BOARD MEETING
February 11, 1996
Janesville, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by president Ray Gehrig at 12 o'clock. Present were Robert Beecher, Louise Riedel, Art Priesz, Dianne Kuhn, Dale Lunde, Monna Radtke, and Wes Elford, Veterinary Representative; rider representatives Roberta Harms, Grace Ramsey, and Connie Gray. Elinore Tonsor, Wayne Gastfield and Rae Birr were guests.

Items on the president's agenda were discussed as follows:

Training and informational tape: An effort will be made to secure video tapes dealing with veterinary practices and other general ride procedures. Rick Halvorson has agreed to do the editing and to produce a tape that can be shown for various educational purposes

Publicity - Lori Windows will chair this committee. A memo from her outlined ways in which ride managers and riders can secure publicity for the sport. Connie Gray offered to prepare a poster to be printed in the Newsletter which members will be asked to copy and distribute to their local saddle shops and other outlets.

Mentor Program - It was suggested that UMECRA institute an organized method of assisting new riders. Ride managers will be asked to be aware of new participants and to attempt to pair them up with experienced riders as <u>mentors.</u> Interested newscomers can also be encouraged to serve as helpers, vet secretaries etc.

Grievance Procedure - A question has arisen as to the scope of the protest procedure, which states that protests can only concern an infraction of the rules. Should there be provision for other forms of "grievances"? Art will follow up on this.

Awards - Connie Gray will chair this committee.

It was suggested that UMECRA could sell sweatshirts and t-shirts on a plan whereby orders are taken and paid for before the order is placed with the supplier. The person in charge would be responsible to take orders, receive the shipment and send the items to the purchasers. Connie will contact the supplier.

5 minute P & R Program - Chuck Gray, chairman of a committee appointed at the annual meeting to study the proposed 5-minute p/r check reported on a meeting of this committee on January 13. To investigate what impact a 5-minute check will have versus a 10-minue check, the following was proposed: 1) hold both 5 and 10 mninute checks at designated competitive rides. 2) record the exact time that the checks are given at these rides. 3) surprise checks to be utilized in the study groups. 4) The Saturday afternoon competitive ride would be utilized for this study. The following rides volunteered to participate: Dead Dog Creek, Diamond Lil, Glacier Trails, Illinois Challenge, Kettle Classic, SE Minnesota, White River, Wolverine. Dianne Kuhn will record the results. Ride managers are required to record both the 5- and 10-minute checks on the final score sheets so that participants can see any differences; and send a copy of this sheet to Dianne Kuhn along with the time cards. A final report will be tabulated and printed in the Newsletter.

$5 Penalty for late renewal of membership - It was decided to extend the deadline.

By-laws - The wording of the by-laws is unclear as to whether officers are required to have served as ride managers. It is also unclear as to whether those persons who are appointed at the general meeting to serve as alternate or "proxy" delegates are elibible for election as directors or officers. The question also arose as to whether the position of secretary-treasurer should be elected or appointed. Art moved, Dale seconded that we draft an amendments to the By-laws to make it clear that **1) proxies are not eligible for election to the Board or as officers 2) that persons elected to the board or as officers have to be an actual delegate (either an elected rider representative or a ride manager) and 3) that the position or positions of secretary/treasurer be appointed by the**

president and that appointment be subject to ratification by the Board. Motion carried.

Elinore suggested that the position of Newsletter Editor be appointed and that person be a member or the Board. Art will draft a proposal to that effect to be voted on at the next board meeting.

Insurance - Ray questioned whether the coverage of our present insurance policies protects ride managers from lawsuits. A discussion followed as to the extent of liability. No action was taken.

Drugs - Bob Beecher reported that AERC conducted drug testing on at least one ride per region in 1995. No positive results were found. A more extensive program will be conducted in 1996 since an extra $1.00 per rider will be collected by AERC.

Newsletter - A committee formed at the annual meeting met January 13. It was recommended that the Newsletter be printed bi-monthly starting in February, with Elinore to set the monthly dates and cut-off time for submissions. A FAX machine was offered at UMECRA's expense. A meeting to discuss the Newsletter was held on January 28 at Juda, Wisconsin. Attending were Elinore, Ray, Louise, and Grace. It was decided that seven Newsletters would be published on the first of March, May, July, September and October, and the 15th of Novmeber and December. Advertising rates were changed--to be announced in the Newsletter. It was also decided to sell advertising in the UMECRA Directory. It was recommended to budget $3000 for the Newsletter, plus all advertising. The purchase of computer modems to facilitate communication between the editor and the UMECRA secretary was discussed. All advertising funds are to be run through the UMECRA account in Dubuque.

Art moved **that each Newsletter be limited to 12 pages, to be expanded if necessary with the approval of the executive committee.** Louise seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Beecher moved, Monna Radtke seconded **to purchase modems to connect the computers of the Newsletter editor and the Secretary.** Motion carried.

BUDGET - Louise presented a proposed budget for 1996 as follows:

Income		Expenses	
Ride Sanctioning	$1900.00	Printing	4000.00
Ride Fees	4500.00	Directory	500.00
Memberships	7000.00	Postage	1100.00
1000 Mile Nominations	650.00	Phone	600.00
Sale of Patches	50.00	Office Supplies	250.00
Interest	100.00	General Awards	4000.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	Newsletter	4000.00
Convention income	500.00	Miscellaneous	100.00
Sale of Advertising	1000.00	Contingencies	300.00
Year's income	**15,800.00**	**Year's expenses**	**14,850.00**
Balance 1/1/96	**1,400.00**		
Total Income	**17,200.00**	**Projected Balance**	**2,350.00**

Ray moved **to approve the budget.** Monna seconded. Motion carried.(Budget corrected 2/15/96 due to incorrect computation--L.R.)

TRAILS - UMECRA should cooperate with agencies promoting horse trails in states where our rides are held. We presently are members of the Wisconsin Horse council. Art moved, Grace seconded **that the secretary be authorized to join state horse councils and such other organizations as the Illinois Trail Riders.** Motion carried.

ZONE REPRESENTATION - It has been suggested that one Director be elected from each of the states where rides are held (Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin). It was also suggested that the rider representatives might be elected on the same basis. This plan will be considered and discussed at the next board meeting.

Meeting adjoured at 4:45.
Louise Riedel, Secretary