

BOD Meeting August 26, 2020

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 can hear. Directors on the phone should mute their phones to prevent background noise.

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

Minutes from June 24:

- Motion made by Ron Miller to approve the June 24th minutes as amended, seconded by Gail Seator. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The information that is in the meeting packet contains all of the financial information for this meeting; there is nothing more to report.
- Scott Steers moves to accept the treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Bonnie Shepherd. Passed

Legislative report:

- Mask order: Jolene want to clarify the 'mask order' that is in place in WI. If you have a structure with a roof (even if no sides), the mask order is in effect. Therefore, if you have an arena, masks would be required or you could find yourself in a liability situation.
- The capital is still closed to all but those who actually work there. Communication is basically through cell phones right now to all people.
- Jolene has to register with the board to be considered our lobbyist; she is registered for WHC through 2020. With the registration, she has to report income. Jolene is going to turn in a 'retainer' amount so she can still be our lobbyist through the end of the year.
- Jolene made a suggestion on how to keep her active for the WHC. In 2021, if we register to have a lobbyist, Jolene will still be contacted by legislatures with new bills and she can communicate those to the WHC. If we pay Jolene \$1000.00 for 2021, it will be a retainer and she will still represent us. She will keep us informed as to what is happening with new bills and/or changes that involve the equine industry. There is also a \$500 cost to register Jolene as our lobbyist; this is a two-year fee.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- Meagan had a meeting with AEC (Alliant Energy Center) with the new director. There were many employees furloughed with no guarantee for recall at AEC. The new director is very positive in hosting the MHF in 2021.
- There was another phone conference with the DA and Rhonda's attorney. Rhonda made a proposal on what she could pay back to us (it was the amount embezzled minus her bonus). Rhonda has until October 9th to respond and must pay MHF back in November with a cashier's check. If Rhonda does not agree to this, the case will go to trial.

Old Business

- None

New Business

Proposed Budget and Rational for FY 2020-2021 Discussion:

- Ron wrote up the rational for the budget numbers that are presented in the meeting packet.
- A discussion was held on which groups were hit with big decreases while others are not being affected. Nancy explained that no one received 100% of the money that was asked for. The Equine Foundation was not 'cut'; this foundation should be raising their own money and WHC provides office assistance only. Districts were not given any more money in the budget for the current fiscal year, but they can use the money they already raised and carried over.
- Directors will only be receiving one MHF ticket; they can either get three-1 day tickets or one-3 day tickets.
- The printing of the newsletter was discussed; we print about 110/month- we print 11 newsletters a year. We could either cut down to only 6 newsletters/year or move it to all electronic and no one gets printed copies. Darla said there is low enough information that going to 6 newsletter this year will work, but if and when the news picks up, 6/year may not be enough. Advertising may also be reduced over time so costs will increase with the decrease in advertising. The e-newsletter is sent out with links that take you to the full newsletter on the WHC website.
 - Motion made by Karen Kroll to create the newsletter every other month beginning in October for the remaining fiscal year; seconded by Ron Miller. Passed.
 - Eloise Simons would like the MHF to talk to AEC about the annual payment if the MHF is cancelled in 2021. No further discussion was held on this subject.

- Jim Harris pointed out that the WHC created the Equine Foundation (EF) and it should not be said that the EF 'should stand alone and provide their own money'. The WHC also created the districts and should also have financial support going forward. Nancy pointed out that in the next fiscal year, if the MHF is held, the next budget will put funds back in.
- A discussion was held on Jolene's suggestion on working on a \$1000 retainer for 2021 plus \$500 to register. The \$500 is coming up in December and we would pay \$1000 to Jolene as retainer.
 - Kim Manley motions that WHC pays the \$500 registration fee in December and the \$1000 retainer fee to Jolene in January for 2021; seconded by Jim Harris. Passed.

Annual Awards:

- B&F decided to keep the annual awards in the budget for this fiscal year. If the budget is passed in September, the nomination process will begin.

Other:

- Proposed Bylaw Form Submission Deadline Reminder: 10/01/2020- the form is in the meeting packet.

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 23
- October 28
- No meeting in November and December

Motion made by Scott Steers and seconded by Gail Seasor to adjourn at 8:06 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary