

**AERC Board of Directors Phone Meeting Minutes  
10\_2\_06**

**Meeting called to order by President Stagg Newman at 6:05 PM, PST**

***In attendance:* Stagg Newman, Mike Maul, Nick Warhol, Patti Pizzo, Jennifer Nice, Connie Caudill, Joyce Mocilan, Joe Long, Jan Stevens, Stan Eichelberger, Tom Dean, Gail Williams, Terry Woolley Howe, John H. Parke, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech Roger Taylor, Jeff Trinkle, Barry Waitte, Kim Fuess, Jerry Fruth, Laura Hayes, Robert Ribley, Dinah Rojek, C. Mike Tomlinson**

***Not in Attendance:* Mike Jaffe**

**Housekeeping:**

**Excusals from Aug 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** A motion was made to excuse Stan Eichelberger from the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting due to a family emergency. Motion passes unanimously.

**Excusals from the upcoming Midyear Meeting on October 21st-** Robert Ribley cannot attend due to work schedules. Motion passes unanimously.

**The Board officially welcomes two new members:** Kim Fuess and Joe Long, both appointed as the result of the resignations of Teresa Cross and Susan Horne.

**Motion from Nick Warhol-** A motion is made for the approval of minutes from the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion passes unanimously.

**Membership Update:** Kathleen H- Membership on October 2<sup>nd</sup> is 6556. Membership one year ago is 6555.

**New Business:**

**A motion is raised to officially appoint Jan Stevens to chair the Membership Committee.** Jan has been acting and active in the role for a few weeks. Stagg comments about the great amount of work that is happening in this area. Motion passes unanimously with one abstention; Jan S abstains.

**Finance Committee: Patti P-** Patti discusses the projections for the remainder of FY06. She is estimating a net income of about \$58K according to how the numbers look at present. This is due mostly to a reduction in total spend by the committees, and additional convention profit. Some of this income is committed in FY06 to the following accounts: Trails Grants, International, Education, Drug Testing, Research. The Finance committee will work with Jennifer N to finish up paying some outstanding bills for marketing expenses. The final adjustments to the Q4 projection will be ready for the midyear meeting. Sue T recommends obligating some expenses in this fiscal period, payable when the bills come in FY07. The committee will look into these options and report back.

**Insurance Committee: Roger t-** Roger presents the new Equisure quote for ride insurance for 07. The cost is about \$1K more than last year. The policy includes about 550 ride days- this is up from last year by about 65 days, due to the need to add in some additional setup days. Equisure is also including some setup days at no cost. Some new negotiations have

provided additional insureds at no incremental cost. A motion from committee is raised to approve the new policy for next year- Motion passes unanimously with two abstentions: John P and Mike T. (See Appendix C)

Trails grants committee: Jerry F- Jerry Presents a proposal to request a grant of \$2,600 be given to Glennville state college to provide trail tools for the trail master classes that are held at Glennville state college facility. (the east coast home of the class site) It is a donation to the foundation- the tools will not belong to the AREC for liability issues. There are some questions from John P regarding budgets and remaining funds. The funds requested are coming from the trails grants budget. The motion is raised from committee: motion passes unanimously. (See appendix D)

Convention committee: Robert R- Robert gives a brief status on the upcoming convention in Reno at the Nugget Hotel. The committee has several speakers lined up, as well as some new entertainment. It will again be a joint convention with NATRC. There is good response from trade show vendors so far. Stagg thanks the committee and asks that everyone work towards making this convention as successful as the prior convention in San Antonio.

National Championship committee: Robert R- Robert reports that the 06 ride is full with a waiting list! There are approx 40/45 in the 100 and 91 in the 50. The event is looking very good so far and is creating the excitement that everyone wants.

The 07 Championship ride is discussed in great detail. There are some major concerns regarding some proposed changes to the ride that has been awarded to Steph Teeter in Idaho. The committee has heard that the ride manager is planning on having a new long hold during the day and having an open FEI ride in conjunction with the NC that would include riders who would not be qualified by the AERC standards. There is much discussion, and a motion is raised to rescind the ride. After more discussion, the motion is modified by John P to give the committee 24 hours to contact the ride manager and ask if they are willing to put on the ride with the following requirement: No special long hold and no open FEI ride. The motion to amend the motion to rescind the ride is voted on by a roll call vote, the motion passes by a 15 yes, to 7 no, with 1 abstain, vote. (The vote asks should the original motion to rescind the ride be modified as to John P's recommendation)

**Results:**

Mike Maul	No
Nick Warhol	Yes
Patti Pizzo	Yes
Jennifer Nice	Yes
Connie Caudill	No
Joyce Mocilan	Yes
Joe Long	Yes
Jan Stevens	No
Stan Eichelberger	No
Tom Dean	No
Gail Williams	Abstain
Terry Woolley Howe	Yes
John H. Parke	Yes
Joe Schoech	Yes
Roger Taylor	No

**Jef Trinkle**        **Yes**  
**Barry Waitte**    **Yes**  
**Kim Fuess**        **Yes**  
**Jerry Fruth**      **No**  
**Laura Hayes**      **Yes**  
**Robert Ribley**    **Yes**  
**Dinah Rojek**      **Yes**  
**C. Mike Tomlinson** **Yes**

**The modified (and approved) motion is voted on to allow the NC committee 24 hours to contact the ride manager and get the final word on if they will hold the ride without the two modifications: (see full text of motion below in Appendix A) Motion passes unanimously. It is approved that Robert R be the single point of contact with the ride manager to avoid confusion in communications.**

**Sponsorship committee: Barry W- Barry announces that Easycare has been signed in a short term agreement for the rest of the 06 ride season. They will renew for \$3000 in 07.**

**Technical committee: Mike M- Bob M and Mike M have set up some new standards for email message retention and the scanning and filing of critical documents, and providing for the long term storage of office information for disaster recover purposes.**

**Education committee: Dinah R- Dinah reports that the education section of the web site is being redone by the Education Committee, and is expected to be done by the convention timeframe. Stagg comments that Dinah has done an outstanding job as chair of the Education committee and will be missed, as she is not re-running for DAL.**

#### **Old Business:**

**The Santa Fe trail ride update. The ride management for the SF Trail Ride have resubmitted sanctioning for the ride. The two sanctioning directors are working with the ride managers on some final issues regarding trail routes and access. Good progress is being made to get the ride planned. Roger has a few open issues to resolve (see below) before he makes his final approval, but final approval is anticipated. Barry will write a quick communication to the membership saying the sanctioning request is in and work is going forward on the ride approval.**

- **Insurance. The event land owners require a lot of additional insureds, and as a result the ride may need their own insurance. They are working with their carrier and equisure to resolve.**
- **They have improved the trail routes substantially and have submitted maps and details regarding vet check locations and access.**
- **The ride wants each section between groups of days to be able to qualify for pioneer rides. They will adjust mileage to some days to make sure they qualify for pioneer status.**

#### **Other new business:**

**Stagg is creating agenda for the midyear coming up. It will start at 7:30 am with a working breakfast, and will finish by 5pm. Dinner will be at the ride site. The BOD will have an informal hot topics session at the ride site to provide good interaction with people at the ride.**

**DAL election: Three existing Board Members are not re-running for election: Dinah R, Jerry F, and Kim F. We have 13 people running for DAL: Laura Hayes, Bruce Weary, John Crandell III, Mike Maul, Stagg Newman, Mike Tomlinson, Robert Ribley, Deirdre Monroe, Mollie Ann Krumlaw-Smith, Kathy Brunjes, Heidi Smith, Randy Eiland, Amanda Stewart**

**BOD goes into Executive session, including vet committee chair Melissa R.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm pst.**

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**Appendix A:**

**Motion on canceling the 07 NC ride: John P- "The board directs the national championship committee to cease any and all negotiations with Steph Teeter concerning the 07 national championship ride, and find an alternative site, unless she within 24 hours (the deadline is 8pm, PST Tuesday, Oct 3) agrees to the conditions previously set forth by the committee. Specifically no open FEI division in the ride."**

**Appendix B:**

**10-2-2007 Conference call  
From Marcom Committee  
Re AHA Contract  
Comments from J. Nice:**

**I would like the board to be aware that this contract is not binding. The terms of the contract are for 6 full page ads at a cost of \$588 each. The purpose of the contract is only to lock in the discounted rate for the ads of 30%, not the actual size of the ads. If, later in the year we see the need to cut expenses, we can reduce the size of the ads from full pages to fractionals, which will cost less but we will still receive the frequency discount. If, so some reason, we elect to cancel the contract sometime in 2007, AHA will make a prorated adjustment for ads already run. For example, if we decide to cancel after running three ads, AHA will adjust the rate to the 3-time frequency. This is clearly stated on the agreement under "Frequency Discount."**

**This contract does not need to be paid in full in advance. If we elect not to pay this in 2006 to reduce our obligations in 2007, AHA will bill us as the ads run. The expense could be spread out over the course of 2007.**

**Appendix C:**

**From Insurance Committee  
Motion on 2007 Insurance**

**This is the insurance motion for the Oct 2 conference call. Any questions. Please contact Roger Taylor or any member of the insurance committee.**

**AERC Board of Directors MOTION PROPOSAL**

**Motion Name Ride liability insurance renewal**

**Proposing Committee Insurance committee**

**Date of Motion Oct 2 conference call**

**Classification of Motion Request new**

**Proposed Motion The Insurance committee moves that the ride liability insurance be renewed for the 2007 ride year with Equisure as per their quote presented to AERC.**

**Background, analysis and benefit** This is a very good quote at only about \$1,000 more than 2006 and now includes 550 ride days. Some of the extra days are setup/takedown days at some rides.

**Budget effect/impact** anticipated and budgeted

**Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization**

**Impact on AERC Office** same as before

**Committees consulted and/or affected**

**Implementation plan** this is needed ASAP so the additional insured certificates for next year can be done.

**Supporting materials** Equisure quote previously sent to BOD

**Supporting approvals** Insurance committee and AERC office

**Appendix D:**

**From Trails Grant Committee**

**Motion on Glenville State College Foundation Trail Tool Grant**

**Motion Name** Glenville State College Foundation Trail Tool Grant

**Proposing Committee** Trail Grants

**Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)** 10/02/06

**Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)** NEW

**Proposed Motion (use exact wording)** Glenville State College, in Glenville West Va. Is the permanent

Site for our trail master training in the east. The hand tools needed for the class will be purchased by the

Foundation with our funding. Total cost including freight is \$2,600.

**Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)** Our Trail Master Classes teach our endurance riders how to design, construct and maintain sustainable trails. The benefit is to keep

Us on our trails.

**Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)** Funding will come from the "Trails Fund."

There will be no impact on the 2006 budget, however the balance will change in the Trails Fund.

**Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization** See above.

**Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)** Writing of one check

**Committees consulted and/or affected** Trail Grants Committee

**Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)** AS soon as possible

**Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)** N/A

**Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)** Trails Grants Committee

**Appendix E:**

**AERC International Committee**

**2006 Mid-Year Report**

**September 28, 2006**

**Mission Statement (from AERC):**

**“The International Committee of the American Endurance Ride Conference shall promote excellence in the sport of International endurance riding through education, participation, promotion, facilitation and support of the United States effort. The AERC International Committee will represent and act for the American Endurance Ride Conference in all matters pertaining to international equestrian endurance riding. The Committee shall perform its duties in accordance with the AERC By-laws, policies and directives.”**

**Summary of Committee activities, January 1, 2006 – September 22, 2006**

**(Report comprises activities that have taken place, in no particular priority or order, followed by continued goals and/or planned activities through 2007 in Italics).**

- 1. 2006 AERC Convention: AERC-I participated in the convention by offering an educational program entitled: *FEI De-mystified*, which was well-attended, as well as running a slide presentation (of the Aachen course) during the Trade Show (near our booth area). A slide presentation of the North American Endurance Championship medalists (individual and Zone Teams) was incorporated into the AERC Regional Awards presentation.**

*What we can do better: better communication between USEF committees and AERC Office for scheduling non-conflicting meeting times; contact 2007 convention committee earlier in planning process to help eliminate scheduling and programming conflicts. Provide program session for 2007 Convention.*

- 2. Electronic newsletter: two issues have been sent to AERC-I members and copies linked to the AERC website/AERC-I website ([www.aerc.org/usaendurance.asp](http://www.aerc.org/usaendurance.asp)). Next issue due for November, 2006.**

*Continue electronic distribution of newsletter; post notice via AERC website when newsletter available (link to view/download newsletter). Continue to evolve newsletter information into “news” versus “reports”.*

- 3. Formalized a process to promote junior and young riders at the International level: a committee, headed by Jan Stevens, surveyed AERC junior members on interest and goals; committee to set goals for 2007 based on survey responses.**

*Potential sponsors being sought; possible endowment has been offered; goals will include providing a venue for junior/young riders in 2007 and investigating opportunity for junior/young riders to observe and/or participate in off-continent event(s).*

- 4. AERC-I, working with Kathleen Henkel, showed its appreciation to renewing members by sending decals and brief contact letter.**

*Look into 2007 membership renewal incentives and recruiting new members; include letter from AERC-I committee with 2007 AERC membership renewals.*

- 5. The committee contributed monthly news columns to *Endurance News*, highlighting important and/or ongoing monthly alerts and news.**

*Re-institute “profiles” and seek active contributions from Canadian members in 2007. Investigate possibilities for foreign correspondents.*

6. Sale of merchandise throughout the period; individual committee members requesting AERC-I inventory from the AERC office. Close to \$400 sold at rides in the Central, Mountain and East zones.

*Continue to promote international merchandise to deplete current inventory; consider new items for 2007 convention sales.*

7. AERC-I contributed \$2,000 in sponsorship to the 2006 WEG riders, contributed a donation to the USEF-Team Foundation (Endurance) in memory of Mary Lutz and sponsored five miles of the AERC National Championship 100 mile trail.

The AERC-I Committee would like to acknowledge the efforts of our AERC members who represented the United States in the recent World Equestrian Games, Endurance Championships (August 21, 2006, Aachen, Germany):

Kathy Downs on Harley: 15<sup>th</sup> place, ride time of 10:06:27

Meg Sleeper on Troy: 22<sup>nd</sup> place, ride time of 10:12:20

Jennifer Neihaus on Cheyenne: 49<sup>th</sup> place, ride time of 11:57:26

Joe Mattingley on Larry: DNF (Gate 4)

Christoph Schork on Husky: DNF (Gate 5)

Steve Rojek on Finch: DNS

*Continue to provide funding for FEI championship level events, both on-continent and off-continent, as well as support the AERC national championships.*

8. AERC-I is currently working with the USEF High Performance, Technical and Eligible Athlete Committees to provide an FEI-level national ride event to replace North America losing the 2007 PanAms (to be held in Brazil rather than Manitoba). AERC members have been kept up-to-date through notices in *Endurance News* of the proposed replacement venue. AERC-I is also currently working, through Zone Reps, on both selection criteria and qualifications for the proposed 2007 event and the 2008 World Endurance Championships (currently planned for Malaysia, with Newmarket, England as possible substitution location).

*Continue to keep AERC members informed of progress of 2007 event; Zone Reps charged with gaining zone members' input on qualifications and selection for the 2007 event. 2008 WEC selection process will be made available to AERC Board and members by first of year (2007).*

9. AERC-I budget/expenditures are being monitored by both our committee treasurer and through Liz Bryson's (AERC office) accounting reports to this committee; it has been a concern of this committee that a recent accounting audit (AERC office) has produced findings that some expenses in 2005 and 2006 had not been deducted from the AERC-I committee account, constituting a belief on our committee's behalf that we had more funds available to us than is the actual case. This issue has been resolved.

**Final Summary:** The Committee has had challenges in creating and maintaining new FEI ride opportunities in this country, and is actively working on the ride schedule for 2007. The Committee looks forward to expanding its role with the AERC Board and membership, as well as creating a more active involvement with the U.S. Federation (USEF). The

**Committee continues to look to the AERC Board for commitment to our international members and endeavors.**

**Respectfully Submitted by: Kathy Brunjes (14563)  
AERC-I Chair  
(On behalf of the entire AERC-I Committee)**