

**MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**December 14, 2022**

President Barb Foster called a meeting of the MQHA Board of Directors to order at 6:20 p.m. at the MSU Pavilion, Classroom A, East Lansing, MI. The following Directors and staff were present: Meggen Baynes, Jennifer Bluhm, Heather Coe, Kevin Cubitt, Barb Foster, Sasha Glover, Rob Kirkpatrick, Monty Montgomery, Chris Perniciaro and Kris Woroniecki. Excused were Austin Gooding, Megan Hirschman and Sarah Switek.

**AGENDA:** Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Chris Perniciaro seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Sasha Glover made a motion to approve the November 10, 2022 Board of Director minutes. Kevin Cubitt seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Rob Kirkpatrick presented the financial statements for November. The total assets of the Association as of November 30, 2022, are listed at \$580,979.37; the total liabilities at \$189,499.75 and the total members' equity is listed at \$396,479.62. The net income as of the end of November is listed at \$104,288.02 compared to \$64,698.66 for the same period in 2021. Monty Montgomery made a motion to accept the November 2022 statement. Heather Coe seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Rob Kirkpatrick presented the checks written report for November 2022. There were checks written totaling \$66,616.59 for the month. Kevin Cubitt made a motion to approve the November check detail report. Monty Montgomery seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

Rob Kirkpatrick reminded the Board that the payment to Lowell should be made for 2022. Kevin made a motion to approve the check for \$7500 to KCYAA. Rob Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. Motion carried with no objection. Rob went on to explain that there was \$10,000 taken out as a Federal Small Business loan during Covid. It was hoped that the money would be forgiven. It has been determined that it will need to be paid back and it is accruing interest at \$.75 per day. Rob suggested that we pay the loan off in full to save any additional interest payments. Sasha Glover made a motion to approve the repayment of the Covid loan in full, as soon as possible. Chris Perniciaro seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed. Rob then made a motion that MQHA automatically put 25% of youth net year end profit into the :3500 board designated youth account at the end of each year. Chris Perniciaro seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Barb Foster explained that she was supposed to work on finalizing the show management with TNT, but due to some health issues, we have not been provided their new contract yet. She expects to see it soon.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Vice President Coe presented the board meeting calendar with the proposed dates. She asked for input regarding in person versus Zoom meetings, location preferences and time. She also discussed the retreat and asked for suggestions for a place to host it.

**OFFICE REPORT:** Kris Woroniecki reminded the Directors that she needs to know about attendance at the Friday night meeting with dinner. She also requested that if they hadn't submitted their Saturday banquet reservation, to please not forget to do so. Kris updated that the Quality Inn still has rooms available as well as the host hotel Firekeepers.

Kris asked the Board if they would like to do the Tour T-Shirts for 2023. We haven't done one since 2019. The Board agreed they were fun, and it might be nice to bring them back. Kris then reviewed the Prepaid Horseshow Season and asked if the Board intended to renew this for 2023. The Board agreed that it was a good program and that it should continue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CLINICS:** Jenny Bluhm reported that the 2022 clinicians would be recognized at the Convention.

**CONVENTION:** Sasha Glover reported that the Convention was being worked on. He will be reaching out to prior donors about the silent auction. The Easter show committee will donate a stall and camping as will the Spartan and Harbor committees. The tentative schedule was sent out, but he doesn't anticipate much of a change to it. The theme this year is "We're on a roll" and a logo has been designed by Amanda Hampel. We have ordered playing cards and glassware for the tables. There will be no head table this year and the Directors can sit with their families. Seating will be assigned again this year. The dinner reservation form includes a question asking

if the person is 21 or older. The Firekeepers Casino Hotel is giving \$10 vouchers with a dinner ticket to anyone 21 and older. The back numbers arrived and will be sold on the auction platform with the same format as in the last couple of years during the Convention.

**EASTER SHOW:** Monty Montgomery stated that the application for AQHA has been submitted. Changes to showbill for 2023 include adding level 2 Junior and Senior HUS and WP. The novice youth is now all age and the open youth is now split into 13 and under and 14 to 18. Rookie and novice pattern classes are being run concurrently. The committee added pleasure driving. There had been some discussion about the walk trot classes but the Committee decided that with the already packed schedule, the time of year, lack of places to ride in inclement weather and the fact the show is typically sold out, this isn't the best show to add walk trot to. The walk trot classes are likely to be added to some of the circuits in 2023.

**FUTURITY:** Chris Perniciaro said that the committee is working on the 2023 show and sponsors already. They are also selling raffle tickets for the saddle which will be drawn in April at the Easter show.

**HALL OF FAME:** Kevin Cubitt said the committee discussed the Hall of Fame gold pendants and stated that they will be sure the pins have a slide so they can be used on a necklace if desired.

**HARVEST CLASSIC:** Barb Foster gave the profit and loss statement for the show. There were 89 more NSBA entries, 884 more AQHA entries, 17 more campers and 65 more stalls. Overall income was up over the 2021 show.

**SPARTAN SPECTACULAR:** Kris Woroniecki stated that there is an open weekend in June at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason. Meggen Baynes made a motion that the Spartan Spectacular get moved to the open weekend in June at Mason. Heather Coe seconded the motion. Motion carried with none opposed.

**STALLION SERVICE SALE:** Chris Perniciaro stated that the stallion contracts were rolling in and plans for the sale are going well.

**YOUTH:** Considerable discussion revolved around AQHA adding multiple more slots for youth to be able to attend the AQHA World Show. Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to remove all qualification requirements for the Michigan Youth World Show Team due to the changes made by AQHA. Meggen Baynes seconded the motion. Motion carried with none opposed. Sasha Glover made a motion that the MQHYA will support the World Show Team at the discretion of the Youth. Meggen Baynes seconded the motion. Motion carried with none opposed. Sasha also stated that there is a full slate of kids running for the Youth Board. There are a lot of younger kids involved again this year. The Youth Board is discussing doing the basket fundraisers at the Silent Auction during Convention.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Grand Agricultural Center update – Kris Woroniecki shared the most recent map of the proposed grounds.

- Sitework is completed for the areas needed for 2023 Kent County Fair.
- Construction will begin on the horse barns at the first of the year.
- The outdoor show arena sitework is complete with proper footing already laid and fencing being ordered.
- The outdoor practice arena site work is complete, and the grass has been seeded.
- Campsites will be leveled out and seeded for spring growth but electric and water will not yet be established for 2023.
- Kent County commissioners voted to award \$6,000,000 in Kent County ARPA funding which will open the door to get the exhibition arena laid out with work starting immediately after the 2023 Kent County Youth Fair in early August.
- The current map shows 127 camp sites with full hook up and 85 additional sites with water and electricity.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Member of the Year – After discussion, the Board chose Danielle Lindsay as Member of the Year. Danielle volunteers tirelessly at the shows, and the Board truly appreciates her.

Meggen Baynes made a motion that in 2024 the small fry age limit be changed to 9 and under. Rob Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. by unanimous consent without objection.

*The next meeting will be Friday, January 20 at the Firekeepers Casino Hotel. The annual membership meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21.*