

AERC BOD meeting –Teleconference Call – November 2, 2009

President Connie Caudill called the meeting of the AERC Board of Directors to order at 6:05 pm Pacific time.

Present at the meeting are: Jan Stevens, Laura Hayes, Kim Fuess, Roberta Harms, Mike Maul, Dianna Chapek, Sandy Terp, Susie Schomburg, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Monica Chapman, Michael Campbell, Randy Eiland, John Parke, Jeff Trinkle, Roger Taylor, Patti Pizzo, Bruce Weary, Terry Woolley-Howe, Gail Williams, Tom Noll, Maryben Stover, Joyce Mocilan, and Connie Caudill.

Absent: Susan Keil, DVM and John Crandell, III. Roger Taylor motioned to accept the request for excusals received by both Susan and John. Mike Maul seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Additional AERC Members present: Kathleen Henkel – Executive Director of AERC and Hal Hall – Chairman of the AERC International Committee.

The request was made to approve the agenda. Laura Hayes made the motion and it was seconded by Roger Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

President Connie Caudill requested to have the minutes approved for the October 5, 2009 Teleconference Call. The motion to approve them was made by Dianna Chapek with Bruce Weary seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kathleen Henkel reported the BOD on the membership numbers and current AERC ride information:

|                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Membership as of    | 11/3/08 - 6880                        |
|                     | 11/2/09 – 6200                        |
| Rider fees as of    | 11/2/08 - \$95,814.40                 |
|                     | 11/2/09 - \$91,368.00                 |
| Sanction fees as of | 11/2/08 - \$ 15,295                   |
|                     | 11/2/09 - \$ 14,890                   |
| Sanction fees as of | 11/2/09 for the 2010 season: \$ 5,005 |
| New members as of   | 11/3/08 - 1020                        |
| New members as of   | 11/2/09 - 692                         |

**New Business**

The motion from the AERC International Committee was presented to the BOD to approve Kelsey Kimbler as the 2009 USEF Youth Sportsman candidate from AERC. The motion passed with all voting to approve the recommendation with an abstention by Dianna Chapek.

The motion from the AERC International Committee was presented to the BOD to approve the AERC International Committee Charter. The motion passed with abstentions from John Parke, Dianna Chapek, and Tom Noll. These members abstained from voting because they had not had a chance to read over the Charter. Hal Hall rescinded the motion so that they would be able to read over the Charter and requested that it be brought before the BOD for the next meeting in December.

Michael Campbell requested a correction to the minutes of April 6, 2009. He requested that the change be made to the Trail Grant mentioned in the minutes. He indicated that it should have read Lake Meredith instead of Shanghi Trails in the following excerpt: *Michael Campbell indicated that it was his understanding that John Parke was supposed to look over the contract with Shanghai Trails to see if the wording in it was in the best interests of AERC.* The amount should be \$8000 instead of \$7000. Roger motioned to approve the correction with Joyce Mocilan seconding the motion. The motion passed with Dianna Chapek voting against the motion.

Susie Schomburg, chairperson of the Rules Committee, requested to have a change made in the wording in the AERC Rule Book. The change would be changing the language from “half an hour” to “30 minutes” wherever this language occurred. The motion passed unanimously.

It came to the attention of the AERC BOD that we have been informed of a proposed Reality Television show that will follow endurance riders and their mounts. The BOD was told that they have already filmed one episode and taking it before the networks to see if they are interested. It is understood that ‘many’ ride managers have signed up as prospective hosts for further episodes. The BOD voiced concerns over how their business was run, how they have contacted the various ride managers and who they are. Obviously the BOD wants to be sure that the sport of endurance riding is portrayed in the right light. It was recommended that Laura Hayes help since she is the chair of the Horse Welfare Committee. Diane Leisure, AERC’s insurance agent from Equisure, suggested that we make sure that they have AERC listed as an additional insured on

their insurance policy. The creators of the television show are interested in talking to a small group from the BOD (rather than the entire BOD). It was the feeling of the BOD that Bruce Weary would be a good person to represent the BOD in a meeting and bring back more information to the BOD concerning this television show.

Michael Campbell brought to the BOD attention a "Sponsor Affiliate" membership idea. This program would develop a corporate membership level and would help to expand the AERC membership. John Parke noted that this type of 'membership' is not included in the AERC Bylaws. He suggested that they could be called "AERC Partners". The BOD will think this over and it was tabled until the next meeting.

Michael Campbell, Chair of the AERC Trails and Land Management Committee, reminded the BOD that they needed to provide nominations for the AERC Trails Advocate Award for 2009.

Michael Campbell also brought before the BOD the fact that at the Pierce Ranch, Mr. Armour has spent \$860 on gates. He feels that Mr. Armour did this on a 'good faith' basis, assuming that the Trails Grant for Shanghi Trails (Pierce Ranch) was going to be approved by the BOD. The BOD took no action on this request to pay Mr. Armour back for the gates.

The BOD then discussed with Michael Campbell the concerns about grants being paid to private individuals. Michael indicated that the Trails and Land Management Committee felt that both types of grants should be treated the same (privately owned land and federal/state owned land). There was discussion over the concern about the cost of drawing up a contract with private landowners. Michael indicated that the Trails and Land Management Committee was willing to pay for a generic trail contract for privately owned land grants. The request was tabled.

The Trail Grant Application was brought before the BOD by Michael Campbell. It was recommended by the BOD that after the following question that it should indicate that having a Trail Master wasn't a requirement for attaining a grant.

*Do you have an AERC certified Trail Master involved with any trail preservation at the project site?*

- Yes      *Name of Trail Master* \_\_\_\_\_
- No

It was also requested that the following be removed due to possible time constraints it may not be attainable.

<sup>1</sup> *AERC grant projects are to be completed within two years from approval date. Please plan accordingly.*

Michael is going to take the recommendations concerning the Trails Grant Application back to the Trails and Land Management Committee with plans to bring it to the BOD at the next meeting.

John Parke also requested that the AERC Trails and Land Management Committee consider setting up a schedule (once a year) to look at the trail grant requests.

Kathleen Henkel brought to the attention of the BOD the requests for information from the AERC Office. John Parke will look into the California Corporate Code concerning our obligation to the public and their requests to physically take information (tapes of meetings etc) from the AERC Office.

Roger Taylor brought to the BOD attention the request from the BLM for a Trail Master class for BLM employees, indicating that the BLM feels that AERC needs to offer a class for the BLM to uphold our end of the Memorandum of Understanding between AERC and the BLM. Michael pointed out the lack of funding for this project and informed the BOD that we may be able to find funding for this from Federal/State Transportation grants. There was a great deal of discussion concerning the funding and scheduling of such a class. The majority of the BOD felt that the class could be scheduled, however, they felt that if there wasn't outside funding (not from AERC funds) for this class that it should be cancelled. It was also felt that if the class needed to be cancelled that it needed to be done well enough in advance that it wouldn't impact either the BLM or Mike Riter.

With there being no further business the motion was made by Dianna Chapek at 7:55pm Pacific Time to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Sandy Terp. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Action Items:

- Hal Hall rescinded the motion so that they would be able to read over the Charter and requested that it be brought before the BOD for the next meeting in December.
- The change would be changing the language from "half an hour" to "30 minutes" wherever this language occurred.

- It was the feeling of the BOD that Bruce Weary would be a good person to represent the BOD in a meeting and bring back more information to the BOD concerning this television show.
- Michael Campbell brought to the BOD attention a “Sponsor Affiliate” membership idea. This program would develop a corporate membership level and would help to expand the AERC membership. He suggested that they could be called “AERC Partners”. The BOD will think this over and it was tabled until the next meeting.
- Michael is going to take the recommendations concerning the Trails Grant Application back to the Trails and Land Management Committee with plans to bring it to the BOD at the next meeting.
- John Parke will look into the California Corporate Code concerning our obligation to the public and their requests to physically take information (tapes of meetings etc) from the AERC Office.