

AERC BOD meeting –Teleconference Call – April 5, 2010

President Connie Caudill called the meeting of the AERC Board of Directors to order at 6:06 pm Pacific time.

Present at the meeting are: Laura Hayes, Jan Stevens, Roger Taylor, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Sue Keith, Susan Schomburg, Patti Pizzo, Sandy Terp, Tom Noll, Gail Williams, John Parke, Lisa Schneider, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Kevin Myers, Maryben Stover, Forrest Tancer, John Crandell III, Randy Eiland, Kim Fuess, Roberta Harms, Susan Keil, Michael Maul, and Bruce Weary.

Additional AERC Member present: Kathleen Henkel – Executive Director of AERC.

Susan Kasemeyer made the motion to approve the agenda, the motion as seconded by Roger Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

President Connie Caudill requested to have the minutes approved from the 2010 AERC Annual Convention. The motion to approve them was made by Laura Hayes with Susan Kasemeyer seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Taylor made the motion to accept the AERC International Committee report with Susan Kasemeyer seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Membership Report April 5, 2010

Membership as of 3/31/2009 - 5273
3/31/2010 - 4748

Rider fees as of 3/31/2009 - \$13,030
3/31/2010 - \$12,190

Sanction fees as of 3/31/2009 - \$12,810
3/31/2010 - \$15,395

New members as of 3/31/2009 - 385
New members as of 3/31/2010 – 360

Single members 3/31/2009 – 2719
Single members 3/31/2010 – 2672

Family members 3/31/2009 – 2554
Family members 3/31/2010 – 2076

Membership dues dollars received 3/31/2009 - \$252,920

Membership dues dollars received 3/31/2010 - \$286,804

New Business

President, Connie Caudill, requested that the BOD approve the action by the Executive Committee to approve the sanctioning of the Pioneer Rides: Sangre Scenic Spring slated for May 29, 30 and 31 and the Sangre Scenic Fall slated for September 17, 18, and 19. The motion passed unanimously.

President Caudill requested that the BOD approve the chairpersons she has selected for the 2010 AERC Committees, the request passed unanimously.

Competitions- Kim Fuess; Education- Susan Keil; Elections- Robert Ribley; Executive- all officers plus Michael Campbell; Finance- Roger Taylor; Hall Of Fame and Scholarship- Laura Hayes; International- Hal Hall (until another is appointed); Junior- Kelly Kimbler; Legal- John Parke; Marketing and Public Relations - Troy Smith; Membership-Lisa Schneider; National Championship- Jan Stevens; Protest and Grievance - Bill Taylor; Research- Olin Balch; Ride Manager- Randy Eiland; Rules- Susan Schomburg; Sanctioning- Susan Kasemeyer; Sponsorship - Randy Eiland; Technical- Mike Maul; Trails- Michael Campbell; Vet- Jay Mero -appointed non vet BOD liaison- Tom Noll; Welfare- Laura Hayes. Ad Hoc committee for Futurity Exploration: Joe Mattingley – Chairman, Mike Tomlinson, Glenn Petty - AHA Representative, Kim Fuess, John Crandell, Vonita Bowers, Tony Benedetti, and Randy Eiland.

Finance Report from Roger Taylor.

Roger indicated that the budget for 2010 currently would balance between a positive \$10,000 and a negative \$10,000. He stated that as a BOD we would need to watch the years to come as he projected at the convention that they will also be negative. He further went on to say that we need to really work hard to gain more members and to keep up with the sponsorship monies. Keeping an eye on committee expenses, conference calls, and other BOD expenses will help to cut costs. He advised the BOD that there are good healthy reserves in several accounts. He emphasized that the “the sky is not falling”, however, we do need to look towards 2011.

Kathleen Henkel, as the executive director, spoke with USEF concerning our current contract for drug testing. She indicated that USEF is willing to allow us to go back to testing fewer rides and only pay \$25,000 for 2010. Roger Taylor made the motion to have Kathleen renegotiate the contract with USEF with the understanding that the remainder of the fees collected this year would remain in the drug testing account, Connie Caudill seconded the motion. John Parke asked if Kathleen had contacted the Veterinary Committee concerning the decrease in the number of rides tested. The motion was tabled until the Veterinary Committee can be polled to see where they stand on a decrease in the number of rides tested.

Additional discussion on the topic of finances included that it is felt that the current 20% drop in membership maybe due to family members not wanting to renew. It was noted that the second riding member isn't joining and several would rather pay the non-member day fee if they intend on only riding two rides a year.

Fort Stanton Trail Master Course. Roger Taylor brought to the BOD the request for additional funding for the scheduled Trail Master class at Fort Stanton this year. The BOD approved up to \$2,500 at the

2010 AERC Convention. He stated that an additional up to \$3,500 is needed, which will bring AERC's funding for the class up to \$6,000, because they were unable to find alternate funding. It was indicated that during the 2010 AERC Convention that the BLM would be able to help to fund the remaining costs, however, it was found to be too late for them to apply for grants. Roger briefed the BOD on the promise from the BLM that they would help to fund the Trail Master courses at Fort Stanton for the next three years at the rate of \$10,000 each year. They currently have 17 in the class which equals \$5,100 in costs for the class itself and funding would need to be up to \$6,000 to cover the additional costs of travel and lodging for Mike Ritter. It was asked if the Trails Committee had been asked their opinion on AERC funding the remaining portion of the class costs through the Trails Reserve Fund. Michael Campbell, chair of the Trails and Land Management Committee, stated that they had not, but he felt that they would agree that it was a worthwhile endeavor. Members of the BOD asked for clarification on what BLM does with their trails. It was outlined that the BLM does work on trails for multiple use and that AERC does not have a 'contract' with BLM that AERC funding used on BLM trails is for equestrian use only. Roger Taylor made the motion to approve a total up to \$6,000 of the Trails Reserve Fund be used for the Fort Stanton Trail Master Course, Michael Campbell seconded the motion. A motion from Randy Eiland for a roll call vote was made with Susan Kasemeyer seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Roll Call Vote: Laura Hayes (N), Jan Stevens (N), Roger Taylor (Abstain), Michael Campbell (Y), Monica Chapman (N), Sue Keith (N), Susan Schomburg (Y), Patti Pizzo (Y), Sandy Terp (N), Tom Noll (N), Gail Williams (Abstain), John Parke (Y), Lida Schneider (N), Susan Kasemeyer (Y), Joe Schoech (Y), Kevin Meyers (Y), Maryben Stover (Y), Forrest Tancer (Y), John Crandell III (Y), Randy Eiland (Abstain), Kim Fuess (N), Roberta Harms (Y), Susan Keil (N), Michael Maul (Y), and Bruce Weary (Y). The vote count was 13 in favor of the motion, 9 against, and 3 abstentions. The motion passed.

Late sanctioning request for Indian Springs ride April 10, 2010 in the Southwest Region. Sanctioning request was to add a 100-mile ride for mileage only with no points to the already sanctioned ride. Roger Taylor, sanctioning director for the Southwest Region, and seconded by Michael Campbell, presented the motion. Roger Taylor then rescinded the motion due to the request for sanctioning not following AERC Rules and sanctioning procedures.

The Junior Committee then presented the motion to change wording of AERC Rule 10.3. The motion was remanded back to committee so that other committees of AERC, namely Ride Managers, Rules, and Competitions can voice their opinion on the proposed rule change.

Office Committee's motion requested a change in amount paid to the American Horse Council (AHC) for membership in their organization from \$5,000 to \$500. The motion was amended by the committee from the original amount of \$500 requested to \$1,000. By paying \$1,000 AERC is assured that they will be able to keep their seats on the AHC Horse Welfare Committee and the AHC Recreation Committee. The motion passed with three members voting against the motion.

The Trails and Land Management Committee brought to the BOD a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with the Regional US Forest Service from the Santa Fe Forest. The motion passed unanimously.

The AERC Membership Committee presented a motion to the BOD to consider decreasing the availability of certain portions of the AERC website to non-members – namely make rider/horse history, ride results, point standings, and ride manager lookup available only to members through their member login. The aim at reducing the amount of information available is to help to increase the value of being a

member of AERC. John Parke noted that he felt uncomfortable leaving the education section open – suggesting that he always recommends that people join AERC to get the education based information on endurance, thereby promoting membership in AERC. The motion was remanded back to committee so that other committees of AERC, namely Education and Ride Managers could take a look at it.

The AERC National Championship Committee proposed the motion to accept the 2011 ride location in New Prospect, Wisconsin. The ride at this location has been around for 30+ years. They anticipate that they will have the help of between two and three different distance organizations. The motion passed unanimously.

President Connie Caudill brought before the BOD the dates for the mid-year AERC BOD meeting in Denver, Colorado. The date will be Saturday August 21 at the Embassy Suites Airport near Denver International Airport.

With there being no further business Susan Kasemeyer made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Susan Keil seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.