

AERC Board of Directors - Conference Call Minutes

AERC Board of Directors Conference Call

May 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Campbell at 6:02 p.m. PST.

In attendance were Michael Campbell, Lisa Schneider, Susan Garlinghouse, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Monica Chapman, Connie Caudill, Carla Richardson, Jan Stevens, Janet Tipton, Mary Howell, Nick Kohut, Olin Balch, Paul Latiolais, Steph Teeter, John Parke, Andrew Gerhard, Jody Wyatt, Roger Taylor, Barbara Reinke, Duane Barnett, Susan Kasemeyer, Tom Bache, Mike Maul, Christoph Schork, Terry Woolley-Howe, and Sarah Holloway (youth representative). Also in attendance was Dr. Trish Dowling, representing the Veterinary Committee.

Sue Keith requested excusal for travel without cell service. Connie Caudill made a motion to approve excusal, Sue Kasemeyer seconded. Motion passed.

Roger Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes from the May April 11, 2016 conference call. Christoph Schork seconded. Motion passed.

Roger Taylor made a motion to accept the agenda. Sue Kasemeyer seconded. Motion passed.

Statistical report – Kathleen Henkel

Membership as of 5/8/15:	4684
Membership as of 5/9/16:	4577
Sanction fees as of 5/9/15:	\$13,120
Sanction fees as of 5/9/16:	\$14,175
Rider fees as of 5/9/15:	\$26,710
Rider fees as of 5/9/16:	\$23,740
New members as of 5/8/15:	521
New members as of 5/9/16:	419

Business before the board:

Membership Committee - Approval of Mary Howell as new committee chair. Lisa Schneider seconded. Motion passed.

Junior Committee - Approval of Steph Teeter as new committee chair. Paul Latiolais seconded. Motion passed.

Finance discussion - Mollie Krumlaw-Smith stated final invoices from convention have been posted but are still under review. Currently favorable to budget, but some line items have not yet shown up for distribution. Membership slightly down but still within budget, other revenue

streams are tracking favorably. Roger Taylor commented he has received input from SW regional members that AERC's funding balance of \$281,226 are unrestricted funds, and that we should be proactive in spending money on projects beneficial to AERC.

Strategic plan update - no update.

Sanctioning Committee - In regards to the Best of the Best 2017 (an event that required and received special sanctioning), Connie Caudill reported that, unless there are objections, the committee plans to allow full award points to participants.

Veterinary committee - Further discussion in regards to the motion adding levothyroxine to the list of prohibited substances. Dr. Dowling provided input in that levothyroxine, as a hormonal substance, is already prohibited. This proposed motion only specifically names the product and thus gives better warning to competitors who may be unaware of levothyroxine's mode of action. It was also commented that the drug has the potential for abuse and is currently a substance of abuse in horse racing and dog showing venues. A comment was made by a director that, in her experience, she knows of horses that did not perform well, but when tested for hypothyroidism and thyroid levels normalized using levothyroxine, the horse performed much better. The point being made was that there does not seem to be significant potential for abuse, as an endurance horse on unwarranted levels of levothyroxine would be at a disadvantage due to a higher heart rate. A suggestion was made as to whether the drug should be added to Appendix A, in which an allowable therapeutic threshold is provided. Dr. Dowling replied that true hypothyroidism doesn't really occur in horses, most affected individuals have some degree of metabolic syndrome. She further commented that levothyroxine is currently a hot topic in flat-track racing, is an abused substance in human athletic competition and prohibited in FEI events. She stated that it is not possible to differentiate between horses on therapeutic doses vs performance-enhancing abuse. It was reiterated that this drug is already prohibited, and this motion only further defines and highlights it as such, and not as to whether the drug should be allowed or prohibited. This motion did not require a second. The motion passed with one abstention.

Motion - Travel expenses - Motion presented and introduced by Carla Richardson. Reviewed previous motions defining the expenses that are and are not reimbursable when traveling to mid-year board meetings. The motion adds language to additionally allow travel by rental car from the board member's home to the meeting facility. There was some discussion about the option of reimbursing actual gas and rental costs, as opposed to standard mileage reimbursement rates as set by the IRS. Carla Richardson made a motion to approve the motion, Roger Taylor seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

Motion - Travel funding for AERC representatives at American Horse Council meetings - John Parke commented that it is a good plan favorable to AERC to have three board members attending this meeting. Olin Balch suggested that attendees should be asked to provide written reports for the Board and Endurance News. The motion passed.

Motion - Longevity Recognition - Terry Woolley-Howe provided an update as to the proposed longevity program. The numbers of pins predicted to be required needs to be further defined, and

postage costs included in budget. General comments of support were provided. John Parke recommended that language in the motion be modified to clarify that recognition would occur at the National Convention, but not necessarily via powerpoint slides, as those might not be necessarily used as technology advances. Andrew Gerhard asked about the financial impact of this motion, Terry Howe replied that we do not have the final budget available yet. No vote was requested at this time.

Motion - NAYRC contribution - Although added to the agenda in less than the two-week deadline for inclusion, there was no objection by the Board for doing so. Each equestrian discipline for the NAYRC being held in Denver, Colorado, August 2016, is required to raise \$25,000 by June 1, 2016 in order for endurance to be a represented discipline. AERC-I has donated \$2,500 and requests that AERC provide matching funding. There were general comments of support for support young riders at this event. Jan Stevens commented that previously, as a demonstration sport, endurance participants were not required to raise funds, and doing so is now required as a full participation event. She further stated that if the required funds are not raised by the June 1 deadline, then those funds would be held over for use at next year's event in Kentucky, and would not be used for other purposes. Ms. Stevens is "reasonably confident" that AERC-I will be able to meet the goal, as there is a sponsor putting up a significant amount of money personally this year. The motion passed.

Rules Committee update - Lisa Schneider said that the committee met earlier in the week in regards to a proposal under consideration to exclude hold times from the allowed ride time in limited distance events. Ms. Schneider asked for a straw poll from the Board as to whether the Rules Committee should further investigate the feasibility of modifying current rule language in order to allow this modification. There were general comments of approval, one director against, several members also on the Rules Committee abstained. Susan Garlinghouse commented that this proposal is also under discussion by the Ride Structure Committee, and requested that the two committees work together on this and related issues.

There being no further business before the Board, Susan Kasemeyer made a motion to adjourn. Roger Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

Michael Campbell adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m. PST.

AERC Board of Directors MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name Update to AERC drug rule Appendix A, Prohibited Substances

Proposing Committee Veterinary Committee

Date of Motion May, 2016 AERC Board Meeting

Classification of Motion Request Rule update

Proposed Motion To update the appendices of Rule 13 with the following changes:

- 1) Add to Appendix A (Prohibited Substance): Levothyroxine (Soloxine, Thyro-Tabs, Synthroid)
-

Background, analysis and benefit

The Veterinary Committee is tasked with periodically reviewing and recommending necessary updates to the drug rule appendices as needed. As new substances or new knowledge about existing substances becomes available, these substances may be added to the Prohibited Substance Appendix.

Levothyroxine is a synthetic thyroid hormone used in the treatment of hypothyroid disease. It is currently categorically prohibited under the AERC drug rule, Appendix B (Categories of prohibited substances) item 12. "Hormonal products (natural or synthesized) except for progesterone or similar acting progestogens in mares only, administered for the purpose of controlling the estrus cycle." Adding levothyroxine to Appendix A would be consistent with Appendix B and would serve to clarify the status of levothyroxine as a prohibited substance.

The literature suggests a possible performance enhancing effect of levothyroxine in humans. The labeled use for this drug is for the treatment of hypothyroidism, which in horses is rare and often misdiagnosed. Levothyroxine has been used off label in horses for treating Equine Metabolic Syndrome and insulin resistance, which is a condition leading to obesity and other signs commonly associated with hypothyroidism. Levothyroxine is successful in treating these cases because thyroid supplementation causes an increase in metabolism. By increasing the horse's metabolism the horse is able to lose weight and correct its insulin resistance. Because of the increased metabolism, these horses will have higher energy levels as the body utilizes fat for fuel. This increase in metabolism and energy levels could improve performance as well. Inappropriate use and long term administration of this hormone supplementation in humans include rapid and irregular heart rates. So while levothyroxine does have its place in the treatment of obesity and obesity related diseases in horses, the use of this drug for performance enhancement could lead to unwanted side effects. Levothyroxine is prohibited by the FEI.

The prohibited substance list is designed to keep our horses safe and our competitions fair. The addition of levothyroxine to Appendix A will clarify its current status as being prohibited by Appendix B as a hormonal product. Prohibiting levothyroxine will not adversely affect a veterinarian's ability to keep athletes healthy as metabolic syndrome in the performing equine athlete is uncommon, and can be managed with diet and exercise.

Budget effect/impact

Little effect on the budget is expected

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

Levothyroxine, a hormonal product, is currently prohibited by Appendix B. Adding this product specifically to Appendix A will provide a more direct reference for members.

Impact on AERC Office

Rule will need to be updated in print and on the website

Committees consulted and/or effected

Rules Committee, Welfare of the Horse Committee

Implementation plan

Implement immediately upon approval by the board of directors.

Supporting materials

FEI Prohibited Substance List

Supporting approvals

Veterinary Committee

AERC Board of Directors MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name: Proposal to clarify travel expenses for board member travel to midyear meeting

Proposing Committee: proposed by Carla Richardson, Director At Large

Date of Motion: (Date to be presented to BOD) May 9, 2016

Classification of Motion Request: (new, change, add, delete, bylaw, rule, policy) Change

Proposed Motion: Reimbursement to board members for travel to midyear meeting includes travel and accommodation. Accommodation is the cost of the hotel room at the midyear meeting hotel. Meals on the day of the midyear meeting at the hotel are provided free of charge to board members; no reimbursement for any other meals or food will be included in reimbursement. Travel includes air fare, travel by personal auto, by train, or for car rental expenses for board members. Car rental expense is limited to travel from the board members home area to the location of the midyear meeting, not to include car rental for travel from airport or train station to hotel in destination city (shuttle or taxi used for local travel to hotel will not be reimbursed unless hotel does not offer free shuttle service). Reimbursement for gasoline (receipts required) will be included in travel expenses for board members who choose to drive a rental automobile or their own personal automobile, unless the option to use the mileage fee is used. For board members driving to the midyear meeting who choose to use the mileage fee, the per mileage fee set by the IRS will be used in lieu of gasoline reimbursement and/or rental fees. The total reimbursement available for travel and accommodation combined is the current allotment of \$800 per board member. However, if travel or accommodation is shared between two or more board members, each individual share is reimbursed; no duplication or doubling will be reimbursed.

Background, analysis and benefit: The board of directors in 2004 passed a motion to defray travel and lodging expenses for board members attending the board meetings. At the time, this included both the convention and midyear meetings. There have been some patchwork revisions to the motion since that time, including elimination of reimbursement for travel to the convention, and both decrease and increase in the total amount of reimbursement. (See attached Exhibits) In 2015 the amount of reimbursement was increased to \$800 for travel and accommodations, the reason given as rise in airfare costs to some board members.

In the original 2004 motion, language was included to specify 30 cents per mile reimbursement for board members who drove to the meetings. Currently, AERC uses the per mileage fee set by the IRS. This current motion includes this language to clarify the mileage reimbursement in terms of what AERC currently uses for travel by auto.

To summarize, in order to avoid confusion on what expenses are included in "travel," this motion is being proposed to specify that rental car expenses and gasoline for board members who wish to drive to the midyear meeting are included in travel expenses. However, if a board member drives and requests reimbursement for mileage, their travel reimbursement will **not** include gasoline or rental charges. If rental charges are submitted for reimbursement instead of mileage fee, gasoline reimbursement can be included in travel expense to be reimbursed. Travel by train is included as well. Board members who need to drive or desire to drive or travel by train should be reimbursed for their travel expenses, as are board members who are reimbursed for airfare.

Budget effect/impact: Car rental fees or train travel can be significantly less for some members and could therefore save AERC money.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: Some people are unable or unwilling to fly. In some cases travel by alternate means is more efficient and inexpensive. Including car rental expenses and travel by train would encourage those members who would prefer to drive or take a train to the midyear meeting to nominate to be on the board.

Impact on AERC Office: Clarification of reimbursement on travel reimbursement to midyear meeting

Committees consulted and/or affected: None, although executive director was consulted and assisted

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Effective immediately

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets) Please see attached Exhibit A, B and C

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees) None

EXHIBIT A

2004 Motion for Reimbursement, from Board meeting minutes

Motion from Patti Pizzo – I move the AERC directors be reimbursed for expenses they incur attending the midyear and year-end meetings. A reimbursement check of not more than \$400 per meeting would be issued to each board member attending the meeting to help defray travel, and lodging expenses. Receipts would be turned in to the office. For those members driving to the meeting actual mileage would be reimbursed at \$.30 per mile. If sharing a ride only one driving expense would be reimbursed. This will begin with the March 2005 Board Meeting and include only Board members attending in person all of the sessions. An incoming Board member and the outgoing Board member at the year-end meeting would split the \$400.00. Cost to AERC \$20,800.00. After discussion, the motion amended to read: AERC directors be reimbursed \$500 for the midyear meeting and \$500 for the annual convention meeting, a maximum of \$1,000 per year for expenses only based on actual receipts presented to the office, not to include any meals or libations, travel and lodging only to be covered. Roll call vote: Susan Kasemeyer Yes; Jan Jeffers Yes; Terry Woolley Howe Yes; Vonita Bowers Yes; Mike Jaffe Yes; Roberta Harms Yes; Connie Caudill Abstain; Jan Stevens Yes; Howard Kent No; Stan Eichelberger Yes; Patti Pizzo Yes; Gail Williams Yes; Bob Morris Abstain; John H. Parke Yes; Duane Barnett Yes; Roger W. Taylor Yes; Nick Warhol Yes; Jim Baldwin No; Barney Fleming Yes; Dane Frazier No; Mike Maul Abstain; Stagg Newman Yes; Robert Ribley Yes. 17 Yes votes; 3 No votes; 3 Abstain. Motion passed.

EXHIBIT B

Amendments to original 2004 motion:

Excerpt from 2/26/04 board meeting, Reno NV

Stan Eichelberger presented the following motion: “I move that the AERC directors be reimbursed for expenses they incur attending the midyear meeting and that this is retroactive for the meeting held on 10/11/03 in Reno, Nevada. A reimbursement check of \$750 would be issued to each board member attending the meeting to help defray travel, lodging, and meal expenses. The issuance of these checks is to be handled by the AERC administrative staff in a timely manner. This motion would replace any per diem motion now in effect for the midyear meeting.” The motion was seconded by Maryben Stover.

Moved by Connie Caudill and seconded by Roger Taylor to table discussion of this motion until the Sunday meeting. Motion to table failed.

Discussion ensued and it was decided a questionnaire be included in the April issue of the magazine regarding the desires of the membership with respect to board member expense reimbursement. Terry Woolley Howe and Stan Eichelberger volunteered to author the questionnaire, will advise the Board of the questions during the Sunday meeting and will submit to the office for publication in the April magazine. The original motion was deferred until the midyear meeting.

Excerpt from 9/13/05 board meeting minutes

Vonita Bowers moved and Roger Taylor seconded to cut travel expenses for the attendance of board members at the convention meeting, with a cap at \$500, beginning December 1, 2005, for the 2006 ride season. Motion carries with Connie Caudill, Barney Fleming, Jan Stevens, and Gail Williams abstaining.

EXHIBIT C

Motion from the Aug 15, 2015 midyear Board of Directors meeting

Proposed Motion (use exact wording) Increase current allotment of \$500 per board member for reimbursement of airfare and hotel accommodations to a maximum of \$800

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving) Airfares have risen over the years and many board members are spending over and above the current allowance of \$500. A raise to a maximum of \$800 is more in line with the amounts currently being spent to attend the meeting.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate) A raise of approximately \$6000 to the budget – not every board member will use the additional \$300 and some board members do not use any of the allotted expense.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization There is a chance this will stimulate other individuals to nominate.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget) None

Committees consulted and/or affected – The AERC Treasurer was consulted

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial) Effective immediately

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets) None

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)
AERC Board of Directors

**AERC Board of Directors
MOTION PROPOSAL**

Motion Name

Finding for Board Members attending AHC Committee meetings

Proposing Committee

Executive Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)

5-9-16

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

New

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

AERC will pay up to \$2,500 to Dr. Susan Garlinghouse and Dr. Duane Barnett to attend the American Horse Council meeting in June 2016 in Washington D.C. to serve on committees and represent AERC.
Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

Dr. Garlinghouse and Dr. Barnett are on the Horse Welfare Committee and Veterinary Committee, respectively. Their attendance at this meeting is important to represent AERC in the national equine community. Their combined travel, hotel and per diem will be paid by AERC up to \$2,500.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

Payment to be made from General Funds.

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

AERC will benefit by maintaining its participation and presence in national equine events by the participation of these two distinguished board members.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

minimal

Committees consulted and/or affected

none

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

After the meeting, the attendees will submit their receipts to the Director for payment.

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

none

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)

none

AERC International Committee

May 4, 2016

Michael Campbell, President
Board of Directors
American Endurance Ride Conference
1373 Lincoln
Way, Suite A
Auburn, CA
95603

RE: North American Junior Young Rider Championships

Dear Mr. Campbell and Board:

The North American Junior & Young Rider Championship (NAJYRC) is scheduled for July 27-31, 2016 at the Colorado Horse Park in Parker, CO. Our committee members agree that this annual event presents a tremendous opportunity for our U.S. and Canadian Young Riders to gain experiences that will make them even better horse people and prepare them for possible representation on a U.S. Young Riders or Seniors team at future world championship endurance events.

Many different people, including parents, horse owners, mentors, ride managers and AERC-I members, have traveled throughout our country and “moved mountains” to help our young riders become qualified to participate at each year’s NAJYRC event. While there, they have opportunities to network with other Young Riders in other disciplines and serve as ambassadors for the sport of endurance.

Each year, USEF charges the endurance community to raise \$25,000 to contribute to the cost of funding NAJYRC. We understand that AERC has established a junior rider subcommittee and ask for your help in preserving the opportunity for more AERC Junior members to aspire to compete at this elite level, should they so choose. At our May 3, 2016 meeting, the International Committee unanimously voted to donate \$2,000 to NAJYRC through USEF for this year’s event. **We ask that at its May 9 meeting, the AERC Board to consider providing a matching \$2,000 donation, bringing our organization’s total contribution to \$4,000.**

Several of our regions are holding fundraisers to raise additional funds to help support NAJYRC, and the Southeast is fortunate to have found a significant donor who helped make our 2015 event happen and has agreed to contribute again this year. Should we fall short of \$25,000 that must be raised by July 1, the endurance portion of 2016 NAJYRC will not take place. However, those funds would be earmarked for future NAJYRC endurance events.

We laud the efforts that AERC is taking to support our young riders, who are the future of our sport. Sincerely,

Holly R Corcoran,
CPA Treasurer
AERC
International

