

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
EQUINE DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION  
Zoom Meeting November 16, 2021**

Pursuant to notice, the meeting of Equine Distance Riding Association was held via Online Zoom Meeting on November 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm PST President Kathleen Pillo called the meeting to order. Directors present were Vice President Guy Cheek, Secretary Cortney Honan, Board Members Julie Barnfather, Sue Summers, Sandy Cheek, Robin Burns and Jillane Baros. Guests Sophia Mckee and Sue McLain. Quorum was achieved.

**Secretary Report:**

The minutes of the September 21, 2021 Meeting were emailed to the board prior to the meeting. *Moved by Kathleen Pillo to accept and seconded by Jillane Baros. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer Report:**

Julie Barnfather is serving still as interim Treasurer. Ahead of the meeting she sent a Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet. Although some club ride expenses were initially missing, Julie was able to get most of these expenses tracked down and recorded. The current account balance is \$43,211.67, with \$12,085.83 a line item for the Mary & Anna Memorial Fund. There is a lot more revenue coming in from running club rides, however membership revenue is down 20%. Overall expenses were much higher for 2021 as a direct result of the club rides. Julie asked that an ad for Treasurer be sent out to the membership. Discussion transpired on how to hire someone for the treasurer position if a member could not be found. Per the bylaws the Treasurer must be a member. *Sandy moved to accept the treasurer's report. Guy seconded. Motion carried.*

**Membership Report:**

Sue Summers reported November 1<sup>st</sup> all new members are for the 2022 year. Five new members have joined and a handful of renewals at this point.

**Mary & Anna Memorial Youth Fund Update:**

The current balance of the fund is \$12,085.83. The year-to-date individual donations totaled \$2,315. Thank you notes have been sent out to most of the donors. A \$3,000 donation was received from Darlene and Max Merlich from the proceeds of the Mary & Anna Ride. There was also \$2,595.57 in proceeds from the Trout Lake 100 that has been allocated to the M&A Fund. We have paid out \$5,388.01. Two rides have yet not submitted a request for funds and one eligible event does not take place until early December. A number of ride managers either don't access the fund, or only take a partial refund for the youth entries. Over 50 different youth have benefited from the fund. Sue McLain projects that the fund needs at a minimum of \$11,000 for the 2022 ride season. She took into account that Canada will have a full ride schedule. The PNER President Kristen Grace reached out to Sue McLain that PNER is considering having a fund raiser at the 2022 PNER Convention. Sue will work with and through Kathleen Pillo in

supporting PNER's efforts. At this time, it appears as though EDRA should have sufficient funds to cover anticipated 2022 obligations.

#### **Rules Review Information:**

Sue McLain, Sandy Cheek, Carol Giles and Deliene Sellers have gone thru the first pass of the rules. Sue anticipates a conversation on whether Test your Mettle Relays should still be an offering, where the pricing for dues are at, adding details to best in class judging protocol and clarifying edits that are not intended to change the intent just make the rule more easily interpreted. There will also be an updated reciprocity agreement with ERABC. In 2018 the agreement was updated, it was supposed to be updated annually but wildfires, COVID and border closures saw it being postponed. There is renewed interest in BC riders coming to the US for rides, Sandy Cheek reached out to the ERABC President Brittany Linnet about revising and updating the agreement. Sandy was seeking permission to start a draft of a new agreement to work with Brittany and her Board of Directors. There was general agreement for Sandy to proceed. Sue McLain will have the rules revisions ready to be sent to the Board of Directors on January 11, 2022.

#### **EDRA in Motion:**

Prior to the meeting, Sue McLain sent documents about the 2021 EDRA in Motion Awards budget and if the program should continue for 2022. She requested that the Board consider an amount of \$620.00 to cover the costs of awards. She also asked the membership to provide feedback on the continuation of the EDRA in Motion program in 2022. *Sandy Cheek made a motion to approve the donation of Sue McLain of \$620 for the 2021 EDRA in Motion Awards. Julie Barnfather seconded. Motion carried.* The feedback Sue received from participants was that in the winter months people enjoyed the program but then forgot to participate in the summer due to being busy. Sue would either need to change the cycle or exclude the summer months. Ultimately, through Board discussion, it was decided to keep the current format of EDRA in Motion. *Jillane Baros moved to continue the program in its current format for the 2022 season. Julie Barnfather seconded. Motion Carried.*

#### **Ride Endorsement:**

The ride calendar will be published on the website and doing so will happen technically before they are formally endorsed. To clarify, Sue will add an asterisk to each ride where endorsement is pending. Sandy Cheek also brought up that club rides need to present their budget before endorsement is granted.

#### **Ride Stewards – Update:**

Previously the requirements stated that someone needs to have shadowed another ride steward to be a steward. This is creating a barrier to more people volunteering to be ride stewards. Sue Summers would like to remove this from the job description.

#### **Diversity Committee:**

This committee has not been able to meet in several months. Sophia McKee is working on setting up a page on the EDRA website for articles and resources related to diversity and inclusion in equestrian events. Sophia also asked for a co-chair for the committee as she is having a hard time finding time for it.

**Mentors:**

Sophia McKee has set up four more people for mentors since the last meeting. Requests for a mentor are usually right after people pay for their membership. She hasn't received any feedback for people to get new mentors and everyone seems content. Kathleen suggested an email should go out for new mentors to be recruited as well as people to fill other roles.

**Trout Lake Conference Report:**

Guy Cheek requests that the next Board of Directors meeting be moved up to January 18, 2022 as the venue Red Feather Ranch requires a deposit 60 days before the event that will need to be approved by the Board. Guy has contacted two clinicians for the conference and developed a draft schedule of events. Kathleen suggested a secondary person to help plan the conference that can help make it fun. Red Feather Ranch requires that all horses are current on vaccinations before the event people will need to bring either the vaccine packaging or a current health certificate. Currently the COVID vaccine for people is not required at the facility. Holly Haddenham will oversee awards for distribution at the conference awards ceremony. In the past Lois Fox bought awards, the general budget was \$50 an award. Sue Summers speculates that this works out to approximately \$1,500 total.

The next meeting is planned for January 18, 2022. *Sandy Cheek moved to adjourn at 9:09pm. Kathleen seconded.*