

American Endurance Ride Conference  
Board of Directors Meeting – Teleconference Call  
October 6, 2008

Call to Order: 6:06 pm Pacific Standard Time

Roll Call: Mike Maul, Connie Caudill, Jan Stevens, Patti Pizzo, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Susan Schomburg, Sandy Terp, Tom Noll, Terry Woolley Howe, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Bruce Weary, Roger Taylor, Dianna Chapek, Laura Hayes, Robert Ribley, Gail Williams, Mike Tomlinson, DVM, Joyce Mocilian, and Maryben Stover

Also in attendance was Kathleen Henkel, Executive Director of AERC, and Olin Balch, DVM, representing the Grant for the Equine Cardiac Study.

Absent: Jeff Trinkle, Heidi Smith DVM, John Crandell III, and John Parke.

A motion to accept the absence of John Crandell III was made and was approved unanimously.

The minutes from the August 23, 2008 mid-year meeting and the September 8, 2008 Teleconference call meetings were approved by a unanimous vote.

Kathleen Henkel reported on the current state of AERC

Membership as of:

- October 6, 2007 – 6884
- October 6, 2008 – 6852

Rider Fees as of:

- October 6, 2007 - \$84,470
- October 6, 2008 - \$80,847

Sanctioning Fees:

- October 6, 2007 - \$15,400
- October 6, 2008 - \$15,295

New Members as of:

- October 6, 2007 – 1167
- October 6, 2008 – 1006

It was noted that these numbers indicate that we are flat with our membership.

Kathleen brought the BOD up to speed on the Fraizer case indicating that the invoice for the New Mexico attorney for \$3,276.35 for services July 1-July 22, 2008 needed to be paid. A motion to pay was made and passed. She indicated that there was a motion to dismiss the case in New Mexico, it subsequently went to court and was dismissed. Connie Caudill made the motion to pay the attorney's fees, seconded by Roger Taylor and passed unanimously.

New Business

NASTR Trail Grant. Discussion was held concerning the requested \$5,000 for the NASTR Trail Grant request. Several members who have attended the rides in the region and held by this organization indicated that there are several rides that base out of the proposed improvement location and that NASTR makes yearly contributions to AERC. The total improvement is valued at \$50,000 for the project. It was discussed that the motion proposal did not come to the BOD on the approved motion form. The motion was made by Mike Tomlinson and seconded by Robert Ribley to request that the Executive Committee meet as soon as the correct form is provided and direct the Executive Committee to approve the grant request. The motion passed unanimously.

Rules Committee – Susie Schomburg indicated that the Rules Committee did not have anything to present to the BOD at this meeting.

Control Judge Insurance – A great deal of discussion was held concerning the proposed Control Judge Liability Insurance. Some of the points brought up were:

- They would need to add our definition of a control judge to the contract – similar to USEF’s Judge wording.
- This insurance would not include malpractice, but if we wanted to add malpractice it would be a separate policy and would cost the same amount.
- It was suggested that if we were to go with this liability insurance that we would not add the malpractice insurance.
- Roger Taylor indicated that it would need to be passed by November so that it could be activated by December 1 for the start of our ride season.
- Roger also pointed out that this insurance would be covering the increasing population of veterinarians who are retiring from practice and therefore not needing their liability insurance.
- Mike Tomlinson stated that he felt that this insurance would not provide us any coverage.
- There was concern from some of the BOD that questioned whether or not our vets were actually judging or practicing veterinary medicine.
- If a vet is not licensed in a state where a ride is held, malpractice insurance won’t cover it. However, Roger pointed out that this policy covers the definition of a control judge as someone with a DVM, not necessarily licensed in the state.

The consensus of the BOD was that they felt that this type of policy isn’t what the BOD is interested in, especially talking into consideration the varied opinions of the BOD.

Roger Taylor will bring to the next meeting more detailed information on the malpractice insurance.

Olin Balch, DVM then briefed the BOD on the Cardiac Study that the Research Grants Committee is proposing. There was a great deal of discussion on this topic and it included:

- The information gained from this study can be used for the general membership.
- It was noted that there is Research Grant money there (our budget) and it has been set aside for research.
- A member of the BOD brought up the fact that we don’t know how useful the information will be, indicating that it is a pilot study and we wouldn’t be able to know how it will turn out.
- The money is earmarked (\$12,000) for Research Grants from the Research Reserve Fund.
- The grant’s main aims are:
  - Specific Aim 1: To determine if there are differences in heart rate variability between these groups of horses (elite, non-elite, pulled and non-competing Arabian horses), and if this correlates with endurance competition performance data and completion rates.
  - Specific Aim 2: To determine if there are differences in heart rate variability associated with training/conditioning programs suggestive of over-conditioning in some horses.
  - Specific Aim 3: To evaluate heart size and function echocardiographically in Arabian horses used for endurance riding, and to compare elite horses with less successful competitors and non-endurance Arabians.

The motion was made to accept this Research Grant and to help fund it. A roll call vote was requested with the following voting in favor: Connie Caudill, Jan Stevens, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Terry Wooley-Howe, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Bruce Weary, Roger Taylor, Laura Hayes, Robert Ribley, Gail Williams, Joyce Mocilian, and Maryben Stover. Those opposing the motion included: Patti Pizzo, Susan Schomburg, Sandy Terp, Tom Noll, Dianna Chapek, and Randy Eiland. Those not voting due to absence from the meeting: Jeff Trinkle, John Crandell III, John Parke, Heidi Smith, and Mike Tomlinson. The motion passed with 14 in favor and 6 against.

Randy Eiland notified the BOD that he is currently working on renewing one of our major sponsors.

Mike Maul reported on the AERC members who are running for the Director At Large positions opening up on the AERC Board for 2009. They are: John Crandell III, Randy Eiland, Susan Keil DVM, Kim Fuess, Roberta Harms, Laura Hayes, Mike Maul, Irene Murphy, Patrick Perkins and Bruce Weary DC.

With there being no further business Bruce Weary made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Roger Taylor seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 8:35 pm.