

## BOD Meeting October 22, 2024

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

Roll call: **An attendance chart is attached to these minutes.**

**Guest Speaker:** Heather Kuenzi from Lake Shore Region Pony Club Sponsorship

- The Lake Shore Region Pony Club received a sponsorship grant from WHC. Heather shared her adventures in Hawai'i as a thank you for the grant.

**Minutes from September 25, 2024:**

- Motion made by Nancy to approve the September minutes, seconded by Floyd. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The financial report is in the meeting packet. Cricket continues to work with N4N on making some changes to the documents to make them easier to understand.
- Ron motions to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Floyd. Passed.
- The WSHCEF financial report was in the meeting packet. February 8, 2025, will be Winterfest at Springbrook in Burnett.

**Legislative report:**

- Jolene is working on getting a speaker for the January meeting.
- Jolene discussed the use of liability insurance and signing of waivers. These items do not prevent people from being sued but they do help to show the person 'should have known' about the dangers of horses and may result in a lower settlement if the case goes to court.
- Elections are coming up in WI for legislation. Jolene asks all directors to pay attention to who is from their districts in case we need to educate them about horses.

**Midwest Horse Fair Report:**

- A report was included in the meeting packet.
- Amber Marshal was announced as our main attraction in 2025, and our SM page exploded with interest. We are expecting record crowds due to Amber's appearance.

**Committee Reports:**

- Annual Awards- Equine of the Year Nominations deadline is 12/1/24; all others are due on 1/10/25.
- Budget & Finance- Nancy Edwards: Nothing new to report.
- Bylaws- Dana Sechler: Next submission deadline is 2/15/24.
- Districts- Katie Bachhuber: nothing new to report.
- Judges Program & Seminar- Dana Neary-Panella: Next seminar is 4/5/25.
- Member Services- Mike Kroll: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter stats are in the meeting packet. The membership numbers have not changed much over the years. Youth memberships are now at 71.
- Policy & Procedures: Anne Murphy Nothing new to report.
- Public Relations- Bonnie Shepherd: WIHA show is this weekend in Madison. Bonnie is planning to schedule a meeting soon to start preparing for MHF. WI Farm Tech Days will be on 8/5- 8/7/25.
- WSHCEF Scholarship- Linda Ernsberger: The 2025 scholarship deadline is 1/1/25; flyer is in the packet to post and/or share.
- Sponsorship- Cricket Jewett: fall 2024 recipients announced. The committee met on Monday, Oct 21. \$28,000 in sponsorships were granted for 12 applications.
- Technology- Dana Sechler: nothing to report.
- Trails- Floyd Finney & Cricket Jewett: Sept meeting minutes are in the packet.

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

- Determine the Needs of the Equine Industry- Anne Murphy: Nothing new at this time.
- Round Up: Bonnie Shepherd: three full maps have been turned in.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- The next Zoom presentation will be in mid-November.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber: nothing new to report.
- Long-Range Strategic Planning Process Status: Dana provided a summary of the progress on the long-range planning. There were nine action plans to be accomplished in 2024. The next step is to update the chart to delete the completed actions and add more items if needed.
  - Lila discussed the second item on the long-range planning chart that is "Determine the needs of the equine industry". She wanted clarification as the definition of *equine industry*. Should the plan say 'equine community' in place of equine industry. The directors of WHC represent various organizations within the equine community. It is the director's job to bring forth their organizational concerns to the WHC and to inform their organizations what actions the WHC is taking on various subjects.

- Lila also discussed the #7 action plan- Create an Equine Disaster Plan for website. Anne said that the districts were going to work on plans that can be put in place if a disaster occurs within their district. No further action/information was discussed.

#### **Old Business**

- Nothing

#### **New Business**

- Nothing

#### **Other:**

- Scott stated that there were over 700 riders at the Colorama event, which is held the first weekend in October every year and WHC did not have booth or presence there in 2024. Bonnie and Nancy attended the event in 2024 but were not able to attend in 2024.

#### **Reminder of Deadlines:**

- WHC Annual Award Equine of the Year Nomination Deadline- 12/1/24
- WSHCEF Scholarship Application Deadline- 1/1/25
- WHC Annual Awards Nomination Deadline- 1/10/25
- Ride Wisconsin Trail Ride/Drive Program Hour Log Deadline- 1/31/25
- Trail Grand Application Deadline- 2/1/25
- Proposed Bylaw Change Submission Deadline- 2/15/25
- WHC Sponsorship Application Deadline- 2/28/25

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

- November 2024- NO MEETING
- December 2024- NO MEETING
- January 22, 2025
- February 26, 2025
- March 26, 2025- Annual Meeting
- April 2025- NO MEETING
- May 28, 2025
- June 25, 2025
- July 23, 2025
- August 27, 2025
- September 24, 2025
- October 22, 2025
- November 2025- NO MEETING
- December 2025- NO MEETING

Motion made by Ron and seconded by Scott to adjourn at 8:09 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller  
WHC Secretary