



**Meeting minutes for BOD Spring Meeting  
March 9, 2013**

**Attendance:** Jill Feller, Bill Suskey, Maxine Bernsdorf, Joslyn Seefeldt, Wayne Gastfield, Barb Kurti, Theresa Meyer, Tony Troyer, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Peggy Pasillas, Dianne Schmidt, Sarah Mowrer, Bonnie Mielke

**Guests:** Jon Wagner, Linda Jacobson, Jan Sasena, Linda Mowrer

**Called to order by President Theresa Meyer at 11:37 am.**

**Minutes for January meeting presented** Tony motioned; Max seconded to approve morning BOD meeting minutes; passed. Tony motioned, seconded by Wayne to approve annual meeting minutes; passed.

**Treasurer's report:** Wayne motioned, Joslyn seconded to accept report as presented below; passed.

	<u>Mar 2, 13</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Convention fund</b>	3,666.83
<b>ICF Fund</b>	7,884.76
<b>Mayville Savings Bank</b>	12,622.50
<b>Trail checking</b>	<u>4,597.69</u>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>28,771.78</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	28,771.78

**Old Business:**

- **Blue Ribbon Committee**
  - Riders voting for officers only vs. having geographic delegates' topic. The subcommittee's opinion is that they would rather support the geographic delegate's option and not have all riders vote. There was no more discussion on this topic.
  - A discussion was held on a proposed by-law change that would introduce state delegates.
    - What is the difference between these representatives and a rider representative? These would be designated from each state vs. from the general membership body that the rider's representatives come from.
    - Joslyn motioned to not move forward with the by-law change; seconded by Wayne; passed. No further discussion.
  - Voting privileges of appointed positions (sanctioning coordinator, newsletter editor, points keeper, Webmaster).
    - If those positions get voting rights, then they should be being elected and not appointed. We need to have the best people in these positions and being elected we may lose that. The members attending the meeting in these positions choose



the positions because they want to do the job and enjoy the work; having voting privileges is not why they have volunteered for the position. There was no action taken and no further discussion.

- **Abused/over ridden horses issue**
  - Dr. Olivia was working on this issue and was unable to make the meeting. This discussion is tabled until the November meeting.
- **Ride Behavior rule**
  - Tony motioned, Jill seconded to bring motion off of table; passed.
    - This is an informal complaint process; it provides a way to approach the board with a minor complaint and not a formal grievance.
    - There should be fee attached to this so there is meaning put behind it just like the protest process.
    - After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the proposal will be re-written and presented again at the fall meeting.
- **Bylaw – age/experience limit**

#### ARTICLE III

##### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS. The property and business of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. Only Delegates may be elected as Officers or as Directors, with the following exceptions: the Board position of Veterinarian Representative will be composed of an endurance or competitive ride veterinarian, President (see, Article III, Section 5, below), and Secretary/Treasurer (see, Article III, Section 7, below). Authorized alternate voting delegates shall not be eligible for election for the purpose of this section. (1/25/09)

The Board shall not be less than three in number and not more than sixteen. The Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, immediate Past President, two members elected at large, or more as may be determined by majority of the Board of Directors up to a maximum of six, a Veterinarian Representative and four geographic board members and four rider representatives. (1/23/10). The Veterinarian Representative will be elected to a two year term commencing at the January 2008 convention. Each state, or foreign country which maintains a minimum of 25 UMECRA memberships (individuals to count as one and families to count as two) and which hosts a minimum of five sanctioned rides in the preceding season, shall be eligible to have an official delegate from that state or foreign country nominated and elected by the official delegates to the general meeting to a two-year term as geographic board member. If more than four states or foreign countries qualify, the number of rides shall be the first qualifier for determination of which four geographic areas are eligible, followed by the number of memberships within that state or country. If still tied, the state or foreign country with the largest number of rides over the history of UMECRA shall be given priority.

One, two, or three directors at large will be elected each year for two-year terms, to stagger their service, or until their successor shall have been elected at the annual meeting by majority vote of



the attending delegates at the convention. Commencing at the 1997 convention, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota will initially qualify for geographic board members. Commencing at the 1997 convention, Illinois, Michigan's geographic board members will be elected at the convention, together with one at-large board member. The geographic board positions will be filled for 1997 by current Directors at Large, Monna Radtke and Dianne Kuhn. Their geographic positions will come up for election at the 1998 convention, together with the second at-large board position. The geographic board members will be nominated by delegates from their respective states and elected by the voting delegates at large at the general meeting. **To be eligible for election to the board of directors, members must be at least 18 years old and be a UMECRA member for the previous 2 years.**

- Tony motioned, Wayne seconded to accept the underlined addition to this by-law; passed. This by-law change will be presented at the annual meeting in January 2014.
- **Convention fee**
  - Should the convention fee be limited? We do have written guidelines on the convention which will assist the convention manager with some decisions.
  - Convention fees should be limited to no more than \$7.00; if more than \$7.00 is needed to pay for additional expenses of the convention, the convention manager needs to contact the BOD to get approval. Tony motioned, Joslyn seconded; if convention fee of more than \$7.00 is needed, the BOD needs to approve the increase.
- **Paypal type payment update.**
  - There is a fee that would need to be passed on to riders; this fee is up to 4% of costs. For example: if a RM is paying \$100 in rider fees, the Paypal fee is \$4.00. Peggy will send out a survey monkey questionnaire asking if there is an interest in credit card payments for memberships and rider fees. The Paypal costs will be passed on to the user using the service. For membership fees, it will be a flat fee of \$2-\$2.50/membership but for rider fees and insurance costs, the added fee will be a percentage of the total. If there is an interest with RM's and members, a UMECRA Paypal account will be created for future use.

#### **New Business:**

- **Family membership definition**
  - The UMECRA family definition has been put on the membership form to help clarify what is a family membership.
- **Donation Form**
  - A form has been created for all future donation requests regarding trail grants or grants to sponsor a UMECRA booth at one of the state expos or horse fairs. This form can be downloaded from the website or obtained from Jill Feller. Members need to complete the form and send it to the president or secretary/treasurer to present at the next BOD meeting.
- **Voting process-self nominated forms**
  - Should we request that members who would like to run for a position on the BOD nominate themselves in writing before the annual convention? The nomination forms would then be



published for members to read before the meeting and can make a more informed decision.

- This topic will be discussed at the annual meeting in January.

- **Sanction form update**

- The sanction form has been updated so **all** forms are listed and ride managers can now request the forms that are available electronically. The forms still be available electronically on the website ride manager page.

- **Promotion committee**

- We need to reorganize the committee as some of the members have left. Nicole and Barb would like to be on the committee but don't want to be chair. Theresa and Tony will contact some members to ask if they would be interested in being part of this committee.
- Each state should have input into how to get new members and how to promote UMECRA; AERC is doing some research on getting new members that we may be able to play off of.
- Ride clinics should be held in each state to raise awareness and generate new members. Wisconsin holds a clinic every March; the clinic is run by DRAW or ApDRA and they are very well attended.
  - Dianne motioned; Joslyn seconded to offer a free first-time UMECRA membership to ride clinic attendees (not to include Expos or Horse Fairs);
  - Jill will create a new membership form to use; it will be tracked on the membership spreadsheet over the years.

- **New member committee**

- Joslyn, Pam Cotton, Lynn Reichert, Linda Mowrer are all remaining members on this committee. Some other members will be contacted to see if they would be interested.

- **Ride year defined**

- What is the UMECRA ride year? Wayne motioned, Sarah seconded that the UMECRA ride season begins on the first Monday in November; passed.

- **Trail grant request from SKMTRA:**

- Bonnie motioned; Joslyn seconded to donate \$250 for the Southern Kettle Moraine to provide some inclement weather protection in the shelter and some new wheel barrows; passed.

- **State trailer licensing requirements:**

- A small discussion was held on each state requirement to be in compliance with the DOT regulations on pulling trailers. Each state is different and within a state it can be confusing with different answers. Members can find information by visiting the DOT site in each state.

- Bonnie motioned, Dianne seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Jill Feller

UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer