

American Endurance Ride Conference  
Board of Directors Meeting – Teleconference Call  
July 7, 2008

Call to Order: 6:04 pm Pacific Time

Roll Call: Mike Maul, Jan Stevens, Patti Pizzo, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Joyce Mocilan, Susan Schomburg, Sandy Terp, Tom Noll, Terry Woolley Howe, John Parke, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Roger Taylor, Jeff Trinkle, Maryben Stover, Dianna Chapek, Laura Hayes, Robert Ribley, and Mike Tomlinson DVM.

Absent: Heidi Smith DVM, Connie Caudill, Gail Williams, John Crandell III, Randy Eiland, and Bruce Weary.

The minutes from the May 5, 2008 Teleconference call meeting were approved by a unanimous vote.

The horse fatality report from the Welfare of the Horse Committee was accepted by a unanimous vote. (see attached)

Kathleen reported on the current state of AERC

Membership as of this date:

- 2008 – 6648
- 2007 – 6635

Rider Fees as of this date:

- 2008 - \$48,425 (not including those that came in today and outstanding)
- 2007 - \$49,400

Sanctioning Fees as of this date:

- 2008 - \$14,910
- 2007 - \$15,140

New Members as of this date:

- 2008 – 883
- 2007 – 1041

New Business

AERC Finance Committee Motion (see attached)

Discussion was held on the motion before the Board. John Parke pointed out to the BOD that we have already had a motion in place that allowed the BOD to set aside 15-85% of the surplus revenue into a restricted reserve account after monies for drug testing, trails, and education are removed. Tom Noll indicated that he felt it was a general policy motion and it indicated how much to put away this year. Mike Maul then pointed out that obviously there was a lot to discuss concerning this motion and suggested that the motion be tabled until the mid-year meeting in August. He also indicated that John Parke would be giving a presentation on AERC proposed Endowment Plan during the mid-year meeting as well.

Website Revision

Mike Maul told the BOD that the revision to the website will involve Troy Smith of the AERC Office staff, heavily as well as other members of the Technical Committee. He said that they intend to wait until next year and hire a profession company to help with the layout. He indicated that the main changes would be to provide a similar look and feel for the doublejoy site (calendar, points, records, etc) with the regular AERC site. He also said that this would help with navigation of the site. Mike also felt that there needed to be more input from the various committees in reference to their pages on the site.

Excess Liability Insurance

Roger Taylor explained that the Insurance Committee was looking into offering Excess Liability Insurance coverage as an option for the membership.

Kathleen Henkel, executive director, informed the BOD that she spoke with the State of California Department of Insurance with some concerns that she had. The State informed her that the AERC office couldn't collect funds unless someone in the office is a licensed insurance salesman. Roger, our Equisure representative, and Kathleen will clarify the issue at the mid-year meeting.

Roger also briefed the Board on the issue of insurance for AERC Veterinarians. They are working on quotes from Equisure through Lloyds of London.

#### Rules Committee Report

Susie Schomburg, chair of the Rules Committee, briefed the BOD that they will be sending out information on the proposed changes to the Rule(s) to the BOD. They will be expecting input from the BOD so that they can have something ready at the mid-year meeting in the form of a motion.

#### Policy and Procedures

Jan Stevens told the BOD that there would be information sent to the BOD soon concerning the revision of the Policy and Procedures Handbook.

#### AERC Scholarship

Sandy Terp and Maryben Stover will be giving a presentation at mid-year concerning the proposed AERC Scholarship Program.

#### Old Business

Protest and Grievance Mediator Appointment (see motion attached)

Susie Schomburg, chair of the Rules Committee, spoke to the motion from the Rules Committee concerning the appointment of two mediators required for Rule 14. Suzanne Hayes and Lori Stewart have indicated that they would like to serve as mediators for the Protest and Grievance Committee. The Protest and Grievance Committee, along with John Parke, will provide training for them. Both mediators have been ride managers and have ridden at all levels. The motion passed unanimously to appoint them to the position.

With there being no further business, John Parke made the motion to adjourn with Roger Taylor seconding the motion at 7:00 pm pst.

### **Report of Equine Fatality at the Manzanita Ride, October 14, 2006**

The rider is an experienced limited distance rider with 965 miles to her credit over a 7-year period. All of those miles were logged with her 22-year old mare which started her career in the sport with her rider. Her record reflects that she is a very conservative rider with an outstanding completion rate.

The drive from the rider's home to base camp was approximately 5 hours and the pair arrived on Friday afternoon. The weather was warm but at some point on Friday a cold front moved in and the temperature dropped.

The trail was familiar to the pair and the footing on the trail was good, although the weather was still cold with a slight drizzle and cool breezes. The pair completed the first 14-1/2 mile loop in 2 hours and 42 minutes. This was not an unusual loop time, although the rider noted that at the end of the loop the mare had slowed a bit and

the rider thought that the horse was not feeling well. Although the horse pulsed down to 56 within minutes of arrival, she refused feed and water which was very unusual for this horse. Shortly thereafter the rider requested that her horse be trailered back to base camp.

The treatment vet first saw the mare at noon. The mare was cramping and trying to lie down and still refused feed or water. Her heart rate was 48 and she was mildly dehydrated with very poor to no gut sounds, pink mucous membranes and capillary refill of 3 seconds. The treatment vet administered 15 cc of dipyrone and watched her for approximately 30 minutes while treating another horse. She then sedated the mare and administered water, electrolytes and mineral oil via naso-gastric tube. This method of hydration was chosen over IV fluids due to the cold weather and fear that IV fluids would cause hypothermia.

The mare quickly became comfortable after receiving the dipyrone and after receiving fluids showed improved gut sounds, no cramping and was willing to eat a carrot. The mare was also given 6 cc of Banamine via IV to continue her comfort. The rider and vet staff made the decision to stay at base camp overnight where the horse could be observed and treatment continued if necessary.

At 6:00 p.m. the rider returned to the vet check area with her mare. The mare's gut sounds improved from the treatment vet's first examination, her heart rate remained 48 and she was eating carrots and nibbling hay, but she continued to refuse water and would occasionally stomp her back leg. A rectal palpation revealed pasty feces and an impaction with minimal distention. More oral fluids were administered along with 6 cc of Banamine. The rider indicated a preference to trailer in daylight for safety, and because the mare appeared to be stable, the pair remained at base camp for observation and continued treatment.

The mare's condition deteriorated during the night and she twice became cast under her corral. At 3:00 a.m. the decision was made to take the mare to an equine hospital. Upon arrival, the treatment vet observed that the mare was sweaty, depressed and appeared to be in moderate abdominal pain. She had no gut sounds, a fever of 102.2, her heart rate was 60, and her mucous membranes were tacky, muddy, purple-pink with a toxic line. The rectal exam revealed a small amount of dry feces with a very firm feed impaction. The belly tap produced a large amount of serosanguinous (watery blood-tinged) fluid contain with a high protein and white cell count, and bacteria.

The decision for surgery was made and revealed a large amount of green fecal material in the abdomen and tears in the mid-small colon. A large firm fecolith was found just behind the tears. Due to the grave prognosis, the rider requested that the mare be humanely euthanized.

In hindsight, the rider believes that her mare may have become dehydrated due to the trailer ride. She believes that the mare drank less than normal on Friday and throughout Friday night and Saturday morning due to the cold weather.

One of the goals of this Committee is that in investigating equine fatalities, so that we might learn how to prevent future fatalities. One possible lesson learned is that riders must be very vigilant in checking their horses to ensure they are eating and drinking normally before the ride (and during and after the ride). If a rider believes the horse is not eating or drinking normally, it may be prudent to not start the ride.

It should be noted that there are many cases where a rider does everything right, gets timely, competent and complete care, but still suffers the loss of their horse. This is such a case. The mare suffered from a preexisting fecolith which was unpredictable and undetectable until she displayed signs of distress. Living creatures all die at some time, and that death can be unpredictable and uncontrollable. This rider should be comforted in the thought that she did all she could and gave her horse a wonderful long life.

The members of the Horse Welfare Committee thank the rider for her cooperation and offer their sincerest condolences on the loss of her beloved horse.

**\*\* MOTION PROPOSAL \*\***

Motion Name: Year End addition to the Restricted Reserve Account 4001

Proposing Committee Finance Committee

Date of Motion 5/6/.2008

Classification of Motion Request new

Proposed Motion This motion is to add to the Restricted Reserve Account 4001 10% of the operating surplus every year . This amount would be calculated after the other designated funds ( trails donations, drug testing education and research etc. ) have had their income netted against their expenses and removed from the Net Income number. Expenditures from the principal in this reserve would be for emergency purposes or extraordinary capital expenses only.

Background, analysis and benefit Provides for funding of the Restricted Reserve account 4001 continually from AERC's operating surplus

Budget effect/impact - Does not effect the budget

.Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization Shows the members that AERC is setting money aside on a continual basis for the future of the organization

Impact on AERC Office Executive Director and Accounting manager will implement this thru our accounting system

.Committees consulted and/or affected Finance Committee, AERC President Mike Maul, Kathleen Henkel Executive Director

Implementation plan we would look to have a figure by mid year to add to the 2008 Restricted Reserve

from the 2007 operating surplus This motion would carry forward every year unless changed by the BOD in the future.

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

Supporting approvals Finance Committee

\*\*\*Additional budget information from the Treasurer:

The 2009 BUDGET

All committees should have their budget requests into the Finance Committee by June 30. For committee chairs who are not requesting additional funding we can just put in a minimal amount for conference calls postage, etc. of \$ 250.00 if you like.

Once compiled the new detailed budget draft will go to the BOD. This will include the operational budget lines including inflation numbers that Kathleen, and Sue have determined for 2009 after reviewing 2007 and 2008. Estimated income for 2009 will be conservative. The BOD will have the full draft budget mid July. This will be approximately 2 weeks before the August conference call which the Finance Committee requests a time slot be allotted for budget discussions. During August the Finance Committee will take additional comments for review and/or updating of the 2009 budget. A revised budget would then be presented at the Mid Year meeting.

The new 2009 Budget then would be placed in the November issue of the Endurance News .

#### TIMELINE FOR 2009 BUDGET

June 30 - all committee budget requests sent to Patti at [Piz220@epix.net](mailto:Piz220@epix.net) so she can forward them to the Finance Committee and Kathleen for review

July 20 - the draft 2009 budget is sent to the BOD

August Conf Call - budget discussions/questions

August Mid Year Final 2009 Working Budget presented to BOD

October 1 deadline for publication of 2009 budget in November Endurance News

November EN final 2009 budget published .

AERC Board of Directors  
**\*\*MOTION PROPOSAL\*\***

Motion Name Approval of members of the P & G mediation panel

Proposing Committee P & G

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD) June 2, 2008

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

Proposed Motion (use exact wording) A motion to nominate Suzanne Hayes (NW) and Lori Stewart (West) to serve as mediators pursuant to AERC Rule 14.3.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving) As a result of the changes in Rule 14 made last year, Rule 14.3 requires that the BOD approve a panel of mediators that can be used to help parties involved in a protest voluntarily settle the protest in its early stages. At the may Conference

call, a motion was made to have Mike Marino (P&G) and Susan Schomburg (Rules) seek out 2-3 people who would be willing to serve as mediators.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate) 0

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

- The use of mediators is intended to help individuals resolve disputes and reduce the workload of the P & G Committee. It is also intended to help reduce frivolous protests from continuing if they can be resolved in the early stages.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget) None

Committees consulted and/or affected P & G

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial) Effective Immediately

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets) Suzanne Hayes is a seasoned endurance competitor and ride manager (more than 17,000 miles). She resides in NW Montana and is a member of the NW region but she also rides frequently in the Mtn region so she is well known and respected through two regions. Lori Stewart has more than 7, 000 miles and currently lives in California (West). However, she has resided and competed in the NE and MTN regions so she is known and respected across several regions. Both women know the rules, have experience in varied aspects of the sport including ride management, multadays, 100 milers, and international competition and they both have excellent people skills. (We are working on finding another person from either the SE or Central regions)

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)