

2018 WQHA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 10th, 2018

Little American Resort – Teton Room

Keith Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:05am

Secretary Minutes from the 2017 board meeting was read by Jill Stucky – Krystal Peterson made a motion to accept the minutes and Stuart Thompson 2nd - Motion Carried

John Sedgwick suggested that the minutes need to be more detailed to provide clear guidance on possible issues encountered during the year. The minutes should provide clear instructions on what the Board wished to be implemented.

Keith read the **Treasurer's Report** provided by John Sedgwick – As of November 10, 2018, \$17431.36 is the current amount in the association checkbook.

Awards Report - Ann Marie Johnson reported that after purchasing all the awards we are \$127.50 under the budget set by the Board. Stuart Thompson made the motion that the Board continue the practice of giving the Anne Marie Johnson a free WQHA membership for 2019 in recognition of all her efforts on securing the awards. Adair Walker 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Ann Marie Johnson and John Sedgwick presented their proposed changes to the rules governing year end awards. They reported that the changes were clarifications that would better document how the rules had been interpreted over the past several years. One requirement for earning an all around award is that the horse/rider combination must earn a minimum of ten (10) WQHA halter points. Since the rule only states halter points, the interpretation John and Anne Marie were applying was that if the horse/rider combination earned ten WQHA halter points by combining points earned from two different halter classes in a specific division, i.e. Aged Halter and Performance Halter, the halter requirement was met. Specifically, halter points earned in both Aged Geldings and Performance Geldings can be combined to earn the All Around. This allows people to show a horse qualified to show in a Performance Halter class to instead show in an Aged Halter class to make enough people in one class to create point opportunities. Their proposal was to insert into the current rules under All Around point requirements: **“The minimum ten (10) halter points maybe attained by adding together points earned in a regular halter class and a performance halter class.”**

John also pointed out that since AQHA officially recognizes a lease for a horse, WQHA should also allow AQHA approved leased horses the opportunity to win a year end award providing

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the lease holder or their family was an WQHA member. Their proposed rule change was to insert: *“In the event of an AQHA recognized lease, only the lessee or lessee family must be an WQHA member.”* Stuart Thompson moved that the Board recommend to the general membership that the proposed rule changes be approved for both the Open, Amateur and Youth rules governing year end awards. Debbie Unrein seconded. Motion carried.

Anne Marie then initiated a brief discussion concerning future award budgets. She suggested that our future award budgets be decreased per award without jeopardizing the quality of awards. The 2018 budget was \$80 for 1st and \$40 for 2nd place winners of each class. It was suggested that perhaps the all around/high point awards could be worth 2 1st place classes. There were no motions.

Memberships –Debbie Unrein suggested that we should raise the price of membership to \$40 and to make it occur on March 1st, 2019. Stuart Thompson suggested that the price should go up to \$60. Adair Walker suggested that \$60 may be too high and will actually cause fewer members to renew or new members to join. Stuart says that maybe if we provide more clarity about the year-end awards up front, it may increase memberships for the \$60 price. Jill Stucky asked if the current amount for our year end awards is too high and asked if we should lower the amount given. Adair moved that the Board recommend to the general membership that we leave the current \$35 membership fee in effect until March 1, 2019 and then increase the fee \$40 per year for all future years. Debbie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rapid City Show – Ann Marie reported that the Summer Circuit sponsors were looking to move the show from its usual dates since it falls over the July 4th holiday and this is causing problems with the availability of the facility. Options being considered are to move to June 6-9 or June 27-30. John Sedgwick reported that there were no shows planned in Colorado for the month of June so that might make increase Colorado attendance.

The Board then discussed different options for trying to increase attendance at the Douglas show held in May. If we moved Douglas to Memorial Day weekend, Rapid City to June 6-9 and then if stays on June 14-16, it may be too many shows in a row. Everyone on the board agreed that could be a problem since it would be too tiresome and expensive for our members. Stuart said that the Bits and Spurs/SWEAT groups may want to move their show in Rock Springs to a different date – considering the National HS Rodeo. No motions were considered, this was mere discussion. Debbie mentioned that the stall area lights at Rock Springs were a deterrent from her wanting to return and that she hopes they will install lights for safety. Ann Marie will propose to the Rapid City group, that the Black Hills Circuit be moved to the last week of June.

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John said that he will continue to contact the WYO state fair people on the possibility of moving Douglas from its current date in May to Memorial Day week end.

John Sedgwick also reported that while he was attending the Regional Championship Show in Rapid City the fairgrounds staff communicated the Central States Fair held in August would be requesting WQHA approval.

Region 2 Representatives - Keith stated that Chris Jensen would like to continue as the Region 2 Rep for WQHA. Keith stated that the Region 2 organizing committee would like a second WQHA representative in addition to Chris for their committee. Krystal Peterson volunteered and the board appointed her. (Keith mentioned that we also need a 3rd Volunteer for the Region 2 Show and told the board that he would take it to the general meeting to see if any of our members are interested.) *I don't remember if saying we needed a third volunteer.* Keith stated that he would notify Mary Rose of our volunteers.

Affiliate Agreement - Keith stated that the board needed to authorize the WQHA President to sign the AQHA Affiliate Agreement when it was mailed to the organization. Adair moved that if there were no significant changes to the agreement from previous years the Board authorize the 2019 President to sign the agreement. Debbie Unrein seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Payment for the 2018 Secretary – Krystal Jackson – Keith suggested that the Board compensate Krystal half of the usual \$500 fee approved every year for the secretary/treasurer position since she turned in her resignation half way through the year. John Sedgwick pointed out that there is not anything in the rules stipulating that any payment of any amount be made but that it had been practice for numerous years to pay the amount of \$500 each year upon Board approval. Stuart Thompson moved to pay Krystal \$250 and Lisa Young seconded the the motion. Motion carried.

Youth Report. Jill Stucky, WQHA Youth Advisor reported that in 2018 youth meetings were held at the Woolly and Energy Capitol shows. Swim parties were included at each meeting. The Rock Springs show had a youth room with snacks provided to our youth members.

A total of six WQHA youth members and seven horse attended the 2018 AQHJA World Show. The participants were given a fantastic stall location right next to the entry way of the Norrick Arena. The youth used the sponsorship money collected for purchasing T-Shirts and Decorations along with Tack Stalls. Sydnee Gemar earned a 3rd place trophy in Showmanship, Alexis Stucky made the finals in 2 classes, and Samantha Taylor earned the World Champion

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and Reserve Champion Titles in Jumping. Jill reported she wrote a very nice Thank You note to AQHA thanking them for such a great location for our team and for a wonderful experience.

Wrangler as our Publication – Jill Stucky reported she was able to send the publication a few things about the youth program last year but is asking for more stories from the adults. She plans to send in a story about the Year End Banquet with photos. Stuart Thompson made a motion to continue the Wrangler as our Publication and Krystal Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried

WQHA Procedural Manual - Debbie Unrein reported she has begun creating a manual on how to operate the WQHA. Included will be the job descriptions of all officer and board members including the youth advisor. Debbie was commended by the board and asked how they could help. Jill stated that she would create the Youth Advisor job description.

Show Manager Discussion – Terry Scott, WQHA's current show manager, reported to John her reluctance to continue on as WQHA's show manager in 2019 unless she is assured she will have more help. The board discussed the necessity of asking the general membership for help at the shows as part of the requirement for yearend awards – the volunteer jobs would be things like running the gate during an exhibitor's down time, assisting with set up and tear down for trail and western riding, assisting with stall check in and delivering shavings to stalls, being the announcer, and other items to be determined by each show committee. Stuart Thompson suggested a different committee be formed for every show so that the same people don't get burned out. Terry Scott's complaints were discussed – lack of set up help, lack of gate help, length of days with no help. The board agreed to ask the general membership for help at the shows during the general meeting.

New Treasurer – Keith reported that Kristen Lyons had volunteered to be the new treasurer for the WQHA and that she be given signature authority over the association's accounts. Adair Walker moved motion to approve Kristen Lyons for signature authority on the checking account. Lisa Young seconded the motion. Motion Carried. John has agreed to work with Kristen on how to manage the books for our association.

Hall of Fame – Keith Thomas stated that the WQHA should table this project because it would in all likelihood require some funding to implement and that some method found to fund it before WQHA put it into play. Krystal Peterson moved to table the project and Adair Walker seconded. Motion carried.

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Donations – Keith Thomas reported that the WQHA 2018 donation to the Region 2 was \$500 and the in 2018 the donation to the state 4-H council was \$50.

Adair Walker moved donate \$250 to Region 2 and add an additional \$250 if the Association's finances had improved after holding the two WQHA show circuits. Stuart Thompson seconded and the motion was carried.

Stuart Thompson moved that WQHA give the 4-H Horse Council \$50 for 2019. Lisa Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Membership Donation - Krystal Peterson asked the board if we could donate a few memberships to 4-H kids who might have a bright future in our association. She stated that we could have a drawing for new competitors at a show for a free membership. Stuart Thompson then said he would pay the membership fee for either a interested 4-H youth, amateur or open show person. Adair made a motion to donate 1 membership at each of the 3 Wyoming shows. Debbie 2nd the motion and the motion was carried to bring this item to the general membership meeting for a vote.

Discussion about changes to existing shows – the board discussed adding an extra day to the Woolly Show and Torrington. Also discussed was adding open classes, Paint classes, Appaloosa classes or NSBA to entice exhibitors. It was discussed to only offer open classes on the weekend. The board agreed that finding a judge that can judge all these different breeds may be difficult and that we need to contact Mary Glass for help. Adair said she would talk to the Nemmers about the Appaloosa shows and how the dates might fit in with their regional shows. If NSBA was added, it needs to be set up 90 days before the show. The board discussed the possibility of adding Ranch Horse Versatility to the Douglas or Torrington shows. It was also brought up that other venues be researched in the future for the Torrington show dates. The board decided to get Mary Glass involved as soon as possible and to bring the addition of an extra day and versatility to the general membership meeting to vote. Further, the board discussed enticing judges to come to Wyoming shows by possibly touring Wagon Hound which is close to Douglas, or maybe using Yellowstone as an incentive. It was also mentioned that Kelley Simonsen is generously paying RMQHA for the Rock Springs show points to count towards their yearend awards.

Show Fees –

Trail Fee, Jumping Fees

Krystal Peterson made a motion to keep fees the same and Adair seconded the motion – motion carried.

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Stall Fees – Adair made a motion to add \$5 for the stall fees per night and to make the Circuit Stall fee \$90 and Lisa 2nd the motion – motion carried.

All Day Fee – the board discussed adding \$5 to the all day fee at Douglas and Torrington allowing AQHA universal cross over(not allowed into all breed classes) for each open, amateur and youth horse/rider combo per judge. Adair made a motion to allow this and Lisa 2nd the motion – motion carried.

Rock Springs Discussion – Stuart mentioned that the WQHA agreed to advise and help the Rock Springs Show for 2 years. At this point, WQHA doesn't have the funds to help them monetarily but we can help with advisement. The board agreed that it should become a 4 day show. Stuart said that they need help finding a new show secretary. Debbie will ask Excel and RMQHA for suggestions.

Fundraisers Discussion – It was discussed to hold a raffle or silent auction at Woolly. Cash or maybe a give-away like a Yetti Cooler is an idea. Krystal Peterson agreed that she could drive to Douglas to personally meet with relevant businesses to ask for some donations for awards for our show. Jill mentioned that relevant business could be restaurants that we may eat at, and hotels that we may stay at, along with a gas station where we might buy fuel. Stuart thinks that the show committee should come up with some donations from each community by actually going out to the businesses and talking to them personally.

Social Media – Krystal Peterson has agreed to take over as the WQHA website administrator and also to post things on the WQHA Facebook site. Jill Stucky has agreed to continue as the administrator of the Youth Facebook page.

Bylaw Changes -

Stuart Thompson moved, and Jill Stucky seconded that in Accordance with the WQHA current bylaws, the Board invoke Section VIII of the bylaws and waive the requirement that WQHA officers can only be State of Wyoming residents. Motion carried.

NEW WQHA Bylaws – These Bylaws will be tabled until the board can spend more time on them. Adair motioned to table the bylaws and Stuart 2nd the motion – motion carried.

Keith Thomas brought up at the WQHA needs to reinstate its tax exempt status with the IRS. It was suggested that John Sedgwick work with Kelley Simonson to prepare the information and file the required reports by the end of December.

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There being no further discussion brought before the Board, Krystal Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting and Jill seconded the motion.