

laHHA Board Conference Call

Tentative Minutes

August 8th, 2010

The laHHA Board of Directors met via conference call at 7:00 pm on August 8th, 2010. All directors were present on the call.

Royal began the meeting with smaller issues. The board discussed a request from the Iowa Sire Stakes Association board to roll the money from the cancelled races at Monticello forward to the Iowa State Fair. There was a brief discussion of how much money that was and what the expected purses at the state fair would be. **Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Scott Smith, to allow the request. All Ayes.**

Royal brought the board up to date on the Iowa Falls track proposal. They believe they may be able to obtain enough land to build a 5/8ths mile track at the equine facility at Ellsworth Community College. The college would be responsible for getting the land and we would pay to build the track. They would then be responsible for maintaining the track. Bob had an offer from one of the larger dirt moving companies to provide a free estimate on what it would cost to level the proposed site to be able to put in a track. Coons Brothers could then give us an estimate on completing the project. It was agreed to proceed with exploring the idea without any commitments to the project.

Royal also brought up the issue of a miscommunication on judging at Oskaloosa. The program for Sunday listed Steve Huffman instead of Dan Moy as the judge so Steve showed up. Dan asked about the possibility of both of them judging the races. Scott, as head of the Officials committee, verified that Dan was supposed to be the judge and that the association was ok with both of them judging as long as there was no increased cost. Somehow that was miscommunicated as both Dan and Steve judged and both turned in expense forms for the full fee for judging. In further discussions with Dan he admitted he must have misunderstood and agreed to take a reduced rate at the Iowa State Fair to mitigate the expenses. The board discussed the difficulty in locating and keeping quality judges as well as the difficult nature of the job. **Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Mark Holtan, to pay both the full rate for Oskaloosa as a one time exception with the understanding that two presiding judges are not authorized. All ayes.**

The board then began a lengthy discussion on the Prairie Meadows contract issue. All directors attempted to weigh the pros of a scraped track (safety, better times, less likely to have weather related cancellations) against the cost of \$250,000 less for the county fair program. The board discussed the 29-12 vote of members at the annual meeting. It was agreed that an unscheduled vote of a minority of members was less binding than a full vote but that the margin of the vote was decisive. In the end the board agreed that neither option was ideal and the only thing left to do was vote. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Rick Huffman, to agree to race on a packed track for the 10 day 2010 Prairie Meadows meet to obtain an additional \$250,000 in county fair funding.**

Aye – Mark, Scott, Jim, Rick, Larry, Royal

Nay – Bob, Jeff, Dan

Mark wanted to clarify that his motion was only to take the \$250,000, not to say we want to race on the packed track. The board agreed to have another call after the contract was finalized to allow more thought on uses for the funds.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.