



**BOD Meeting
Wisconsin Dells WI
November 7, 2015**

Present at meeting: Theresa Meyer, Tony Troyer, Jill Feller, Wayne Gastfield, Jon Wagner, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Bill Suskey, Maxine Bernsdorf, Bonnie Mielke, Joslyn Seefeldt

Guests: Bruce Birr, Sue Herrick, Barb Gardner, Carol Wagner

Meeting called to order at 11:05 by President Theresa Meyer

Agenda:

- Secretary report:
 - Minutes from the March meeting were presented. Tony made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Wayne; passed.
- Treasury report:
 - The report was presented with a Balance sheet, Summary P&L, Detail P&L.
 - Bonnie motions to have two copies of the detail P&L report for annual meeting due to the size of the report; Jos seconded; passed.
 - Jon motions to accept treasurer report as presented; Tony seconded; passed

	<u>Oct 31, 15</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Convention fund	5,607.24
ICF Fund	7,937.12
Mayville Savings Bank	21,410.38
Trail checking	<u>3,837.44</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>38,792.18</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>38,792.18</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>38,792.18</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	16,860.34
Retained Earnings	20,395.21
Net Income	<u>1,536.63</u>
Total Equity	<u>38,792.18</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>38,792.18</u>



- Board Member Behavior:
 - The BOD is held to a higher standard than the general membership and we need to be professional in our interactions with both members and non-members. The BOD needs to uphold the established rules, hold discussions with members regarding those rules and bring any concerns of those rules to the BOD meetings for review. We want members to approach us at rides to discuss problems, issues, questions, etc., therefore, we should not be confrontational or sarcastic when talking with other BOD members, UMECRA members or *anyone* else.
- Code of Conduct:
 - The Code of Conduct was discussed at the November 2014 meeting and again at the January morning BOD meeting at the convention where it was signed by BOD members. BOD members were not required to sign the Code of Conduct, it was strictly on a voluntary basis; however there was not one member of the board who opposed signing it.
 - The Code of Conduct covers what is expected as appropriate behavior for the BOD; however, there are no repercussions for violating the code.
 - Motion made by Jill that the EBOD will create an addition to the By-laws to be presented at the morning BOD meeting at the January convention that requires the Code of Conduct to be signed by the BOD members and a process of what will happen if the Code of Conduct is violated, seconded by Bill. Jon asked to amend the motion to include a subset of BOD members to work on the wording. Jill and Bill both approve of the amendment. Passed.
 - Tony, Jill, Jon, Theresa, and Nicole will be on the committee to create the wording of this by-law change to be presented in January.
- Ride schedule 2016:
 - Jill presented the proposed schedule as it exists today; there are several changes made to rides:
 - Colorama is moving to a 2 day ride
 - DRAWARMA is moving to a 3 day ride and moving to the Northern Kettle Moraine campground
 - Thistle Down Run will not be held in 2016
 - AHAM and Hopkins Creek ride are combining and will be held in July on the AHAM dates
 - Grand Island North ride is moving to the June date vacated by Hopkins Creek
 - *Sanctioned requests are due by November 30th; once all requests are received, the 2016 tentative schedule will be updated and posted on the UMECRA website for members to view.*
- Bruce Birr and sanctioning changes:
 - SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS
 - 4. Ride Cancellations (current rule)
 - B. Ride managers of canceled rides shall retain voting rights for one year.
 - Proposed by Bruce (**changes in bold**):
 - Ride managers of cancelled rides, **who have paid their sanctioning fees before the ride has been cancelled**, shall retain voting rights for ~~one~~ **year at the next annual meeting**. A discussion followed on this topic.



- Tony motions to table this discussion until the next agenda item of paying sanctioning fees by Feb 1st are discussed, seconded by Joslyn. Passed.
- Motion made by Tony, seconded by Jos to reopen this discussion after discussing the sanctioning fee cutoff date.
 - Bill motions to accept the guideline as proposed by Bruce, seconded by Tony. Passes. This will be reviewed again in January meeting.
 - Sanctioning fees paid by Feb 1st:
 - A discussion was held on the proposed wording of the guideline change:
 - *All sanctioning fees must be paid by February 1st. If not paid by this date, the ride loses sanctioning for the year. The SC will send an email to the RM (call or letter sent by confirmation delivery) and document that contact has been made requesting the funds. It is the ride manager's duty to contact the SC and Secretary/Treasurer if their contact information has been changed from the previous year.*
 - Motion made by Jon to accept wording, seconded by Wayne; passed. Will be presented at annual meeting for RM vote.
 - Old minutes posted online:
 - The minutes from past years are posted on the website. Some of the handwritten notes are hard to read and we looking at getting these typed and rescanned.
 - Family Award wording:
 - *A family (as defined for the Jan Scott Family Award) shall consist of one of two parents, step-parent, or legal guardian (not to exceed 2 adults) and all dependent children 18 years old or younger who are living at home. The family must be a member of UMECRA. Endurance & competitive points shall be awarded on only one horse and rider combination for each member of the family. Participants are required to register with the pointskeeper and secretary/treasurer listing full names of all family members before points will be counted. All members of the family who participate will be listed.*
 - Motion made by Jon to accept wording, Bill seconded; Passed.
 - Convention update:
 - Barb Gardner gave an update on the 2016 convention. Room rates are \$79 and you get a discount on breakfast and lunch specials. Speakers: Kathy Soukup will be talking on saddle fit and trot out videos from AERC which will be interactive discussion with the audience led by Wes Elford.
 - . In the past years, there has not been a lot of participation with a D.J. and/or band, therefore, Saturday night will be background music with free beer, wine, soda and some snacks to encourage socializing between members.
 - Bonnie motions that UMECRA pays for up to \$300 toward Saturday night refreshments in lieu of paying for a DJ as in past years, seconded by Tony. Amended by Bonnie to \$400; seconded by Tony. Passed.
 - Horse ID number review:
 - The 2015 season went through without too many mishaps. Riders were very proactive in contacting Jill and Nicole when they needed a horse number; their requests were responded to within 24 hours. Robin's job as pointkeeper was helped substantially by the process.



- Missing rules (or forgotten resolutions):
 - Resolutions are hard to track as they aren't collected anywhere. No one on the BOD at the meeting was able to reference a specific rule that has 'disappeared' from the rulebook. Some of the items that people feel have disappeared, may never have ever been a rule, but were written out as a guideline or resolution and are not published with the rule book.
- Novice:
 - Max stated that there is not a good way to track some of the novice riders. Should Novice's put a "N" on their entry forms to designate them similar to the R that Rookie riders do? No further discussion was held and no action taken on this subject.
- Review of bylaw change from March meeting:
 - Motion made by Tony to accept the wording for the Special Meetings as presented below, seconded by Wayne. Failed.
 - Section 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Written notice of a Special Meeting of the corporation stating the time, place and object thereof ***shall be published in a report to the members postmarked via U.S. Mail or sent via membership email address at least five business days prior to the meeting or by posting the same on the UMECRA website www.umecra.com***. Special Meetings of the Corporation may be called at any time upon request of the president, vice president or a major of the members of the Board of Directors, or upon written request ***submitted via certified U.S. Mail with return receipt requested*** to the president, vice president or the Board of Directors by ~~twenty (20) or more members.~~ ***Ride managers representing 50% + 1 of the previous year's sanctioned rides which were held. The signatures must be by persons listed as ride managers on the sanctioning application. If the special meeting is requested by the majority of the ride managers, they must procure and pay for the meeting room. The Executive Board decides which city the meeting will be held.***
 - This motion will be readdressed in January
 - There are several places in the by-laws where it states "five days". Art Priez, the UMECRA attorney consultant, suggested that those references in the by-laws be changed to five business days.
 - Motion made by Bonnie, seconded by Max to approve changes in by-laws from five (5) days to five (5) business days. Passed.
- The Quorum discussion was held again with the BOD. Art Priez had suggested some wording for the quorum; however, the BOD had already discussed this subject multiple times and would like more discussion with Art before making any changes.
 - Tony motions, seconded by Wayne to table the Quorum discussion until January and Art will be asked to attend the meeting. Passed.
- Possible rule changes/updates:
 - Dr. Peterson requested that the maximum speed for competitive rides be raised to 8 mph. A discussion followed that covered:
 - How will this increase in speed could affect
 - pregnant horses
 - New riders



- Young horses
 - Welfare of horses
 - Rides with short/long miles and trail conditions
 - After discussing all of the above items, the BOD felt that the current rule will not be changed; 7 mph is better for the welfare of the horse.
- Dr. Dean also would like to see a resolution that ride managers pay timers \$100 and people who mark trail \$200 and increase ride fees to rides as he feels the rides in UMECRA are very inexpensive and some of the rides not sponsored by an organization are having a hard time not losing money.
 - A discussion followed regarding the economics of raising rides. UMECRA will not dictate to ride managers what their ride fees should be. The BOD looked at some rides from the AERC website and entry fees are considerably higher in other areas of the country with some rides charging \$120 for an LD ride. No further action was taken on this subject.
- Publicity/promotion report:
 - Nicole will look at putting ads in some of the publications again in spring. Last year, she partnered with AERC on some ads in some Midwest publications.
 - If any member has any ideas and suggestions about promoting UMECRA and/or endurance riding they can submit their ideas to Nicole. Anyone wanting to be on the promotion program should also contact Nicole.
- ICF:
 - The ICF fund has \$7900 in it. Candy Barbo, Lucy Periwinkle and Dr. Olivia are working on revamping the guidelines for this fund which could include funding vets going to rides, fund clinics and make the funds more available to qualified UMECRA riders. The guidelines from the committee will be presented at the January BOD meeting. Bill Suskey volunteered to be on the committee also.
- Ride Manager ID wear:
 - There was a discussion on FaceBook about how to identify a ride manager at a ride. Some rides will post the RM phone number or post a sign by the RM trailer to identify RM; it varies from ride to ride. Identifying the RM is at the discretion of each ride; no further discussion or action will be taken at this time by UMECRA.
- Awards:
 - The purchasing of the awards is all up to date; Max, Boots, Robin and Linda are the awards committee. If anyone is interested in assisting this committee, contact Max.
- Membership directory:
 - A discussion was held on how to do this in the future as the current format is very time consuming. Nicole and Jill will look at an option of giving members the option to receive the member directory electronically instead of hard copy. The hard copy option will still be provided to any members; but members can opt out and just receive it electronically or not at all.
- Hall of Fame award:
 - A nomination for a UMECRA member was discussed. Jill motions to accept the nomination; Bill seconded. Passed.
- Appointment for NL Editor and Sanctioning Coordinator:



- Motion made by Max to accept Peggy as the NL editor for a 2-year term, seconded by Tony. Passed.
- Motion made by Bonnie to accept Jill as the SC for a 2-year term, seconded by Jon. Passed.
- Trail grants:
 - Bonnie presented a request for \$250 to the Southern Kettle Moraine for campground improvements. Wayne motions to give the \$250 donation to the request, Tony seconded. Passed.
- 2016 Elections in January:
 - President
 - Veterinary Representative
 - Four rider reps: three people nominated so far; voting will be held at the convention
 - MN Director
 - WI Director

Jos motions to adjourn, seconded by Wayne. Passed
Meeting adjourned at 3:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer