

laHHA Board Meeting

Tentative Minutes

January 21st, 2006

The laHHA Board of Directors met at 1:30 pm on January 21st, 2006 at the Best Western Inn in Ankeny, Iowa. Directors present were Royal Roland, Mark Holtan, Larry Jenson, Nolan Van Otterloo, Jim Reese and Dan Roland. Kermit Hinshaw, Rick Mishler and Scott Smith were absent.

Directors reviewed the tentative minutes to the previous meeting. **Motion by Larry Jenson, seconded by Nolan Van Otterloo, to approve the minutes as read. All Ayes.**

Jim Reese presented the Treasurer's Report. The board discussed the legal expenses that were significantly higher than budgeted. It is hoped that our lobbyist will handle a number of things in 2006 that were handled by the lawyer during the time we were without a lobbyist in 2005. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Nolan Van Otterloo to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All Ayes.**

Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Nolan Van Otterloo to keep the same officers as 2005. All Ayes.

Mark brought up the issue of the disappointment of some members that there were no 2nd place awards as has been done in the past. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Larry Jenson to reconsider the decision to not award 2nd place trophies. All Ayes.**

Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Dan Roland to award 2nd place trophies in 2005 and the future.

Ayes: Mark Holtan, Dan Roland, Larry Jenson

Nays: Nolan Van Otterloo, Jim Reese

The next item on the agenda was committee assignments. The board also discussed priorities for the committees in 2006.

Awards Committee – Larry Jenson (Chair), Kermit Hinshaw, Nolan Van Otterloo, Jim Reese

- Hall of Fame nominations
- Track 1st Win Blankets and every 100
- Annual Driver/Trainer Awards
- 2 & 3 YO Colt Awards
- Discuss whether to award Prairie Meadows Owner, Trainer and Driver awards

Legislative Committee – Royal Roland (Chair), Rick Mishler, Jim Reese, Larry Jenson, Mark Holtan, Dan Roland

- Set Legislative Goals
- Communicate with lobbyist
- Promote and develop PAC
- Negotiate with Prairie Meadows
- Communicate and consult with attorney for association needs.

Promotion Committee - , Royal Roland (Chair), Kermit Hinshaw, Mark Holtan

- Co-ordinate and administer promotional activities
- Approve funding for promotional activities

Scholarship Committee – Mark Holtan (Chair), Rick Mishler, Scott Smith

- Promote Scholarship program and solicit donations
- Distribute application materials
- Select winning candidates

Officials Committee – Scott Smith (Chair), Rick Mishler, Dan Roland

- Co-ordinate hiring of judges, starters and other officials

The board discussed the Mercury starting gate that is stored at Kermit's farm. It has not been used in two years. The board debated whether to try to sell the car or find some other use for it. After much debate it was agreed to have the car transported to Sioux Center to be used for the overnight races there and perhaps for some schoolers in the spring.

With regards to starters, Jim Newman has agreed to continue maintaining, transporting and driving the starting gate under the same terms as last year. He will miss a few dates for previously scheduled vacations. Todd Hill is still interested in getting his starters license and starting the circuit. Conrad from Minnesota could possibly do the Sioux Center and Spencer races.

Next the board discussed the judging situation. It was agreed that who ever is the judge needs to emphasize enforcement of the whipping rules. It was agreed to use the same policy as last year where a superintendent of speed can hire their own officials, but they need to notify the officials committee by April 1st as to who they have hired and have the contract signed. Otherwise they can have the committee arrange for the hiring of their judges. The available pool of judges includes Herb Butler, Kevin Finn, Dan Moy, and Frank Rudis. Dave Seitz may do some fairs and John Harmelink. Jim Reese has his license and is available as an emergency fill-in. Garry Phillips is available as an emergency fill-in for both judging and starting.

The board discussed rain-out payments for the officials. Last year the officials were paid full pay for rain-outs. It was agreed that for 2006 the rain-out payment would be 50% of regular rate plus expenses. If races are postponed so that two days of races are on the same day then the officials will get paid for two days as was regularly scheduled.

The next item on the agenda was. The board discussed member feedback on the 2006 race schedule and track issues and agreed to have a director or small committee meet or otherwise communicate with promoters of races where track surface and facilities are issues to attempt to get long-term improvements begun and completed.

Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Jim Reese, to change the cap for the overnight colt non-winners races to be for non-winners of \$2,000 in 2006.

Ayes – Larry Jenson, Nolan Van Otterloo, Jim Reese, Dan Roland

Nays – Mark Holtan

Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Nolan Van Otterloo, to initiate a \$50 voluntary PAC contribution to the winner of each feature colt stakes race. All ayes.

The board discussed continued issues with using the gate stalls at the races. Some horsemen are upset that the gates get torn down around their horses immediately after the races. Others are upset that it seems the same people always get stuck loading the gates. It was agreed that ideally each person would tear down their own gates and load them on the trailers themselves. Every one needs to be considerate of their fellow horsemen by not moving horses that don't belong to them and vice-versa, not leaving horses unattended on the last day of a meet when the gates are going to be loaded and moved.

The board reviewed a proposed budget presented by Royal Roland. **Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Nolan Van Otterloo, to approve the proposed budget with a revision to lower estimated attorney fees from \$15,000 to \$7,500. All Ayes.**

The next item on the agenda was drug testing. It was agreed that things went very smoothly in 2005 and the program was effective. The board agreed to keep the drug testing policy the same for 2006.

Royal announced that Earnest Whitemon is now authorized by the USTA to proctor driver and trainer tests. This will be helpful for our members in Texas and southern Missouri.

The board set the following schedule for 2006 board meetings.

April 15th @ 2:00pm – Location To Be Determined

July 4th @ 10:00am – Humboldt

Sept. 23rd @ 1:00 – Prairie Meadows

Nov. 18th @ 1:00 – Location To Be Determined

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.