

**MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**March 22, 2023**

President Heather Coe called a meeting of the MQHA Board of Directors to order at 6:37 p.m. at the MSU Pavilion, classroom A, in East Lansing, MI. The following Directors and staff were present: Meggen Baynes, Jennifer Bluhm, Heather Boggetta, Heather Coe, Austin Gooding, Rob Kirkpatrick, Jeff Moody, Chris Perniciaro, Nicole Veldhoff and Kris Woroniecki. Excused were Kevin Cubitt, Sasha Glover and Monty Montgomery.

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

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the February 11, 2023, Board of Director minutes. Jennifer Bluhm seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Rob Kirkpatrick presented the financial statements for January 2023. The total assets of the Association as of January 31, 2023, are listed at \$578,756.97; the total liabilities at \$240,382.31 and the total members' equity is listed at \$338,374.66. The net income as of the end of January is listed at -\$7,110.36 compared to \$40,914.43 for the same period in 2022. Chris Perniciaro made a motion to accept the January 2023 statement. Jennifer Bluhm seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

Rob Kirkpatrick presented the financial statements for February 2023. The total assets of the Association as of February 28, 2023, are listed at \$607,898.54; the total liabilities at \$238,531.10 and the total members' equity is listed at \$369,367.44. The net income as of the end of February is listed at \$23,882.42 compared to \$38,329.66 for the same period in 2022. Austin Gooding made a motion to accept the February 2023 statement. Heather Boggetta seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Rob Kirkpatrick presented the checks written report for January 2022. There were checks written totaling \$38,447.97 for the month. Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the January check detail report. Chris Perniciaro seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed. Chris Perniciaro presented the checks written report for February 2022. There were checks written totaling \$34,694.19 for the month. Jennifer Bluhm made a motion to approve the January check detail report. Nicole Veldhoff seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Heather Coe welcomed the Board to the meeting and thanked the Harbor Committee for gathering prior to the Board meeting.

**VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Rob Kirkpatrick welcomed the Board and asked if anyone had any questions about their committee assignments and what they need to be doing at this point. There was some discussion to help clarify some questions.

**OFFICE REPORT:** Kris Woroniecki stated that the office has been busy with the upcoming audit, showbills, reservations, memberships, and all of the details with the upcoming horse shows. She has updated the Funware software and has had discussions with Kathy Trask about the transition back to this system. We have received a lot of pre-entries for the Easter show and Heather Bielecki is working diligently to get those entered. Heather is also almost through the AQHA Show Management Certification course. Jeff West has graciously agreed to sponsor the Horseshow Tracker for the season.

Kris has asked that the Board members sign the Statement of Board Member Responsibility and return it to her. Kris also mentioned the 4H Jamboree breakfast that MQHA has donated \$1000 to. The Board confirmed their continued support of the event.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CLINIC AND EDUCATION:** Jennifer Bluhm discussed ideas she had for the clinics this year. She will reach out for clinicians for shows.

**CONVENTION:** The profit and loss statement for the Convention was shared with the Board. The event lost about \$10,000. The discussion with the Board focused on the fact that it was a wonderful location and very well received by both the Board and the membership. Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion that MQHA return to the Firekeepers Casino Hotel for January 19 – 21, 2024. Heather Boggetta seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed. Kris will reach out to the hotel to confirm availability of the weekend.

**EASTER SHOW:** Submitted by Monty Montgomery - *All is going well in preparation for the show. Camping is sold out as well as stalls for the main barn. Staffing for the show office, ring stewards, scribes and showmanship walkers have been filled. All awards including high points and reserve high points, circuit awards and the prize cave are in hand. The lunch served on Saturday has been ordered and the Easter egg hunt for the kids on Saturday has everything in place. We currently have secured 12 sponsors to help with funding for extracurricular activities. Currently we have 5 vendors. Jeff West and his company has graciously sponsored the cost of Horse Show tracker for this show and all remaining shows for the year. Hoping we have good weather. We should have a great show.*

**FINANCE:** The Executive Committee discussed recommendations to move some of the money out of the Fifth Third account to be sure all of the Association funds are FDIC insured. Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion that Kris Woroniecki open a new MQHA account at a local bank, with an opening deposit of \$250,000 from the Fifth Third savings account. Heather Boggetta seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed. Chris Perniciaro made a motion that we take \$100,000 and invest in some short-term CDs with the finance committee determining where to invest it after reviewing the rates. Austin Gooding seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**FUTURITY:** Kris Woroniecki shared that the showbill was close to completion. The committee should be meeting in the next couple of weeks to finalize it. The Futurity committee is holding the raffle for the Harris saddle during the Easter show and the ticket sales are going well.

**HARBOR CLASSIC:** The Harbor Classic committee met prior to the Board meeting. The showbill is close to completion. It was then explained to the Board that on the drive to the meeting, Kris received a call from the company who was contacted to deliver portable stalls to WMFA for Ludington. The company has backed out and we currently have no portable stalls available to us. There was an in-depth discussion with the Committee and then with the Board about how to solve this issue. We have had four companies in four years and the consensus of the Board is that we need the extra 51 stalls on the grounds to make the event viable. There was discussion about purchasing stalls for that use and the committee members will continue to work on this after this meeting.

**HARVEST:** The Harvest Committee will meet in the next month or so to begin work on the November event.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The MHC Expo was March 10 – 12. Thank you to those who spent their time manning the booth. Nicole Veldhoff, Heather and Tony Boggetta, Sindi Wood, Tate Gill, Taylin Collins, Kevin Cubitt, Jennifer Bluhm and Kris Woroniecki.

**QUEEN:** Submitted by Kathy Christensen - *The Queen's contest will happen during the Easter show. Confirmed with Monty that the horsemanship class will happen on Saturday following Trail. Worked on the test yesterday, will complete it today. We have two contestants. Delaney Bakker and Rachel Bowers. The following sponsors have been confirmed - Warren English, Anna Marie Cooper, Millbrook Tack, Peachy Clean Tack, Laurie Zwiers, Corlinda Huffman, Tammy Gasper, Kris Woroniecki, Totally Outfitted, Jenny Bluhm, Adam Johnson Tails and Heather Werkema Smith.*

**SPARTAN SPECTACULAR:** Meggen Baynes stated that the committee has finalized the showbill. It should be on the website within a couple of days. Sasha is reaching out to a few people for possible sponsorships. There will be a team tournament again.

**STALLION SERVICE SALE:** Chris Perniciaro and Austin Gooding stated that they were happy with the location for the Stallion Service Sale and would like to have it at the Okemos Convention Center again. The date would be on January 6, 2024. They would like to utilize the zoom again as part of the auction.

**SUMMER SERIES:** Rob Kirkpatrick shared that the Summer Series showbill is on the website and the stall reservations are coming in. The planning for the event is coming along. We have added walk trot for L1 amateurs and youth for the following classes: western pleasure, horsemanship, hunter under saddle, and hunt seat equitation. We have also added the working western rail to attempt to attract some more of the ranch group to our shows. We are working on sponsors for the show as well. We have reached out to one about a sponsored meal again, as well as many other sponsors and donors of various items.

**TACK SALE:** Kris Woroniecki reported that the MQHA Tack Sale utilized 193 spaces this year, which was up 26 from last year. The profit on the event was \$4,300 which is up slightly from last year. The sale was well attended, and people seemed to be happy.

**YEAR END AWARDS:** Monty Montgomery - *There is no activity at this time. We will meet in the near future to start planning.*

**YOUTH:** Sasha Glover - *Planning on doing the Easter Egg Fundraiser at Easter Show. Working on getting trail signup help. Draft of letter of intents. Working on Spartan Showbill.* The Board reviewed the Letters of Intent/Interest for the two youth teams. Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to send the NYATT Letter of Intent back to the committee for review regarding the limitations of age and the team divisions. Heather Boggetta seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No old business

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by unanimous consent without objection. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 19 at 6:00 pm

**Electronic Communication** – *Upon completion of this Board meeting, Jeff Moody reached out to several companies to help in the search of portable stalls. He contacted close to a dozen companies. They are either out of business, booked or unable to provide them for other reasons. There was ultimately one company who could provide the rental for this year. The cost of the rental is close to \$16,000. Jeff also reached out to several companies to get quotes to purchase the stalls. There are 51 stalls set in the Community Center. Jeff received three quotes for stall purchases. Two of the quotes came in at over \$100,000. This information was shared to the board through many emails. Questions were asked and answered to the best of everyone's ability. The Mason County Fairgrounds was contacted regarding storage and set up of the stalls if we were to purchase them. On April 2, Jeff Moody made a motion that MQHA proceed with the purchase of 52 stall fronts and 99 solid poly panels from Triton Barn Systems per the terms of the payment structure in the estimate proposal at a total cost of \$78,025. Monty Montgomery seconded the motion. Votes in favor of the motion were returned by Jennifer Bluhm, Heather Boggetta, Kevin Cubitt, Austin Gooding, Chris Perniciaro, Nicole Veldhoff. A vote against was returned by Sasha Glover. Abstaining from the voting were Meggen Baynes and Rob Kirkpatrick. The motion passed with eight in favor of the purchase of the stalls. The stall production will not be complete until the end of this year which still forces us to spend \$16,000 on rental for this year but going forward, we won't have the same issue trying to locate them. The association has spent nearly \$200,000 over the years on rentals and by purchasing them, it is felt that we have an asset which can be resold should our situation change. The rentals are only going to continue to increase in cost and we will only continue to throw money at the rentals if we are staying in Ludington and believe that we need the extra stalls. Kris has since contacted Triton and they are accepting one half of the payment in 2023 and the other half will be paid in 2024 with delivery of the stalls the end of June 2024.*