

## BOD Meeting July 26, 2023

Call to order by **President Anne Murphy at 7:00 pm.**

Roll call: **An attendance chart is in the meeting packet.**

### **Minutes from June 28, 2023:**

- Motion made by Ron to approve the June 28 minutes, seconded by Gail. Passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- The financial report is in the meeting packet.
- This month, Teri and Ron have been talking to the auditors to get the review done earlier than they did last year. The auditors asked for all financial information from MHF and WHC to be sent to them by August 15<sup>th</sup> and the audit will be done by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Teri and Ron are working to get them the information by that deadline.
- Ron reported that the quarterly reports are finished, and taxes have been filed.
- West Bend insurance carrier has completed their annual audit; this is an audit to determine what unemployment rates will be for the upcoming year.
- The WHC credit card limit amount has been raised to \$10,000.
- Nancy moves to approve the financial report as presented; seconded by Bonnie. Passed.
- WSHCEF financial report was in the meeting packet.

### **Legislative report:**

- There is a hearing at the capital in Madison tomorrow, July 27 on county fairs. The budget that was approved increased the amount that fairs can be reimbursed, this allows people to show at multiple fairs.
- Jolene is working on getting equine people involved when new trails are being discussed for Wisconsin. It could be productive if letters are sent from individuals in each district to their senators requesting an equine presence in these meetings. The letter should be handwritten and not too long but should not be a form letter as those types of letters may not ever reach the person who needs to see them. Jolene will set up a call with Darla and write up some examples of what these letters should say, and the directors can distribute that information to their groups so letters can be sent out.
- Dana thanked the directors for their actions in voting for the Farm Bureau bill last month. The bill was voted down by the directors but the process we put in place did work.

### **Midwest Horse Fair Report:**

- A report was included in the meeting packet; nothing additional to report.

### **PR Committee Update:**

- There are sign up sheets for the following events:
  - State 4 H horse show on Sept 15-17
  - WIHA (Wisconsin Interscholastic Horsemanship Association) is Oct 27-29
  - Caroline Trail ride on Sept 29- Oct 1
- Wisconsin Farm Tech Day report: WHC ran a 'passport' event for youth at the event. There was a roping event for youth that turned out very well. There was also a 'saddle the pony' event that was well attended.
  - WHC may have to get some additional equipment for future outside events.
- Passport program name discussion: No decision has been made on a name for the passport. Some of the suggested names are close to other programs and could be confusing. More thought into the name is needed.

### **Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:**

- Redesign of the WHC logo & Name Discussion:
  - A designer has been working with the committee to create new design options. The new designs should be available at the August meeting for review.
- Determine the needs of the Equine Industry update:
  - Some of the surveys have been sent out. There are some technical issues with the program we are using but Darla is working on getting a resolution to the problem. The survey is also on the WHC website.
  - There will be a second survey for veterinarians and farrier personnel. There is an event in fall with the veterinarian association and they may be willing to distribute this survey to attendees if they can see the questions beforehand. The purpose of the survey is to see if these professionals are willing to work with youth to get them interested in equine professions such as equine veterinarian and farrier at a younger age.
- Youth Initiative Discussion:
  - The membership application has been sent out to certain groups to distribute to their youth. Anne will keep trying to reach out to different youth groups and get the memberships distributed.

### **Old Business**

#### **Recap of Coalition of State Horse Council June Meeting:**

- AHC encourages equine owners to write letters to their state representatives to get their attention.
- ChatGPT was a big discussion during the AHC meeting and how it could affect the horse industry.

#### **Coalition of State Horse Council's Fall Meeting Update:**

- The fall meeting hosted by WHC is still undecided. We have a hotel reserved but only five people responded that they are coming. The date for the meeting will be the second weekend in November.

#### **Proposed By-Law submission Deadline 8/15/23:**

- Changes should be submitted to the office for the August meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **AHC Representation Discussion:**

- The bylaws state there should be AHC representative. The rep will attend the meetings and report back to the WHC. Anyone interested in being the AHC representative should let Darla know.

#### **Other:**

- Nancy gave an update on the special committee (B&F, MHF, EBOD) call with a CPA firm. There was a phone meeting with a CPA on Monday, July 24 and a follow-up meeting will be held on July 31. No decisions have been made and we are still exploring the possibility of working with a CPA for finances for the WHC, MHF and EF.
- AHC Survey- Important! Please Complete!
- Lila asked about committees and why all committees do not have chairs persons. Anne reminded committees that they are to elect their chairpersons in July and get those names to Darla so she can update the committee list.

#### **Future Meeting Dates:**

- August 23, 2023
- September 27, 2023
- October 25, 2023
- November & December- no meeting

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Ron to adjourn at 8:13 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller  
WHC Secretary