

Approved Minutes of the AHR Board of Directors Meeting
November 3, 2004 - Conference Call

President Paul Sutton called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. Present were Directors Bob Duvall, Joel Greenisen, Bill Hendershot, Theo Hug, Danny Inabinett, Gary Leisure, Emily Smith, Paul Sutton, Bob Wallace, Levi Yoder and Dirk Young. Also present were AHR Office Manager, Ruth Schwab, and AHR Recorder, Karen Young. Director Jennifer Rousseau was absent.

Finance Committee Chair, Levi Yoder led discussion on proposed fee increases which would provide \$20,000 - \$22,000 additional funds if the 2005 year is run similarly to the 2004 year. This would not include expenses for a proposed Breed Executive, if one were hired in 2005. Possible fee structures were discussed. It was decided that more information and concrete figures were needed to identify whether a fee increase was necessary and, if so, how much was needed. The decision was made to table further discussion until the December meeting. Hendershot noted that per the October minutes, January 1, 2005 was written and approved as the effective date of any fee increases. Yoder also stated that the Planning Committee, led by Barb Dickison, would put some thought into possible fundraising ideas.

Points and Awards Chair, Danny Inabinett led discussion, stating that the Board currently has a draft of the proposed points and awards program in hand and that the P & A Committee is open for comment. Directors Young and Rousseau submitted revisions individually to the program, which the P & A Committee will review. Inabinett stated he does not anticipate that the Points and Awards Program will cost anything to AHR and should be a self-supported program. Greenisen suggested keeping track and showing the income and expense for the program for future assistance, if needed. Inabinett stated P & A Co-Chair, Ann Walton would be willing to keep the points records for at least the first year of the program, thereby not burdening the AHR office. It was agreed that the program was off to a good start with the proposed draft and that the Points and Awards Committee should submit a "look for upcoming details" ad in the next Haflinger Horse magazine. The Board will await a revised program draft from the P & A Committee in the near future.

President Sutton continued discussion regarding the **Fall Sale issue**, whereby a petition was circulated by an unidentified party during the auction requesting one of the auctioneers be terminated. Signatures totaled 161. Reasons included concern over low starting bids and difficulty in understanding what the auctioneer was saying. This concern was also brought forth five years ago, with a voted decision to not use the auctioneer, but no action was taken by the Sale Committee. Danny Inabinett spoke on behalf of the Sale Committee, stating that the auctioneer in question was approached before the Fall Sale in hopes that these concerns would be alleviated. Inabinett also stated that this particular auctioneer is very knowledgeable about the breed and its value. It was noted that the sale auctioneers are hired individually and not hiring the auctioneer

in question would not affect the ability to continue hiring the other auctioneers. It was decided that follow up discussion would be held at the December Board meeting.

Continued discussion included questions regarding the **AHR's current non-policy for depositing sale funds**. Ruth Schwab confirmed that there are currently no written policies and procedures for handling sale income, but that funds from the Fall Sale were either taken to the bank or stored in the safe each evening. Inabinett suggested that deposits be taken to the bank daily by not less than two AHR employees. Young stated that a checks and balances policy needs to be in place for funds received, funds recorded and funds deposited and that more than one person should reconcile this information. Inabinett stated he will take this information to Dave Wilson for review.

There is major concern regarding the movement of the **Spring Sale** back a week to the holiday weekend (no Federal vet available; large number of people attending the World Show). This move in the schedule would affect sale workers, buyers and consigners. Inabinett to take this concern back to the Sale Committee as well.

National Show dates for 2005 were discussed. The Roberts Arena location was tentatively scheduled for September 27 through October 1st, but this date poses a conflict with the OHA Fall Drive, Dressage at Devon and the Ebbs Filly Sale. Two earlier dates have opened up (one the last week in August and the other the last week of September) and the Show Committee will research the availability of these dates and respond to the Board. Bill Hendershot noted that the August date would pose a problem for the Futurity, as the current Futurity Co-Chairs will not be available and foals may not be weaned. Dirk Young suggested, as many members have suggested, putting the Futurity Show with the sale as it was in the past. Inabinett stated that approximately 366 stalls were available to handle sale horses and stallion auction horses. Young commented that there would not be room enough for 100 futurity horses. Response was that this worked years ago, but this is a different time period and a great deal of thought should go into this before making that decision.

President Sutton stated that Mike Bobo shared information relevant to an employee's salary at the Annual Meeting that was privileged information heard only by those directors during **executive session**. Sutton reiterated that confidentiality is of utmost importance with regard to executive session discussion and urged all Board Members to adhere to that guideline.

Sutton stated that the **December Board of Directors Meeting** will be held December 9, 10 & 11 at the same location as last year. Hendershot asked how the members were going to be notified of the meeting. It was agreed that the date, time and location would be posted on the website.

Bob Duvall requested that copies of the **survey results** be sent to Ken James, Peter Teurpitz and Bob Duvall. The roughly 100 original surveys returned are currently on file in the AHR office.

Young questioned what the status of the **\$1,000 refund still pending from the Eden Park** Equestrian Center in Sunbury was and requested Sutton provide a copy of the contract to all Board members so that a final decision could be made on whether to pursue the return of these funds or not. Sutton to fax a copy to all Board members.

In conclusion, it was noted that several Board members had responded to a letter received from Fred Ashcroft regarding **Director nomination applications**.

Young moved to adjourn. Hug seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.