wants to get more people interested in the equine industry and hopes to increasingly do more as it is financially able*".
- The PR statement will be modified based on the Directors comments that are in the packet. Once the modifications are made, Nancy will provide the updated version to the directors for review.
- A suggestion was made that the WHC could be a resource for already existing programs that other organizations have created and are working. The districts could prospect their areas to see what programs already exist. It was also suggested that the directors ask their organizations for information on groups/programs that they are aware of.
- Lila commented that the statements in the by-laws that describe the WHC is a better statement than the long one from the PR specialist. Nancy will look the by-laws over and bring the statement discussion back at the September meeting.

New Business

Review the ACH Meeting:

- Nancy gave an overview of the AHC summer meeting held in June virtually. The meeting ran for several days for 5-6 hours/day.
 - Legislative update:
 - There is a move to have the soring act reinstated.
 - There is a hauling act that only applies during planting and harvester season; they are pushing to remove the restrictions of time so hauling horses would fall under the act all year around.
 - E bikes on equine trails was discussed.
 - Slaughtering horses was discussed. AHC does not take any sides on the slaughter issue.

- Anyone having issues with E bikes, drones or low flying planes should report the issues to Darla at the WHC office and the comments will be sent to the AHC who is requesting this information.
- United Horse Coalition website has resources for horse owners and a state-by-state equine database.
- Nancy also spoke on marketing and youth programs that were discussed.
- There was a DEI program. AHC will share their DEI task force ideas with state councils.

Other:

- Proposed By-Law submission form is in the packet along with the current bylaws. Submission date for bylaw changes is 10/1/2021.

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 22- tentative
- October 27

Motion made by Scott Steers and seconded by Ron Miller to adjourn at 7:58 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary