

## June 9, 2025, AERC Meeting Minutes

President Nick Kohut DVM called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. EST.

Board members present were Bruce Burton, Connie Caudill, Marci Cunningham, Maureen Fehrs DVM, Bridget Helms, Dawn Hilliard, Nick Kohut DVM, Naomi Preston, Regina Rose, Jan Stevens, John Parke, Vance Stine, Maribel Paulson, Tami Rougeau, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Bob Marshall DVM, Diane Connolly, Mike Maul, Erin McChesney, Melissa Ribley DVM, Laurie Underwood and Lara Worden. Also on the call were Interim Executive Director- Giulia Orth, Endurance News Editor Cindy Young, Tom Rajala, Chair of the AERC-I Committee and Legal Committee Co-Chair Dee McDonald.

Susan Kasemeyer was absent.

Mollie Krumlaw-Smith made a motion to accept the agenda, which was seconded by Tami Rougeau. Motion passed.

Jan Stevens moved to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025, Board meeting which was seconded by Tami Rougeau. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Connie Caudill and seconded by Naomi Preston to excuse Stephanie Palmer-DuRoss (employment conflict), Olin Balch DVM (family commitment) and Khristin Seymore-Norsworthy (traveling). Motion passed.

Giulia Orth presented the statistical report:

Category	2024	2025	Change
Total Members as of 6/2/2025	3,757	3,553	(204)
New Members as of 6/2/2025	397	342	(55)
Sanction Fees up to 5/28/2025	\$14,360	\$16,905	\$2,545
Rider Fees up to 5/28/2025	\$18,786	\$16,878 (in progress)	(\$1,908)
Starting Riders recorded in June as of 6/5/2025	1,426 (closed)	0 (in progress)*	
Starting Riders recorded in May as of 6/5/2025	1,606 (closed)	1,418 (in progress)**	
Starting Riders recorded in April	1,279 (closed)	1,050 (closed)	(229)

\*All rides pending for June 2025

\*\*4 rides pending for May 2025 on 6/5/2025

Tom Rajala gave a detailed update on the AERC-I Committee. He reported that USA endurance FEI statistics show there are 48 active athletes, 63 active horses, 13 veterinarians, 6 stewards, 4 judges and 2 technical delegates.

Cindy Young, the newly appointed Endurance News editor, greeted the Board and provided a brief introduction. She possesses 40 years of experience in graphic and creative design and has been actively involved as a rider and ride manager for 31 years.

Nick Kohut, DVM, nominated Maureen Fehrs, DVM, for the position of Membership Committee Chair and Laurie Underwood for the position of Convention Committee Chair. Naomi Preston moved to approve the nominations, with the motion seconded by Tami Rougeau. The motion was passed unanimously.

Connie Caudill made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's charter, the motion was seconded by Tami Rougeau. The motion was passed unanimously. The charter will be posted on the website.

Naomi Preston and Erin McChesney updated the Board on discussions from the Competition Committee. They are working on items that will be presented to the Board once the committee finalizes them.

John Parke delivered a brief synopsis of Board procedures.

Nick Kohut, DVM, announced that the midyear Zoom Board meeting would be held on July 19, 2025, starting at 10:00 a.m. Eastern. This will be the only meeting held in the month of July, and committee reports are due prior to the meeting.

John Parke moved to adjourn at 9:19 p.m., with the motion seconded by Tami Rougeau. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Caudill, Secretary.