

BOD Meeting January 24, 2018

Call to order by President Nancy Edwards at 7:00 pm.

President's message: Silence phones- Welcome back from the holidays!

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

Minutes from October 25:

- Motion made by Ron Miller to approve minutes from October with one minor change to correct the name of the MHF director from Sharon to Megan Hanuszcak; seconded by Floyd Finney. Passed.

Guest Speaker- Liv Sandberg, UW Extension Office- Equine Extension Specialist:

- Liv gave an update of some equine events coming up:
 - Liv distributed brochures regarding an equine program that will be presented in Kenosha on Feb 24 on equine nutrition.
 - Liv will be talking at Smiles on March 17th with some informational talks.
- 4-H activities are going strong around the state. The tack sale at the MHF is the major fund raiser for 4-H and Liv is grateful that MHF is supportive of the 4-H group and allows the sale each year.
 - It is not easy to get information out the 4-H groups throughout the state as there is no central database or group site where a message can be sent through. Liv informed the BOD that the best way to get information to the 4-H leaders, is to contact the state 4-H office and ask the office to forward the information to all 4-H leaders. The 4-H leader list is protected and cannot be given out to anyone but the office can forward the message. Anyone having problems with the 4-H office or messages not being forward to leaders should let Liv know so she can research the issue.
- There are many counties missing 4-H leaders and county agents due to retirement and other job offers that have lured people away. Some locations have been open for a while because there was a freeze on hiring for several years and are just now looking at filling these.

Legislative report:

- It was Ag Day at the Capital today. Eloise, Floyd and Jolene all attended. A summary of the event included:
 - Some of the topics discussed throughout the day were:
 - What the Farm Bureau wants to do
 - Artificial wetlands
 - Allowing hemp to be grown in WI. The bill for growing Hemp is passed but the rules about the product have not been written yet.
 - The topic of wolves; the state will not address this issue but will leave it as a Federal issue/problem.
 - A discussion on funding the Livestock ID bill.
 - Historic barns being used for recreation; these buildings may not need to come up to code.
- Bills to be aware of:
 - Pulsating yellow lights bill: WHC is neutral on bill; it is ready for floor vote in assembly
 - Sexual predator bill will be going to a hearing tomorrow January 25th
 - Quarter inch spikes on shoes would be banned from April- October. WHC did not register for this bill after a discussion in October. The town association voted to support the bill. The word "spike" is not defined in the bill; a discussion was held on if a traction device or substance such as borium is considered a spike.
 - Lee motions to oppose the bill because it takes safety out of the horses ability to hold the load back and that Jolene will register with the state Ethics board saying WHC is opposed to the bill; Jolene will also put in a 'slip' in the hearing. Floyd seconded motion. Passed.
 - Clark County legislature Bob Kulp's bill would allow counties to pass an ordinance to charge \$40 to register any buggy (would not include hay wagons) within a county. He is willing to do an amendment saying that the tax only applies to vehicles whose main purpose is for transportation; the wording is: "a county may not require registration or impose a registration fee under the subsection for an animal-drawn vehicle that is used solely for recreational purposes". Towns association asked for an amendment to allow the money raised from this ordinance to go toward enforcement of the ordinance; however the amendment has not been written. If we oppose the bill we don't get the amendment and if passed the \$40 fee would apply to all buggies used for

transportation including recreational buggies. If we don't get the amendment, we are all in jeopardy if we have a recreational buggy. If we vote on the amendment to excuse recreational buggies, we have to be neutral on the bill itself.

- Motion made by James Slovik to oppose the bill entirely, seconded by Joe Par. Passed.

Auditors Report & Presentation:

- Bruce Langer was present to discuss the financial audit. Bruce spent time discussing administrative controls that should be put in place to prevent any theft from funds from Wisconsin Horse Council, Midwest Horse Fair or Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation. These suggestions including have multiple people with different role such as one person controls the checkbook, one person controls the financial entries into QuickBooks and multiple people must sign checks. Ron explained what controls have already been put in place on the WHC end based on suggestions from previous audits.

Treasurer's Report:

- Motion made by Floyd Finney and seconded by Gail Seasor to accept the financial report as presented. Passed,
- W-2 and 1099 have been mailed and all reports have been filed with WI and IRS.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- Pat Miller has put a detailed report of the MHF written by Executive Director Megan in the meeting packet. Going forward these reports will be included each month.
- Pat gave a summary of what transpired with Rhonda Reese over the past year regarding her misuse of MHF funds.

Annual Award Committee Report:

- All nominations for Equine of the Year, Horseperson of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award are included in the meeting packet and on the website. Directors will be voting on line; Darla will send out an email with instructions.
- Voting deadline is February 2, 2018.

Old Business

WHC Bylaw Submission Forms for Second Review:

- The two submissions for a by-law change that are similar regarding the number of committees a director can participate in will be combined into one. Cricket Jewett and Nancy Edwards will rework the wording and resubmit the change for the Feb meeting packet.

New Business

Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation (WSHCEF) Winter Day at the Park 2/10/18:

- The event will be held at Columbus Fireman's Park, Columbus on Feb 10th. Everyone is invited to attend, participate and help as needed. Here's hoping the weather is good!

Election Procedures for 2018:

- The election procedures and a self-nominating form are in the meeting packet.

Other:

- WHC has an invitation to attend the Impact Study release in Washington DC on Feb 28th. Any director is invited to go!
- When a directors attends meetings outside of the monthly WHC BOD meetings, he/she should clearly state if their opinion on a specific topic of discussion is their personal opinion or if the opinion is that of the WHC. Directors must be clear so when they are expressing their personal opinion on a topic, the audience knows where that opinion is coming from.
- Floyd reports that the trail school scheduled in May is full! If anyone is still interested, he/she can be putting on the waiting list and called if there is a cancellation.
- **Reminder of Deadlines:**
 - Sponsorship/Grants Program Submission Deadline- 1/31/18
 - Ride WI! Trail Ride/Drive Program Hours Logs Due- 1/31/18
 - Trail Grant Submission Deadline- 2/1/18
 - Scholarship Submission Deadline- 2/15/18

Future Meeting Dates:

- February 28, 2018
- March 28, 2018
- April – No Meeting
- May 23, 2018

Motion made by Ron Miller seconded by Scott Steers to adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary