

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
EQUINE DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION
Conference Call October 10, 2019**

Pursuant to notice, the quarterly meeting of Equine Distance Riding Association was held via conference call on October 10, 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, Kathleen Pillo and Sandy Cheek. Absent were Georgia Glidden and Margie Thorngren. Quorum was achieved. Treasurer Tiffany Buob was also in attendance.

Secretary Report:

The minutes of the July 18, 2019 BOD meeting were posted on the web prior to the meeting. *Moved by Julie Barnfather and seconded by Jo Weinstein to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.*

Treasurer Report:

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

Bank Balance \$28,530.48.82

Expenses \$19,572.99

Income \$25,064.22

Memorial fund current balance: \$1830.98

Question: How are we tracking the endorsement fees? Do we have any outstanding? Answer: Kathleen Pillo has not yet paid the endorsement fee for Renegade. The Mary and Anna Ride has not paid because Tiffany thought it was an EDRA ride. Discussion regarding status of the ride ensued. Julie Barnfather recommended that if we were going to waive the endorsement fee (Max and Darlene have taken over the ride; it is not an EDRA ride) then we should show it by having them pay it and then we donate it to the Memorial Fund. Terry will contact Max and Darlene to confirm.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report as read made by Jo Weinstein. Seconded by Kathleen Ferguson. Motion carried.

Membership report:

Sue Summers reported that membership is slowing down at this point in the year, but we had two new members last week.

New business:

Equipment Purchases: Six tanks and 4 Tables were purchased. No other purchases were approved at this time.

Conference 2020: Kathleen Ferguson reported that she completed a cost comparison of expenses for having the conference at Grant County Fairgrounds versus Goldendale. On almost every measure, Goldendale is more cost effective. Kathleen also felt that the more central location would be an attraction for the Oregon members. *Moved by Tiffany Buob that the 2020 Conference location be changed to Goldendale Fairgrounds. Seconded by Lois Fox. Motion carried.*

Reciprocal Miles Proposal to AERC: Sandy Cheek sent out a proposal for review by the Board prior to the meeting. The proposal suggested that the President of EDRA contact the President of AERC and, after receiving guidance from the AERC regarding the process for submitting a proposal, suggest that the two organizations establish a method to recognize and record miles completed by members in the “other” organization. Essentially it would mean that upon request, an AERC member could ask to have his/her EDRA miles recorded by AERC and vice versa. *Moved by Kathleen Ferguson to accept the proposal as written. Jo Weinstein seconded.*

Discussion: Lois Fox felt that timing was terrible. She stressed that things were ‘just starting to calm down’ in Oregon and bringing this up would upset people. Kathleen Pillo suggested we start more slowly by reaching out to AERC president and establishing a relationship. Julie Barnfather agreed. Sandy Cheek reported that Kathleen Ferguson and she had already met with the AERC president last year at PNER and established that she was cordial and friendly. General statements of willingness to work together were made. Jo Weinstein: AERC has a lot of “stuff” going on right now. Lois suggested tabling the discussion with AERC for a year. After this feedback, Sandy Cheek withdrew the proposal and Kathleen withdrew her motion.

Proposed addendum to ride release form: Kathleen Ferguson reported that at the RTL ride, one individual was not happy with the cancellation of the ride. He felt that he’d been informed that endurance rides are never cancelled. Kathleen and Julie spoke with him after hearing his concerns, and tried to explain that for safety reasons any ride can be cancelled at any time. She proposed that an additional sentence be included in the ride release form. Sandy Cheek and Sue McLain will come up with language and present at next meeting.

PNER raffle: Jo Weinstein is the Raffle Coordinator. She asked if EDRA was interested in donating to the raffle again. It was suggested that we provide water bottles with EDRA logos to include in the swag bags. General agreement. Sue Summers will seek out better water bottles than last ones (they were a stiff plastic and did not work well).

Committee Reports:

Mentors: Lois Fox reported that she has had two members seek out mentors. She reported that she had received notification of ten new members. Sue Summers indicated there should have been more. Lois and Sue are going to work together to ensure Lois has the email addresses of new members and that she is notified of all new members when they join. It was suggested that Robin Leigh Burns be asked to raise the profile of the mentor program through social media. Sandy Cheek volunteered to talk to her about it.

IT: Susan Summers reported that currently the website is having difficulty accepting funds for membership. She’s working with a couple of different companies to get this resolved.

Franchising: Kathleen summarized the email she had sent out to the BOD prior to the meeting. The committee has concluded that EDRA is more likely to have requests to endorse single rides rather than requesting a full franchise. Slow growth along the edges of the current ride geography is most likely scenario. However, Kathleen suggested we need to make a thoughtful decision regarding involvement with FEI rides and EDRA PRIOR to being approached by USEF. (See attached document). Discussion ensued. Lois expressed concern at the cost. It was clarified that we would be the national partner; we would not be obligated to put on a ride. That would be an individual ride manager decision. Julie said

putting on FEI rides was expensive for ride managers. There are clearly pros and cons to considering affiliation. Sandy Cheek agreed to start a conversation with Carol Giles to ascertain what the positive and negative aspects of possibly affiliating with USEF might be. It was agreed that the BOD needs to come up with a position and then have the membership vote on it.

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Sandy Cheek moved, Lois Fox seconded. Motion **carried**.