BOARD MEETING
January 16, 1999
Lake Geneva WI

The meeting was called to order at 7 a.m. by President Mary Mott. Also in attendance were Directors Mike Thomas, Louise Riedel, Wayne Gastfield, Dianne Kuhn, Rick Nelson, Ray Gehrig, Monna Radtke, Bob Beecher, Wes Elford, Art Priesz; Rider representatives Maxine Bernsdorf, Connie Gray, Roberta Harms; Dale Lunde; and Newsletter editors June scheunemann and Mike Bernsdorf.

Secretary/treaurer's report. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as circulated in the Newsletter. The financial report was approved as it appears on the attached sheet. The current balance in the general fund is $6,066.90; in the convention account $600.80; and in the Contingency/Trails fund $2,680.72 for total assets of $9,337.42. The ICF fund has a balance of $5,697.06

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship Fund - Mary appointed Dianne Kuhn as chairman of the committee.

Awards committee - Mary appointed Laura Husser, Dianne to help.

Promotion committee - A proposal from Chairman John Sturm was circulated. Mike moved that we set up a budget of $1000 to be used for advertising and that we encourage John to use it in conjunction with magazine articles. Bob seconded. Motion carried. An evaluation of results should be made.

OLD BUSINESS

Guidelines for UMECRA Banquets: Wes Elford moved to accept this proposal, which had been presented at the previous board meeting. Monna seconded. Motion carried

1. Location is to be in as close proximity as possible to Interstate Highways 90/94 located between Wisconsin Dells, WI and Rockford IL.

2. Bids are to be given to the Board at the board meeting prior to the general meeting/banquet the year prior to the awarded bid (i.e. 1998 bid for 1999). The board is to decide who will win the bid and the wnning location will be presented at the end of the general meeting.

3. The responsibility of the person handling the banquet will involve the following:

   a. Booking of the hotel including the rooms, meals, banquet halls.

      a. Cost factors: room cost, best possible rate for membership

      b. Meal costs: usually buffet style

      c. Banquet, meeting rooms. Make sure these are included in the rates.

   b. Speakers. This responsibility can be handled by the person handling the banquet arrangments or with help from another source.

      a. cost of speaker should not exceed $500 (this may be changed upon approval of the board)

      b. Expenses of the speaker, travel expenses, room cost, etc.

   c. Availability of location. The recommended time is the second or third weekend in January.

   d. Personnel to help with signing in, voting for riders choice, etc.

   e. Entertainment

The next banquet will be held January 14/15, 2000 at the Holiday Inn at the Wisconsin Dells with Dianne Kuhn in charge.

A bid was received from Mike Thomas/ Rick Nelson as co-hosts for the meeting in 2001 at Rockford IL.

Newsletter: Ray moved, Dale seconded to approve June Scheunemann and Mike Bernsdorf as Newsletter co-editors. Motion carried.

Veterinary Guidelines. Art moved, Ray seconded to ask Doctors Elford and Beecher to draw up guidelines concerning metabolic treatments, for inclusion in the Veterinary Manual. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

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Louise presented some information, mostly derived from the Internet, concerning a perceived threat to competitive rides put on in conjunction with AERC sanctioned rides. Some of this stems from the passage of an AERC by-law defining a ride of any distance from 0 - 49 miles as a limited distance ride. A petition had been prepared requesting that this by-law be rescinded. Louise asked if we should present this petition to the members. It was the consensus that we should and that she should use her own discretion as to whether to present it to the AERC Board.

A request had been received from Joe Mattingley regarding use of the UMECRA name in the title of his August Ride, (to be UMECRA Championship ride) Louise moved, Bob seconded to approve Joe's request. There was disagreement based on the premise that if our name was used, the ride should be structured under UMECRA management rather than given to any one ride, or perhaps all rides should have a chance to bid. Motion failed.

VIDEO - Art and Monna were appointed to collaborate on a promotional video.

SCHEDULE. Art moved to approve the tentative schedule. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Louise Riedel, secretary

GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m. January 15 by President Mary Mott. Delegates from the following rides responded to roll call: AHAM, AHDRA I & II, ApDRA, Bear River, Brighton, Dead Dog Creek, DRAW, Glacier Trails, Grand Island, Hopkins Creek, IDRA I, Kettle Classic, KM Colorama, Little Manistee, Maplewood East, MnDRA I, Northern Highland, Northern Illinois I & II, One More Ride, Pine Marten, Ride the Prairie, Rock River, SE Minnesota, Shore to Shore, Spirit Mountain, White River Spring, Summer, Fall and Labor Day, Wildcat and Wolverine. Sixty four are eligible to vote.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved as circulated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AERC - Louise reported. See minutes of morning board meeting. A petition to rescind the AERC By-law defining all mileages from 0-49 as limited distance was circulated.

AERC International - Art Priesz reported as head of the Central zone selection committee for the Pan American Championship which will be held in Manitoba on August 7. Horses may be nominated up until Feb. 15. He also reported on the World championship ride in Dubai in December.

Trails - Art reported that UMECRA has donated $100 to the Mathiesen Volunteer Horsemen group (site of the Rock River ride) and $100 to the Forestville State Forest (site of the Southeast Minnesota Ride) in both cases the funds are to be used for trail improvement.

Video - Monna Radtke reported that $1500 has been allocated to produce a video to be used for promoting UMECRA. She has contacted producers and videographers. Art Priesz will work with Monna in regards to some other ideas.

Promotion - Mary announced that John Sturm has been appointed chairman of a committee for promotion. Michelle Hambel, Kathy Schauer, Linda Hartman, Louise Riedel, Joe Mattingley and Mike O'Mara are committee members. Louise reported on some of John's suggestions. At the morning meeting the Board agreed to set a budget of $1000 for advertising and promotion purposes, with emphasis on securing magazine articles. Clinics and the state horse fairs will also be promotional tools.

JoAnne Gernant urged members whose horses have received awards in the 1000-mile program to submit pictures for the scrapbooks which she maintains.

Ride schedule. Art moved to accept the tentative schedule. There were questions regarding the sanctioning of the Rocky Mountain 5-day ride on the grounds that it was outside the UMECRA region. In the past we have sanctioned rides in Ontario, Missouri, Montana, western Nebraska and even California. Motion carried.

Veterinary Directory - Mike Thomas urged ride managers to furnish names and addresses of their veterinarians with the object of compiling a directory.

NEW BUSINESS

A proposal had been received from Myles Harston prior to the December board meeting, part of which *between the two systems. The Board can then make a decision as to a possible revision.*

Dr. Beecher moved, *Roberta seconded to revise the competitive score sheets to eliminate pre* ride points for lameness and fatigue. After lengthy discussion which also included the proposal that horses with grade 2 lameness not be allowed to start, the motion was defeated. A suggestion was made that in the case of pre-ride lamenes or fatigue a certain number of points be deducted at the outset from the 400 possible score and remain there for the balance of the ride. Tabled until the next meeting.

Mike Thomas moved, Dawn Haas seconded that the following be added to the general rules: **that we add to the general rules that any cut off time at a check be reasonably proportionate to the mileage-ride** time. Motion carried.

Art moved, Monna seconded that a rider declare his or her weight at the beginning of the year and remain there for the balance of the year. Motion defeated.

A proposal had been made to the Board that the name of the Northern Illinois Challenge II be changed to the UMECRA Championship Ride. The Board denied this request (see minutes of Board meeting)

The following newly elected rider representatives were introduced: Maxine Bernsdorf, Connie Gray, Roberta Harms and Dale Lunde.

The next item of business was election of officers:

Mary Mott was nominated as President. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried

Elinore Tonsor was nominated for Vice-president. She declined. Rick Nelson and Mike Thomas were nominated for Vice-president. Mike declined. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Rick Nelson. Motion carried

Louise Riedel and Chuck Gray were nominated for secretary/treasurer. Chuck declined. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.

Linda Mowrer was nominated as the regional director from Illinois. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried

Wayne Gastfield was nominated as the regional director from Michigan. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried

The following were nominated for Director at Large: Roberta Harms, Joe Mattingley, Dr. Beecher and Mike Mocilan. Dr. Beecher was elected.

Wes Elford was nominated as Veterinary Representative. It was moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.

The President thanked the following people for their contributions to UMECRA: Connie and Chuck Gray for managing the convention, Elinore Tonsor for editing the Newsletter and other contributions; Mike and June for editing the Newsletter, Joan Thiel for doing the UMECRA Website, John Sturm for donating a horse trailer and the computer, Roger Rittenhouse and Kim Kingsley for donating year end awards, Wayne Gastfield for a cash donation and Art and Louise.

Mary announced James Olson, Becky Radtke and Karen Welle are the winners of the UMECRA scholarships in the amount of $1100 each. Ray stated that here is now approximately $70,000 in the fund. An explanation of the method of qualifying for this scholarship will be printed in the Ride Book.

Mary announced that the 2000 banquet will be held January 14, 15 at the Holiday Inn in Wisconsin Dells. Dianne will be in charge.

The meeting adjourned.

Louise Riedel, secretary