

laHHA Board Meeting

Tentative Minutes

April 18th, 2010

The laHHA Board of Directors met at 1:30 pm on April 18th, 2010 in Ankeny, IA. All directors were present. Also in attendance was laHHA lobbyist Matt Eide.

Dan Roland presented the minutes from the prior board meeting for approval. They were amended to fill in the presenter and second for a motion that were missed in the notes. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Larry Jenson, to approve the minutes as amended. All Ayes.**

Jim Reese presented the Treasurer's Report. **Motion by Bob Kohlwes, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve the treasurer's report. All Ayes.**

Matt presented the legislative update. Leadership in the legislature did not want to have a gambling/horse debate this year. We are hoping that if Branstad wins the governor's race in the fall that he will be more favorable to pro-horse racing legislation. We are going to try to schedule a fundraiser to support him along with PAC funds.

Matt and Jeff met with Jack Ketterer on Tuesday the 13th regarding the failure of Prairie Meadows to respond to letters on the performance metrics and track resurfacing expenses. Jack then spent 20 minutes at the IRGC meeting on April 15th criticizing Prairie Meadows about their failure to work with us. Jeff had received a copy of the RFQ language and forwarded it to Manatts for review. Manatts has told us the reason it costs so much to convert the track is because the RFQ requires union labor and only one company in Des Moines uses union labor and is big enough to do the job. Jeff has sent letters back to Prairie Meadows asking if the union labor clause is included for any legal reason or if it is simply a choice. Prairie Meadows has not responded. We hope to use this point for leverage in discussions about the disputed \$250,000 of county fair funding that we are still negotiating on.

Prairie Meadows has tentatively agreed to race Sire Stakes the first weekend with Iowa Registered eliminations the 2nd weekend and finals the last weekend. Purses have not been set but with the average daily purses going up it is expected that the purses for the stakes races will go up as well.

Royal presented statistics on the county fair nominations. The raw numbers were about the same as February with a couple new ones and a couple not paying. There were 30 aged nominations roughly equal between trotters and pacers.

Scott Smith presented the officials committee report. He has all the judge contracts done and back signed. The only opening he's still working on is July 31st at Sioux Center. Tony Paris is going to announce most all of the southeast meets and Richard Kranzel is going to announce the northwest ones. He still needs to contact Kim Larson regarding the charting but could not do so until the board decides which meets to chart. That is usually done at this April meeting. He is planning to have Kim as the primary charter and use Richard as the backup and for places Kim can not make it to. All of the starting gate things are in line with Jim Newman's friend Lyle planning to come with him to drive the car. Jeff mentioned that past driver Bobby Williams recently had a stroke while home in Louisiana and we all hope for a fast recovery.

The board spent time discussing the benefits of charting races for qualification and horse sale purposes versus the time and expense of doing so.

Motion by Jeff Carey, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, to chart all colt stakes races and qualifiers on the following dates... 5/30, 6/5, 7/3, 7/4, 7/9, 7/10, 7/11, 7/25, 7/26, 8/6, 8/7, 9/4, 9/5, 9/11, 9/12, 9/18, 9/19. All Ayes.

Mark Holtan mentioned that the circuit books have been distributed. If someone did not receive a book they should contact himself or Carol Paris. There are a few corrections to be made that were found after the books went to print. Aged purses are \$1,500 this year, not the \$2,350 of past years that is mentioned in the first part of the book. Also there will be aged Iowa races at the Oskaloosa early meet instead of FFA races and there will be aged Iowa races at Monticello. Mark is going to send Dan both a list of corrections and an updated circuit book file to be posted on the web site.

It was discussed that Kahoka has said they would like to have races this year. They are planning to race overnight races on July 17th for \$500/dash purses. **Motion by Larry Jenson, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, to provide the starting gate to Kahoka that day for cost assuming it works for Jim Newman's schedule. All Ayes.**

Mark presented the promotion committee report we have a contract signed with Dal Grooms to help with getting articles in publications. She has already got one article published in the Des Moines Register. Mark also mentioned that he is struggling to help Dal and Lisa Broderick with getting the newsletter pulled together and asked Royal to take over that

effort. Royal agreed to do so. Lisa and Dal are ready to move forward on joint marketing efforts that Prairie Meadows had earlier asked us to do but we have not received a response from them on who we should use as a contact person from their end.

Dan asked Jim to provide an updated copy of the membership form so we could get that posted on the website.

Lastly the board discussed the fire that claimed many of Jenni King's horses and most of her equipment. **Motion by Larry Jenson, seconded by Dan Roland, to donate \$500 from the association to the Jenni King recovery fund.**
Aye – Larry Jenson, Dan Roland, Mark Holtan, Scott Smith, Jeff Carey, Rick Huffman, Bob Kohlwes
Nay – Jim Reese

The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.