

MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 19, 2023

President Heather Coe called a zoom meeting of the MQHA Board of Directors to order at 7:34 p.m. The following Directors and staff were present on the call: Meggen Baynes, Heather Boggetta, Heather Coe, Kevin Cubitt, Sasha Glover, Austin Gooding, Monty Montgomery, Jeff Moody, Nicole Veldhoff and Kris Woroniecki. Excused were Jennifer Bluhm, Rob Kirkpatrick, and Chris Perniciaro.

AGENDA: Sasha Glover made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Nicole Veldhoff seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Austin Gooding made a motion to approve the March 22, 2023, Board of Director minutes with one amendment to the section referring to electronic communication. *"Two of the quotes came in at over \$100,000."* Kevin Cubitt seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Kris Woroniecki presented the financial statements for March 2023. The total assets of the Association as of March 31, 2023, are listed at \$634,210.75; the total liabilities at \$245,977.62 and the total members' equity is listed at \$388,233.13. The net income as of the end of March is listed at \$42,748.11 compared to \$42,848.03 for the same period in 2022. Sasha Glover made a motion to accept the March 2023 statement. Jeff Moody seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kris Woroniecki presented the checks written report for March 2022. There were checks written totaling \$59,035.86 for the month. Nicole Veldhoff made a motion to approve the March check detail report. Sasha Glover seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Heather Coe stated that it was nice to see most of the Board members at the Easter show. It was well attended. It was nice to be back at a MQHA horse show after all winter.

OFFICE REPORT: Kris Woroniecki apologized for the last-minute change of venue. Some of the directors had issues come up at the last minute, so there was concern about having a quorum if it was a face-to-face meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CLINIC AND EDUCATION: Jennifer Bluhm communicated to Kris prior to the meeting. She had some questions regarding clinicians. The Board responded by stating that they would like to try to get volunteers to help with the clinics. The Board stated that we have a good group of educated professionals that we should be able to tap into. A breeding clinic was one idea that was brought up. A couple of names were mentioned, and a couple Board members indicated that they could help do some outreach as well.

CONVENTION: Sasha Glover submitted the following update for the Convention:

1. Received a reply from Firekeepers that unfortunately they are unable to hold the date we requested due to another proposal being out (would limit the rooms we had this year).
2. They also indicated they will be renovating some of their guest rooms during that time period next year. While they do not expect it to affect the number of guest rooms we had this year it was noted.
3. Additionally, if the group that has a proposal decides not to move forward they have to wait until the dates are released by their performance director. The property asked how late we are willing to wait to see if we can get that date.

Kris will reach back out to Firekeepers and request the status of the proposal that is out. We will need to let Firekeepers know how long we are willing to wait for an answer. Jeff Moody suggested checking with some of the other casino properties.

EASTER SHOW: Monty Montgomery told the Board that the Easter show had 6,288 AQHA entries. He thanked all of the Board members who pitched in to make the show a success. Kevin Cubitt added that the judges were very complimentary even though we had a few software issues to start, we got up and running within a reasonable amount of time. The judges stated to him that they appreciated the office, the staffing, and the organization. They enjoyed the food and couldn't believe the numbers. They mentioned the overall strength of the Association. Kris mentioned that the move-in which was quite late Tuesday night made it difficult to be ready for an 11 am start the next morning. We had new equipment and new staff. We still have some bugs to work out, but things should get better.

FUTURITY: Jeff Moody reported that the saddle raffle netted \$8,250. The committee will meet soon to finalize the 2023 Futurity information and determine how to distribute the money made from the raffle within the futurity purses. Monty Montgomery made a motion that Jeff Moody reach out to a couple of saddle companies to get a quote on doing another saddle raffle which could start in July. Kevin Cubitt seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

HARBOR CLASSIC: Kris Woroniecki indicated that the showbill will be sent back to committee in the next couple of days, then posted on the website and FB pages. She is hoping to open reservations on May 1.

QUEEN: Kathy Christensen submitted the following report:

I am still working on getting the information compiled for the new Queen to send out thank you cards to the sponsors. I have several outstanding sponsorships that I need to confirm have arrived, and if not, then I need to follow up with these individuals. We did have two candidates: Rachel Bowers and Delaney Bakker. The young ladies did have their interviews on Friday afternoon, around 3pm. I would like to say thank you to Paula Hitzler and Hannah Brink of MSU, and Cyndy Smith. These three were our interview judges this year. The test was completed by both on Friday evening, and the horsemanship took place on Saturday following Trail. Both scored very high with the judges in the interview. Both girls were confident, well-spoken and personable. The test is usually quite difficult. Katherine West, 2022 MQHA Queen, along with the help of both Princess Brylee and Jr. Princess Mallory, were on hand to crown Rachel Bowers as the 2023 MQHA Queen.

The estimated value of the Queen prizes plus monetary donations is \$4759.00, and the runner up value is \$517.00 Rachel already has been invited by Congress Queen, Kylie Good to attend the Level 1 Championships. I believe she will do this. I did encourage her to take advantage of this opportunity.

Kathy also discussed updating the queen application to include the following wording:

"If you are committed to running for Queen with another association, you are not eligible to compete for the MQHA Queen. If you are crowned MQHA Queen, we expect that you will not apply, nor compete for another association Queen contest." The Board agreed that the wording should be added to the application.

SPARTAN SPECTACULAR: Meggen Baynes stated that she attended a show at the Mason grounds last weekend, and the grounds management has some difficult rules about parking that she is concerned that our people will not abide by. The parking is apparently a long distance from where people will be in the barn areas. She also stated that the grounds were a bit messy and that they did not do a very good job emptying the manure bins. The Board has asked Kris to reach out and discuss our concerns with them and report back to the Board. There needs to be better signage about where people can and cannot park as it was not very clear while she was at the show. Meggen is hopeful MQHA can get help from someone with the camping and general parking.

STALLION SERVICE SALE: Austin Gooding mentioned that the gift baskets for the stallion owners would be shipped out soon. The committee is finalizing the lists.

SUMMER SERIES: There are about 200 stalls reserved for the Midland show. The committee is working on the awards.

YOUTH: Sasha Glover submitted the following youth report:

1. The Letter of Intent/Interest (WST) are updated and have been posted on the MQ Website. Youth board will be sharing on social media soon to get additional interest/awareness.
2. The Youth board hosted a youth meeting at the Easter Show. Attendance was good.
3. At the Easter Show the youth hosted their annual egg fundraiser. Profits were just over 1,000.00 with lots of prizes donated.
4. Talking to a youth member that might be interested in attending the YES Conference.
5. Lizzi Smith will be running for the AQHYA Executive Committee at the YES Conference. She currently is the Region IV National Director for AQHYA. She has been preparing materials.
6. At the youth board meeting the idea was raised about taking one of our fundraisers and donating to a potential foundation/cause. The first organization that was suggested was awareness for youth mental health.
7. At the youth meeting the board approved doing the large cash raffle again and drawing it at the Harbor Classic along with a 50/50 at the Midland show.

OLD BUSINESS: Lowell update – Heather Coe, Austin Gooding, Jeff Moody, Monty and Stacy Montgomery and Kris Woroniecki met with the Grand Agricultural Center people this week. The equestrian complex layout was reviewed and progress of the new grounds was discussed. There are now barns up, they are digging and there are trucks all over. The Grand group is working hard to get input from groups about their needs. The MQHA group is very optimistic about progress and are excited about this new venue.

NEW BUSINESS: Executive Secretary/Treasurer contract – tabled until the next face to face meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by unanimous consent without objection. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 10.