

# laHHA Board Meeting

## Tentative Minutes

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010

The laHHA Board of Directors met via conference call at 8:00 pm on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010. All directors were present on the call.

The minutes of the prior meeting had been reviewed offline by all directors. **Motion by Bob Kohlwes, seconded by Scott Smith, to approve the minutes. All Ayes.**

Jim Reese verbally presented the Treasurer's Report. There is about \$6,800 in the PAC account before depositing any of the \$50 checks from feature race winners. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, to approve the treasurer's report. All Ayes.**

Royal gave an update on the contract situation. Royal, Dan, Matt and Jeff met two weeks ago with Prairie Meadows on the contract issue and the metrics. The continue to be unwilling to negotiate in any way on the county fair funding.

Royal mentioned that he had taken horses to Ellsworth Community College for a class they have. The college has built a large horse facility with 150 stalls and intended to build a track of some sort but ran out of money. They have land available that might be big enough for a 5/8ths mile track. He asked the board to consider the idea of contributing to have Coons some in and build a track with the agreement of holding regular race meets at the facility. His idea was that if we agreed to race on a packed track at Prairie Meadows the extra \$250,000 would pay for building the track. He agreed to research the idea further and report back at a later date.

Royal brought up the PAC funding. Most members have agreed to contribute if they win a feature race but some are still holding out on signing the agreement. The board agreed that asking the people who win the most to contribute the most is the most fair way and was disappointed that people who would win \$2,000 or more in a feature race would not contribute \$50.

Royal said he had someone ask him about the purse disparity between some of the different classes and he had told them he would bring it up. It was agreed this was a discussion for over the winter, not mid-season and that the topic had been brought up in the past with the board voting not to make any changes at that time.

The board discussed the rainout policy and how the B class was affected. This had been discussed last winter but there was no record of a policy change being made. **Motion by Rick Huffman, seconded by Scott Smith, that purses rained out carry forward based on age/gait/class (a/b), less refunded entry fees, to remaining locations. This would have the effect of A money stays in the A class and B money stays in the B class. All Ayes.**

The next topic was discussion of the decision to not carry over the Sunday races at Humboldt to Monday. There were conflicting opinions of the weather forecast for Monday. Larry mentioned that past board votes had reflected the desire to always try to hold races if the next day was not a regular work day. It was agreed that trying to carry over was board policy.

Directors voting for the cancellation felt they were acting on the will of the majority in attendance. Others disagreed with using a vote of an unannounced meeting that did not represent the full affected members and not contacting directors that were available by phone. It was agreed that in hindsight the wrong decision had been made.

**Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Jim Reese, that any unscheduled votes of the board should not proceed without attempting to contact all directors. All Ayes.**

Mark Holtan brought up the idea of upping the daily fee to the fairs in exchange for eliminating the admission fee to horsemen. It was agreed to discuss this further after the season.

Royal mentioned the Associate Membership drive. Forms have been distributed with the programs and people can register online at <http://www.iowaharnessracing.com>. These are free non-voting memberships with the goal to increase our membership rolls and build a marketing list for newsletters and political support.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.**