

**Ohio Quarter Horse Association
Board of Directors Meeting
January 15, 2018**

Directors present: Justin Billings, Clark Bradley, Hank Clason, Chris Darnell, Kelli Diaz, Candi Fites, Bill Flarida, Elizabeth Gorski, Ted Handel, Cindy Morehead, Kristine Nagy, Judd Paul, Skip Salome, Todd Salome, George Seanor, Greg Tordoff, Dan Trein, Randy Wilson, Rick Cecil, Rod Atherton, Greg Tordoff

Absent Directors: Ed Dingedine, Shawn Flarida, Fritz Leeman, Binnie Ann Masters, Chuck Smith, Brent Tinchler, Shane Watson, Vic Clark, Matt Claypool, Wayne Erwin, Kyle Flatter, Randy Jacobs, Roger Landis, Brent Maxwell, Dave McDonald, Alan Potts, Don Recchiuti, George Seanor, Dan Trein.

President Chris Darnell called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Introduction of Guests

The following were introduced as guests:
Scott Nemeth and Rhonda Pickersgill.

Minutes

Todd Salome made a motion to accept the November 2017 minutes, 2nd by Cindy Morehead.
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Carey Cooper gave the Treasurer's report. We had an increase in revenue in 2017 due to Commercial Exhibits, Parking, Camping, and VIP Camping. The Jess Cecil scholarship fund will remain with OQHA and not be forwarded to the Foundation. Judd Paul made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, 2nd by Elizabeth Gorski. Motion carried.

Finance Committee Report

Scott Myers reported on the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee meeting was held December 19, 2017. We have \$1,000,000 in long term restricted capital account, and \$250,000 in the long term restricted general account, so we renewed our commitment to those accounts. The Finance Committee approved the recommendation to put \$500,000 in investments. No decision was made on separating investments. The Finance Committee recommended diversifying to another bank. So we opened an account at the Huntington Bank with \$100,000. We also prepared the preliminary 2018 budget. Hank Clason made a motion to accept the Finance Committee report, 2nd by Judd Paul. Motion Carried.

Tri-Chairmen's Report

Scott Myers gave the Tri-Chairmen's Report. The 2016 Congress drug finding has not been resolved and looks like it will be going to trial. New classes for the 2018 Congress are; Green Ranch Riding. Added as a class within a class, are the Southern Belle 4 & 5 Year Old Trail Stakes, Southern Belle 3 Year Old Trail Stakes. The entry fee for Southern Belle portion of 3 Year Old Western Pleasure Stakes will decrease from \$2,000 to \$1,200 (3 payments of \$400). And the payback will be 60% to the open riders, and 40% to the limited riders.

The Futurity Committee recommended the Ohio Quarter Horse Association supplement the Masters classes since it is a marquee class. The total OQHA contribution is \$31,500; \$20,500 for the western pleasure, and \$11,000 for the hunter under saddle.

A new stakes class for the 2018 Congress is “Novice Horse 3 Year Old and over Western Pleasure”. Eligible horses may earn \$2,500 or 25 AQHA points by **August 1st**. The class format will be a one-time go, similar to the Masters, and to be placed at the end of the class.

American Qualifier and the Roping did not do well in 2017. That is still an open item.

Mecuria Cutting will restructure and pay \$40,000. The Regional Qualifying will run with Congress classes, a class within a class, with no additional expense for us. OQHA will mirror NCAA.

The Elite Halter has a sponsor for \$20,000. New in 2017 were the Elite Halter yearling classes, a total of six classes. The awards for the yearling classes was an additional cost of approximately \$4,000.

The Finance Committee discussed shortening the payback time for 2018 Congress. Making the deadline November 1st, or as early as being paid at the horse show. With the exception of the winners, or any other being drug tested.

We will need to find a new hotel for the Congress workers since the Holiday Inn is being torn down. Significant increase expense from \$40,000-\$100,000.

We are considering making the Congress Reining Futurity a ticketed event. No decision has been made.

The following will remain the same for the 2018 Congress:

Trade Show hours

Limited Trail

Cowboy Shooting

Stall prices

iEquine

Willo Security

Mecuria Cutting

Freestyle Reining

PBR Bull Riding

Congress Masters

Country Concert via Prime Social Group

Haunted Fest

The Celeste Center construction is underway, just not moving very fast. The press office and the horse show manager’s office will be smaller than before, but we are all looking forward to the renovation.

The Buckeye Barn renovation is #4 on the Expo Center Ask list. Representative Carfagna and other house members are not asking for any contribution from OQHA.

There was discussion about purchasing wagons for trail poles. George Seanor estimates that each trail course requires one wagon, so we will need three total, at \$3,500 each.

Elizabeth Gorski made a motion to accept the Tri-Chairmen's report, 2nd by Todd Salome. Motion carried.

OHIO COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trail Ride

Todd Salome reported that the trail ride for 2018 will be better than ever at the new facility.

Annual Banquet

Greg Tordoff reported the annual banquet will be held February 3rd, at the Hilton Hotel, Columbus, Ohio. Reservations will be available until January 29, 2018.

Rules

Chris Darnell reported the third and final reading of the rule change. The rule change is to remove "Article XIV OQHA Scholarship Program" from the OQHA rulebook, as they are moving to the OQHA Foundation. Rod Atherton made a motion to accept the final reading of the rule change, 2nd by Greg Tordoff. Motion carried.

ARTICLE XIV OQHA Scholarship Program

(See Ohio Quarter Horse Foundation for Scholarship Rules and Information)

~~**Section 1.** The OQHA Scholarship Committee was established to provide opportunities for deserving OQHA or OQHYA members who wish to further their education in a college, university, or other institute of higher learning.~~

~~**Section 2.** Each year the OQHA President shall appoint a scholarship committee consisting of at least, but not limited to, two OQHA Directors.~~

~~**Section 3.** Scholarships (both new and renewal) will be awarded upon recommendation of the scholarship committee and approval of the OQHA Board of Directors, dependent upon monies available in the annual budget.~~

~~**Section 4.** Eligible applicants must meet all three of the following:~~

~~(a) Applicant must have been a member of the OQHA/ OQHYA for the three consecutive years immediately 17 prior to the year of application, plus the year of application.~~

~~(b) Applicant must be a high school graduate or a senior in high school who will graduate by July 1st of the application year.~~

~~(c) Applicants cannot have reached their 23rd birthday by December 31st of the application year.~~

~~**Section 5.** Application Process~~

~~(a) Applicants must submit the following written materials:~~

~~i. A completed application form provided by OQHA;~~

~~ii. Their most current high school or college transcript with cumulative grade point average;~~

~~iii. A total of three letters of recommendation from a variety of sources (for example: school administrator, teacher or professor, guidance counselor or academic ad-~~

visor, employer, community service supervisor, horse industry professional, or OQHA Member).

(b) It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure that ALL application materials are submitted collectively, under one cover, and received at the OQHA Office on or before February 15th.

(c) Applicants must also complete an oral interview, to be held at the OQHA Office in Richwood, Ohio, on the second Saturday in March. Applicants submitting all of the required written application materials in a timely manner will be contacted by OQHA staff to schedule an interview time.

Section 6. Scholarship Awards Notification

The Scholarship Committee will inform all applicants in writing by May 1st if they have (or have not) been awarded a scholarship.

Section 7. Disbursement of Scholarship Funds

(a) Scholarship funds will be made available by August 1st. Before scholarship funds can be dispersed, new scholarship recipients must provide proof of official enrollment in the college/university/institute they will be attending.

(b) Scholarship checks will be made payable to the college/ university/institute, and mailed to the scholarship recipient.

(c) Scholarship funds must be used within twelve months, or returned to OQHA.

Section 8. Renewals

(a) Scholarship recipients are eligible to apply for a renewal of their scholarship three additional times (once per academic year), provided they meet all of the following:

- i. maintains a cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better;
- ii. maintain a current OQHA/OQHVA Membership;
- iii. have not reached their 23rd birthday by December 31st of the application

year.

(b) To apply for renewal of a scholarship award, recipients must submit a letter (not to exceed one page) which briefly describes the progress they have made towards their academic and career goals in the past year, along with a current transcript showing their cumulative GPA. Renewal request letters and transcripts must be received in the OQHA office (together in one envelope) no later than February 15th.

(c) Renewal scholarship checks will be made payable to the college/university/institute, and mailed to the recipient by August 1st.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Amateurs

Justin Billings reported the Amateur Association will be at the OQHA banquet this year. They are currently taking reservation for the Buckeye Classic and the Little Buckeye. EKG will be the new show management for the horse show. Chris Darnell will be in the Buckeye Show Office again this year. Kathy Trask will have the Congress App modified and available for the horse show. The show management will also use "Horse Show for Windows" tablet, which should speed up the results announcements. The Amateur Association is presenting to the Executive Committee and the open Board of Directors that they will have total access to the Ohio Amateur Association Quick Books, as well as the Buckeye Classic Quick Books. The Amateur Association will give travel stipends to Amateurs wishing to attend the AQHA Convention.

NOQHA

Candi Fites reported that the NOQHA banquet is January 27, 2018 at the Hilton in Akron, Ohio.

SOQHA

Judd Paul reported that the Southern Ohio hospitality room at the Hilton Inn Columbus during the OQHA banquet. The first SOQHA horse show will be "Spring In to Action" March 3-4, 2018, at the Champion Center in Springfield, Ohio.

Buckskin Association – Ted Handel reported the Buckskin Association banquet was held at the same place and time as the EOQHA which made it fun for all.

Scott Myers reported that the most recent version of the Employee Handbook was in 2013. Lee Smith is looking over that handbook for possible revisions, as well as the updated Congress Medication Policy.

OLD BUSINESS

Zumstein Drive has officially been renamed to Quarter Horse Drive, and approved by the City Council. We will pay for the new street sign.

NEW BUSINESS

There was some discussion about having the monthly board meetings at the OQHA office.

The board meeting dates for 2018 are as follows:

February 3 – Banquet Meeting, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18 – Picnic, August 20, September 17, November 19. There will not be meetings held July, October and December.

Youth Report

OQHYA president Olivia Tordoff reported that the youth will host a youth mingle before the banquet, and they voted to have a 50/50 raffle during the banquet.

Scott Myer reminded everyone that those serving on an OQHA committee will receive a stipend to go to the AQHA Convention. Scott Myers recommended a \$1,000 stipend, the same as previous years. Greg Tordoff made a motion to accept, 2nd by Randy Wilson. Motion carried.

Justin Billings reported that AQHA will not have an awards banquet at the AQHA Convention this year. The awards banquet for 2017 year end awards will be held at the AQHA World Show in 2018. The Most Valuable Professional Horseman will be announced at the AQHA Convention.

Thank you Todd Salome for providing the dinner.

We have the Conflict of Interest forms available for everyone to sign.

Todd Salome made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Judd Paul.

Respectfully submitted:

Joanne Taylor

Recording Secretary