

AERC BOD Conference Call Minutes Mon. Oct. 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Campbell at 8:02pm Central Time.

Those on the call were Michael Campbell, Lisa Schneider, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Monica Chapman, Connie Caudill, Sue Keith, Peter Hommertzheim, Rusty Toth, Skip Kemerer, Nick Kohut, Paul Latiolais, Steph Teeter, John Parke, Duane Barnett, Susan Kasemeyer, Julia Lynn-Elias, Roger Taylor, Andrew Gerhard, Tom Bache, Olin Balch, Terry Woolley Howe, Mike Maul, Randy Eiland, Kathleen Henkel, and Susie Schomburg.

Connie Caudill made a motion to accept the AERC BOD Midyear Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2014. Sue Keith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Roger Taylor made a motion to excuse Forrest Tancer from the meeting due to being out of the country. Susan Garlinghouse was also excused for truck trouble at ride site with no cell phone service. Connie Caudill seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bruce Weary was not on the call.

Kathleen Henkel provided the BOD with the Membership Report.

Membership Report for October 2014

Membership as of 10/1/13 5100

Membership as of 10/10/14 4962

Rider Fees as of 10/10/13 \$73,665

Rider Fees as of 10/10/14 \$49,606

Sanction Fees as of 10/10/13 \$16,311

Sanction Fees as of 10/10/14 \$17,722.75

New Members as of 10/1/13 604

New Members as of 10/10/14 660

Susie Schomburg, chair of the Rules Committee, was on the call to go over the Horse Welfare Rules Changes proposed by the Rules Committee and Veterinary Committee (see attached motion). Some discussion was brought up about the rule requiring treatment. Susie explained that a new Ride Sanctioning Form is being developed that has a place to identify the treatment plan. Sanctioning Directors have been informed to not sanction any rides that have not filled in their treatment plan. The Vet Committee was in support of this procedure for identifying the new treatment plan requirement. The Horse Welfare Rule Changes Motion was passed unanimously.

Susie Schomburg and Julia Lynn-Elias, chair of the Horse Welfare Committee, presented the Entry Limits Motion (see attached motion). After a lot of discussion Susie Schomburg took notes as Rules Chair from each BOD member about their thoughts about the motion and how they would like it to read. AERC President, Michael Campbell, asks Julia Lynn-Elias if she would consider postponing the vote until the November Conference Call to give the Rules Committee more time to fine tune the motion. Julia Lynn-Elias is in agreement as long as the motion can be passed in time to be in effect for the 2015 Ride Year. Connie Caudill makes a motion to refer the motion back to the Rules Committee. Mike Maul seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, AERC Treasurer, went over the Financial Statements and Status of AERC. The Financial Statement Comments from Mollie are as follows.

Our overall net income (all AERC business) through September 2014 was 60K and was significantly favorable to our budget which was a YTD planned loss of (20K). Additionally for the same time period

our net ordinary income (income from operations) was 35K vs. a budget of 17K, for a favorable 18K. Our 2014 membership revenues are down 5% from 2013 revenues and 4% less than our budget. This downward trend is much steeper than the 2% to 3% reduction we've been experiencing during the last few years. Revenues from ride fees decreased by almost 13% from 2013 to 2014, and an unfavorable 11% under budget. Keep in mind there could be some issues related to the timing of the revenue recognition. AERC's long standing policy has been to recognize revenue when received, for this reason we must also keep a close eye on the statistical increases or decreases in our membership and participation numbers.

The net expenses and receipts for the 2014 convention resulted in a positive 2K, versus 2013 income of 5K, and our budget of an income of 5K. The convention historically was an important revenue stream which has continued to decline over the years. Income generated from the Endurance News is currently favorable to a budget by 9K, while the expenses related to the EN are coming in below budget for an additional favorable 2K, for a total of 11K.

John Parke gave an update on the AERC Strategic Plan Update. It should be in final form to approve on the December Conference Call.

John Parke discussed the Motion titled Funding for AERC Supporting Organization (see attached motion). Skip Kemerer made the motion and Lisa Schneider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Membership Committee brought forth a motion from Committee titled Return to AERC Open Database Policy (see attached motion). Some discussion ensued in regards to the motion. Tom Bache moved that the vote on the Return to AERC Open Database Policy Motion be done by roll call with each member's vote recorded in the minutes. Skip Kemerer seconded Tom's motion for a roll call vote. The BOD unanimously passed using the roll call vote for the AERC Open Database Policy Motion. The Return to AERC Open Database Policy Motion was passed with the following BOD members voting in support; Michael Campbell, Lisa Schneider, Monica Chapman, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Connie Caudill, Sue Keith, Pete Hommertzheim, Rusty Toth, Skip Kemerer, Nick Kohut, Paul Latiolais, Steph Teeter, John Parke, Duane Barnett, Susan Kasemeyer, Julia Lynn-Elias, Roger Taylor, Andrew Gerhard, Tom Bache, Olin Balch, Terry Woolley Howe, Mike Maul, and Randy Eiland. No BOD members present voted against the Return to AERC Open Database Policy Motion.

Lisa Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Connie Caudill seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:20pm Central Time.

Submitted by Monica Chapman.

Motion #1 - Initial triage and treatment availability at all rides, including intravenous fluid therapy. Andrew Gerhard made a motion to refer motion #1 to the rules committee for correct wording. Lisa Schneider seconded the motion. Motion Passed

Motion #2 – Thirty minutes to meet recovery pulse at the finish line, with flexibility to be referred to rules committee. Lisa Schneider made a motion to refer to rules committee. Sue Keith seconded the motion. Duane Barnett made a motion for a roll call vote. Randy Eiland seconded the roll call vote motion. The roll call vote motion was passed. The roll call vote on motion #2 passed unanimously.

Motion #5 – Horses shall have Body Condition Scores of no less than 3.0 and no greater than 8.0 to start an endurance ride to be referred to the rules committee. Forrest Tancer made the motion. Paul Latiolais seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Motion #7 – Standardized control judge ride cards should be used nationally, with sections added for BCS scores and graphs for each quadrant of the gastrointestinal examinations to be referred to rules committee. Steph Teeter made the motion. Susan Garlinghouse seconded the motion. Motion Passed with 4 oppositions.

Motion #9 – Rides should have at least two control judges, one of whom is able to provide treatment as required by #1 in this proposed motion, with exceptions where needed for wilderness rides, or where needed for smaller rides. Terry Woolley Howe made a motion to move Motion #9 into the Ride Manager's Handbook as a recommendation and not a rule. Connie Caudill seconded the motion. Motion passed with 3 oppositions.

Entry limits motion:

AERC Board of Directors
MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name: Entry Limits - Amendment to original motion

Proposing Committee: Welfare of the Horse

Date of Motion: September 29, 2014

Date of Motion Amendment: October 10, 2014

Classification of Motion Request: Rule addition

Proposed Motion: The Welfare of the Horse Committee proposes that a rule be added to limit riders to being able to enter only one horse in any AERC sanctioned event.

RULE 1.4 No equine may enter more than one ride distance at an event. No equine and/or rider may enter the same AERC sanctioned ride distance more than once except when dual entered under another organization recognized by AERC . A rider may, once the total allotted time for completion has expired for the first entered ride or they have been removed from the first entered sanctioned distance, enter a second but different sanctioned distance held concurrently at the same ride if all other conditions for entry have been met.

Background, analysis and benefit: Recent events at a ride prompted much debate and discussion and numerous requests to the Welfare of the Horse Committee to prompt a rule change. At the ride in question, two riders entered a 50-mile ride twice, riding one horse in the first 6 hours and completing, then entering the ride a second time to ride a second horse in the last 6 hours of the ride.

It is the opinion of the Welfare of the Horse Committee that this behavior contradicts the ideals of AERC where "To Finish is To Win" and promotes overriding. It is the opinion of the Welfare of the Horse Committee that allowing riders to compete in concurrent events/distances on more than one horse

discourages riders from providing adequate care to their mounts as they may be left unattended while the rider is out on trail with another horse.

It is also the opinion of the Welfare of the Horse Committee that allowing riders to enter an event on more than one horse encourages riders to ride the course at a pace that may be detrimental to the horse as they may be pushing the clock in excess of what the horse is accustomed to in order to make the time constraints which would be in theory half the distance allowed by current AERC rules.

It is also the opinion of the Welfare of the Horse Committee that allowing riders to compete multiple times in a single event also promotes an unfair advantage to some riders with multiple mounts to advance in points and milage awards.

Budget effect/impact: There is no anticipated cost in the addition of the rule as it would be added to the next edition of the AERC Rule Book

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: It is anticipated that rule change would have the most benefit to protecting the welfare of the equine athletes used by the membership. The rule change would also protect the image that AERC is working to promote on a national and international level that horse welfare is our primary goal.

As this “double entry” dilemma has had an infrequent occurrence in the recent history of AERC endurance, it is not anticipated that the majority of the membership will oppose the rule

Impact on AERC Office: Minimal time required to input the rule into the Rule Book prior to submission to the printer.

Committees consulted and/or affected : The Rules Committee would be most affected and are likely already working on a Rules change or clarification. The Welfare of the Horse Committee will gladly work with the Rules Committee to modify and clarify the new rule to their satisfaction.

Implementation plan: The Welfare of the Horse Committee proposes that the Board of Directors review and comment on the proposed rule during the October Board meeting conference call. The Welfare of the Horse Committee Chair, Julia Lynn, will record those comments and suggestions and forward those to the Rules Committee. Dialog with the Rules Committee from that point will finalize the wording of the new rule. The finalized rule suggestions will be presented to the Board of Directors at the November conference call with the objective of making the rule final for the 2015 ride season.

Supporting materials: N/A

Supporting approvals: N/A

Supporting Organization motion:

AERC Board of Directors
MOTION PROPOSAL

This Motion Proposal form is to be used in the development, presentation and approval process of submitting motions to the Board.

Motion Name Funding for AERC Supporting Organization

Proposing Committee Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD) 10/13/2014

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

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

The Board of Directors of the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) authorizes the expenditure of \$20,000 from reserves for professional fees for the creation of a Supporting Organization under the Internal Revenue Code and the laws of the State of California for the purposes of accepting bequests and benefits in support of the goals of AERC as stated in the AERC bylaws. The Board also authorizes expenditure of \$5,000 on an annual basis from general funds for professional fees, if necessary, for the maintenance of the Supporting Organization.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

The AERC Board of Directors has passed a motion to create a Supporting Organization for AERC. The Board recognizes the need for a mechanism to accept funds from donations and bequests in support of AERC goals and in order to improve financial stability of the organization. A Supporting Organization, established under the laws of the State of California is the appropriate solution for this. The purpose of this motion is to provide funding for the creation of a Supporting Organization.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

\$20,000 from reserve funds.

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

A Supporting Organization will improve the financial stability of AERC, minimizing the need for increases in dues and increasing the ability of AERC to financially support research, education and trails maintenance and development.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

Minimal.

Committees consulted and/or affected

Legal Committee, Financial Committee, Strategic Planning Committee.

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

The Legal Committee is directed to retain an attorney appropriately experienced in the establishment of Supporting Organizations under the laws of the State of California and draft appropriate legal instruments.

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

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

Legal Committee, Financial Committee, Strategic Planning Committee

AERC Board of Directors
MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name: Return to AERC Open Database Policy

Proposing Committee: Membership Committee

Date of Motion: October, 2014 BOD Telecon Meeting

Classification of Motion Request: This Motion requires that recently implemented restrictions on access to the AERC rider and horse records be removed, returning database access policies to be the same as they were before these restrictions were implemented.

Proposed Motion: **Resolved, that access to the horse and rider records in the AERC database be free and open to all who visit the AERC website.**

Background, analysis and benefit: In August, 2012, the AERC Board of Directors (BOD) approved a Membership Committee Motion to limit AERC database access for non-members. Implementation of the 2012 Motion took a long time. During this period, a new Membership Committee concluded that the proposed change would compromise success in its initiatives to increase membership. Thus, at the July telecom BOD meeting the Membership Committee offered a Motion to rescind the data restriction policy prior to its planned implementation. This Motion was defeated by a vote of 11-10, and the policy was fully implemented in September.

The central issue is, do the database restrictions enhance or hamper efforts to increase membership? The 2012 MC and BOD foresaw enhancement while the 2014 MC foresees significant negative effects. The current BOD is nearly evenly divided on the issue. At this stage, all is speculation, and relying on experience to prove the case either way will be very difficult. From the MC perspective, retaining the restriction is damaging AERC. Thus, the MC is offering this Motion for three reasons. First, this is a significant issue, and the BOD is so evenly divided that there is legitimate uncertainty about what the majority actually supports. Second, there have been many thoughtful member comments that describe the many ways the open database has been used to support membership recruitment (the personal testimonials support the point that the open data are indeed used to attract members). Third, the MC believes that our image as the most open and transparent equine organization is too important to discard without very strong reasons.

In summary, the Membership Committee is offering this Motion to return to the open-database policy and thus remove what this Committee believes to be a negative impact on its efforts to increase membership.

Budget effect/impact: Depending on how the restriction was implemented, it might be straightforward (i.e., inexpensive) to roll back to an earlier version of the relevant software. Or it might require a significant cost.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization In 2012 the Membership Committee and BOD concluded that restricting database access would encourage some to join AERC. The 2014 Membership Committee has the opposite opinion; that is, that restricting access is likely to have negative effects that far outweigh any positive effects.

Impact on AERC Office: Expected to be negligible.

Committees consulted and/or affected: None consulted.

Implementation Plan: As soon as practical, remove the data access restrictions.
Supporting materials: None.
Supporting approvals: None.

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

Motion Name: Funding for AERC Supporting Organization

Proposing Committee

Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

October 13, 2014

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

New

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

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Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

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

A Supporting Organization will improve the financial stability of AERC, minimizing the need for increases in dues and increasing the ability of AERC to financially support research, education and trails maintenance and development.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

Minimal.

Committees consulted and/or affected

Legal Committee, Financial Committee, Strategic Planning Committee.

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

The Legal Committee is directed to retain an attorney appropriately experienced in the establishment of Supporting Organizations under the laws of the State of California and draft appropriate legal instruments.

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

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

Legal Committee, Financial Committee, Strategic Planning Committee