

## Wisconsin Horse Council Board of Directors Meeting September 23, 2020

**Meeting called to order** by President Nancy Edwards at 7p.m.

**President's Message:** Request to silence phones, and speak loudly so directors on the phone or zoom can hear. Directors attending phone are asked to mute their phones.

**Roll call:** attendance chart to be attached to minutes

**Minutes from the August 26, 2020 meeting:** Discussion of wording of the proposed budget as summarized in the minutes.

Lila Lemanski: point of order that minutes are a reflection of what was said in the meeting.

Nancy Edwards responded that this was a clarification of what was said.

The wording will read: Districts won't be given new money for the current fiscal year. They are able to use money raised and any money carried over.

Ron Miller moved to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2020 meeting. Cricket seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron Miller advised that he doesn't know if auditors will be finished by the October 28, 2020 meeting. Since this is a review instead of a full audit, he is also uncertain if there will be a presentation.

The Community Bank of Oregon and McFarland State Bank have merged. Now titled Community Bank One.

It appears that the WHC has more than \$250k in the newly named bank. Ron needs to see the final numbers and then sit down with the bank.

If Midwest Horse Fair 2021 does not go on, Horse Council wouldn't have enough money to cover wages; it would be necessary to cash in CDs.

Floyd Finney moved to approve Treasurer's report. Cricket Jewett seconded. Motion passed.

**WSHCEF:** Diane Sackett stated that there are currently no changes. However, there will be taxes to file in October and other expenses. There will be a new financial report for October.

**Legislative Report:** Jolene has been with the WHC for 20 years, considers the WHC as family. She reviewed the discussion. In December Ron Miller will provide a check for \$1k to cover the next 6 months. She wants to be sure to abide by the Ethics rules. Any board member should feel free to contact Jolene.

The governor extended the mask order again. Out of 72 Wisconsin counties only 7 sheriffs will enforce. It is a sensitive issue since the MHF is held in Dane County.

Usually 75 fairs are held. This year 7 conducted "normal" events. No COVID-19 cases traced back to these. Some fairs were partially held. Some canceled.

Gallons and gallons of hand sanitizers and stations were made available. Hardly anyone used them. It appears that outdoor events don't seem to be a problem.

Capitol building is only open to staff and legislators. Voss believes it will open for hearings. Jolene thinks they will meet via Zoom. No bills expected to be written until November.

Cal Larson asked who decided 50 people guideline. Jolene responded that they are following CDC guidelines.

**Midwest Horse Fair report:** Pat Miller reported that they have decided to go forward with planning for 2021 in order to not risk losing vendors, clinicians, etc. The majority of tickets will be sold by TicketMaster. Then, if Horse Fair is forced to cancel, Ticketmaster will handle the refunds. Some of the supporting retailers will continue to sell tickets, as they believe it helps their business.

Hopefully the Rhonda Reese issue will be resolved soon. She is remarried and wants to move to the state of Oregon. Pat was contacted by Columbia County District Attorney's office regarding the MHF's stance on the move. Pat responded that not until the agreed upon restitution is paid.

Questions regarding what will happen to MHF staff if the event is canceled. Pat responded that that would probably require staff layoffs. Megan is looking into grants. Pat is reaching out to experienced grant writers. Jolene advised that some don't qualify not for profit organizations.

**Old Business:** Addition to the budget of \$1500 for lobbyist. New total on that line \$4250.00  
New total \$164,563.00.

Ron Miller moved to approve, Floyd Finney seconded. Motion passed.

Ron commented that the Budget/Finance Committee did an admirable job to ensure that the WHC remain solvent the next couple years.

**New Business:** Membership rates will remain the same. Newsletters will be every other month and the rates will stay the same.

Reminder of upcoming deadlines as listed on the Agenda.

Next meeting October 28, 2020; with a possible audit review

Floyd Finney moved to adjourn, Ron Miller seconded. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Anne Murphy

WHC Vice President