

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
EQUINE DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION
Conference Call July 18, 2019**

Pursuant to notice, the quarterly meeting of Equine Distance Riding Association was held via conference call on July 18, 2019. At 7:05 pm PST President Terry James called the meeting to order. Directors present were Vice President Jo Weinstein, Past President Kathleen Ferguson, Lois Fox, Julie Barnfather, Susan Summers, Margie Thorngren, Kathleen Pillo and Sandy Cheek. Quorum was achieved. Treasurer Tiffany Buob was also in attendance. Sue McLain as guest and chair of Rules committee was also on the call.

Secretary Report:

The minutes of the May 7, 2019 BOD meeting were summarized by Secretary Sandy Cheek. *Moved by Julie Barnfather and seconded by Kathleen Pillo to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.*

Treasurer Report:

Tiffany Buob, Treasurer presented the following information for Year to Date:

Bank Balance \$31,040.82

Expenses \$19,572.99

Income \$25,064.22

Memorial fund current balance: \$3516.52

Terry James reported that he had received a preliminary income and expense report on the last EDRA club ride from Kathleen Ferguson, past President and Ride Manager of Trout Lake 100. Kathleen reported that from her preliminary estimates, Trout Lake made approximately \$2,600. Discussion followed regarding the prior year, and Tiffany reported that the 2018 ride had reported a \$5,000 profit. The differences were discussed: 4 more entries in EDRA endorsed distances in 2018 than current year; a Ride and Tie, Relay, and Trail ride brought in extra revenue, and a significant number of awards were donated in 2018. Sue McLain, 2018 Trout Lake ride secretary, reported that income from registrations was approximately \$9,000 while in 2019, Kathleen Ferguson, Ride Manager, indicated it was approximately \$6700. It was concluded that because of the additional events (Ride and Tie, Relay, Trail ride), there was more revenue generated from registration. No motion on discussion.

Julie Barnfather asked that Tiffany and she get together and share the file on EDRA finances to review. *Motion to accept Treasurer's report as read made by Kathleen Pillo. Seconded by Julie Barnfather. Motion carried.*

Membership report:

Sue Summers reported that we are currently at slightly more than 160 members, which is about 20 more than this time last year.

New business:

Coyote Ridge Incident: Terry James reported that upon review of the actions taken in response to the Coyote Ridge incident, it was felt that the process used to inform the individual of her sanction was less than perfect. Our matrix was not followed in a consistent manner, and the individual was not clearly informed of prior incidents that led to the decision made by the Steward. Although the outcome was

exactly as felt appropriate, upon review, Terry felt there were some important missing steps. As President, he personally wrote to the individual and indicated we were aware of the steps missed and would vow to do better. He received immediate feedback from the involved parties indicated their appreciation of EDRA being honest enough to admit its mistakes. In future better documentation and notification needs to be done in a consistent manner.

Dave Nicolson Request: Max Merlich, a long time participant in “Duck” rides, was approached by “the Duck” (Dave Nicolson) about the possibility of EDRA endorsing his ride across the US (40 days of ~50 mile rides each day). Dave has become disenchanted with AERC, and is intrigued by EDRA’s flexibility in granting mileage other than 25, 50, 75 and 100. Conversation with Dave led to the conclusion that although we support his rides, we felt that EDRA was not ready to endorse such an ambitious undertaking. Needing stewards for every day of the ride alone would be daunting. Terry James wrote a response to Dave thanking him for considering EDRA but indicating we would not be interested in endorsing his ride at this time.

Jotform Subscription: Many rides have begun using Jotform for registering. Ride managers all agreed that it was easy, provided great reports, and kept great records. A discussion of whether or not EDRA should pay the \$200 a year subscription did not result in a motion. However, Sue Summers and Tiffany Buob will get together and see if it’s possible to purchase an account in a way that does not jeopardize our non-profit status (only club rides are non-profit).

Equipment Purchases: Kathleen Ferguson requested that additional tanks, saddle racks, a propane tank and tables be purchased by EDRA to put into the EDRA trailer. Sandy Cheek and Tiffany will coordinate purchase. *Sandy Cheek moved that 5 additional 100 gallon tanks, at a cost no more than \$500, be purchased by EDRA. Tiffany Buob seconded. Motion carried.*

Tables: Kathleen requested additional tables. *Jo Weinstein moved that 4 tables be purchased for no more than \$200. Margie Thorngren seconded. Motion carried.*

No other purchases were approved at this time.

Other business: Terry James proposed that EDRA buy its own blood machine to avoid problems with transport and equipment. Discussion followed indicating that most felt PNER just needs some more time to sort out logistics and now that they had someone in charge it should be better. Margie indicated there were “plenty” of rotors purchased. No motion.

Old Business:

Missing members letters: Sue Summers has sent the list of non-renewing members to Sandy Cheek and she is presently composing the email to be sent to them. Will have report on responses for next board meeting if not sooner.

Committee Reports:

Elections: Cortney Honan sent out an email to all BODs to “vote” on, to show how the electronic voting would work. All those who voted indicated it was really easy and Cortney says she gets reports on who

has not voted so she can send them email reminders. Cost is extremely low—estimated under \$100. We will have electronic voting before next conference!

Franchising: Kathleen Ferguson reported that she had solicited feedback from committee members to determine what points of common agreement about “franchises” existed within the group. She reported that all agreed there should be a set of EDRA standards, based on our rules and bylaws that all Franchises would be required to follow. All agreed there would need to be a fee to acquire a franchise. All felt some sort of structure of a national board with regional representation was appropriate. All agreed there would be some degree of autonomy within the structure of EDRA standards; Kathleen gave the example that although awards we now have are required (Best in Class, placing, etc), if a franchise wanted to propose new awards they could be put forth to the national board for approval. If a franchise wished to do an FEI ride, that would be their choice. Much work to be done, but Kathleen felt we needed to seek the advice of a lawyer experienced in “social franchising” to see how best to move forward. Margie Thorngren and Julie Barnfather agreed to seek out possible legal resources for the committee.

Logbooks: Margie Thorngren reported that she had reached out to Drs. Foss, Root and Terry. Only Dr. Terry responded. Dr. Terry indicated that she felt the log books were more of value to riders than to veterinarians. She felt riders should present them at the beginning of the ride, but she indicated that most of the time she only saw them once the ride was completed (for a vet signature). It was agreed that we carry on with logbooks as indicated in the rules, but review the possibility of making them optional/only on request in 2020. Sue Summers reminded us that equines still need a logbook number as a form of identification in order to be tracked for points and miles, but the physical logbook is not necessary. It was recommended that Margie continue to seek out opinions from other vets, as well as create a small rider survey regarding how they feel about logbooks. It was suggested that a good pre-ride clinic would be on the use of logbooks. Sue McLain reminded the group that any changes to the procedures required for logbooks would require a review of the rules.

Motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Sandy Cheek moved, Sue Summers seconded. Motion **carried**.