

DRAFT MINUTES  
OQHRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AUGUST 11, 2009 - NOON  
HERITAGE PLACE RESTAURANT

Meeting called to order by Phillip Stewart, President.

Directors in attendance: Jeff Tebow, Lake Newcomb, Andy Golden, Butch Wise, Stacy Charette-Hill, Matt Witman, Leon Red, Dr. Bullock, Randy Hill, Dee Raper, Clayton Keys, Sam Hester. Ed Melzer, Finance Committee Chairman , Debbie Schauf Executive Director, and Peggy Hoover (OQHRA staff).

Additional Guests included Bob Fitzgerald, Bud Moore, Gerald Roberts, David Clonts, Dean Coop, Frank Fazekas, Wayne Kendrick, Casey Price, Charles Trochta, Cheryl Pevehouse-McDonough, Carl Pevehouse, Bill Price, Georgia Shipley (WRD), Kelly Cathy (WRD), Fred Hutton (RP), Skip Stucks, Mark Barnes, Shari Berger, GR Carter Jr., Don Kendrix, Gary Walker, Ray Graves, Jim Kegans, and two with illegible signatures.

Jeff Tebow reported on a call from Ronnie Bowan, prospective buyer of Blue Ribbon Downs. Mr. Bowan was unable to attend the meeting and told Jeff that there were some complications with his purchase of the track that were causing him to reconsider and possible renegotiate the terms of purchase so that he would be buying only the assets and not purchasing the operating company.

Butch Wise reported on a call from Bruce Rimbo of the Hubbard organization that said there had been some late revisions to the bidding process and as a result the Chickasaw Nation was going to be announced as the Stalking Horse Bidder rather than the Hubbard group and that is was likely the Chickasaw Nation would end up as the final purchasers of the racetrack.

Deb gave an overview of the proposed calendar of race days as requested by the four racetracks for 2010.

Butch led discussion on the stakes schedule for 2010 at Remington Park with the addition of 11 OKB stakes for Quarter Horses and 2 OKB stakes for Paints and Appaloosa's. by saying how many hours had been spent in working out the conditions, proposed names, etc.

Fred Hutton asked the board to consider the request by Scott Wells for a \$100,000 added 870 yard race in 2010 which prompted a significant amount of input from directors and guests.

**MOTION:** Clayton Keys (Matt Witman) moved to propose an increase from \$35K added to \$50K added for the current 870 Championship race. Motion Carried.

The directors and members then discussed the proposed 12 horse gate for Remington Park Futurity and Derby for 2010 and the suggestion that the track run 11 or 12 horse gates in the overnight races during the meet to make up for the fact that Remington has said they will NOT run the extra (11<sup>th</sup>) race each day in 2010. There was a large amount of input from attendees on this issue and many concerns about the ability of the track to assemble a competent gate crew and maintain the outside of the track. There was a lot of controversy about whether or not the majority of the owners would like running the larger fields in either the futurity and derby or the overnight races.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Randy Hill) moved to send Scotts letter to the membership and request an immediate response with their position. Motion Carried.

Shari Berger asked the board if there were any funds available to increase the added money for the Oklahoma Paint Futurity. The board discussed that race, the level of entry fees, and the change in sponsorship of the race from the APHA to Shari. It was also discussed that the P&A races are already at the 30% level of allocated purse funds to stakes as compared to overnight races and there were 2 new \$20,000 added Paint/Appaloosa stakes races for 2010 restricted to OKB bred horses.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Sam Hester) moved to add an additional \$5K to the Paint Futurity if the nomination and entry fees are increased by \$250 for 2010. Motion Carried.

The board discussed names for the two added OKB races.

MOTION: Dr Bullock (Matt Witman) moved to name one of the races after Victoria Ennis who was a leading force in promoting the Appaloosa racing programs in Oklahoma. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Sam Hester (Matt Witman) moved to name the second of the new OKB P&A races after Mr. Paul Harbor. Motion Carried.

Leon Red suggested that the next time we are able to add a Paint/Appaloosa race we should consider naming it for Henry Bowlan.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Matt Witman) moved to approve the 2010 Stakes Schedule with the amendments to the 870 added money and the Paint Futurity. Motion Carried.

Kelly Cathey from Will Rogers Downs addressed the board about the WRD proposed dates and stakes schedule. He said the track and the KQHRA would like to see a little more added money in the Kansas Jackpot. He suggested if OQHRA would support \$5K additional added money he would try to get the KQHRA to put in an additional \$5K making the total added money \$40K for 2010. The trial purses would also be paid from the regular horsemen's purse account funds. He also suggested moving the race up a week with trials 3/26 and finals 4/10 so they didn't fall on Good Friday this year. There was discussion raised by Mark Barnes about the difficulties in running trials at WRD on the same day the riders and trainers and maybe even owners had horses running that

evening at Remington Park. He suggested and everyone seemed to agree it would be better to try to run those trials at WRD on Wednesday March 24 at WRD rather than on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>. Kelly agreed to take that suggestion back and see if his superiors and KQHRA were OK with it.

MOTION: Clayton Keys (Lake Newcomb) moved to increase the added money for horsemen's purses for QH by \$5,000 to a total of \$30,000 for 2010. Motion Carried.

Kelly was asked about the plans for WRD to run the number of QH and P&A races required in the Act for the track to conduct gaming. He said they were hoping to negotiate an agreement with OQHRA but they were considering an alternative plan if that did not happen. He indicated their plan would probably be a "new concept" meet for QH/P/A in the fall if they are forced to run more races than their current application.

Butch also asked if they were satisfied with our promotional contributions for 2010 and if they wanted to continue the program for 2010. Kelly responded in the affirmative.

GR Carter asked WRD if they were willing to cooperate in recognizing rider contracts for 2010 and Kelly said they were not against it if the process was not disruptive to the meet.

The board took a 10 minute break and reconvened at 2 PM

Deb reported that Ron anticipated supporting the same stakes program as 2010 assuming the tribal funding was available to support it. Additionally, she reported that he was seeking a split of 42/42/16 for the simulcast money earned during the meet and an 80/16/4 split of the simulcast purse money outside of the live meet.

ACTION ITEM: Phillip appointed a committee comprised of himself, Matt Witman, Dr. Bullock, Jeff Tebow, and Sam Hester to go talk to Ron about the simulcast split issue.

The board discussed the proposed application of Blue Ribbon Downs and the concerns that if the track sale does not materialize there could be no racing there in 2010. Deb said Blaine and she had discussed the horsemen's agreement for 2010 and suggested OQHRA prepare and send Blaine a Horsemen's Agreement calling for statutory number of races for our breeds and simulcast split based on the ratio of races required in the Act for each breed.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to have Debbie draft and send a proposed agreement to Blaine for signatures contingent on the acceptance of a 2010 racing license. Motion carried.

The directors reviewed the draft futurity and derby nomination blanks for OQHRA races.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Dr Bullock) moved to add 2009 purse information and phrase that the OK Futurity is the oldest continuously run Futurity in the Nation to the form and approve the form for 2010. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to approve the OKB QH Futurity and Derby blank with the 2009 purses added and the weights for the races. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to approve the Black Gold Derby with the addition of the 2009 purse and the weight for the race. Motion carried.

MOTION: Lake Newcomb (Matt Witman) moved to approve the nomination blank for the 2010 Black Gold Futurity. Motion Carried.

Under Commission business, the board discussed the proposed rule set for public hearing on August 17 that would direct the split of simulcast breakage and unclaimed ticket money.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to support rule as proposed. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Lake Newcomb) moved to approve minutes of the June meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Matt Witman) moved to accept financials. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Lake Newcomb (Matt Witman) approved \$1500 for the Chief Pyle fundraiser. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to approve \$500 for the special Olympics for 2010. Motion Carried.

The board reviewed the four scholarship applications received by the August 1 deadline and found that all four were good worthy candidates.

MOTION: Dee Raper (Leon Red) moved to approve all four of the applicants for a \$1,000 scholarship for 2010. Motion Carried.

MOTION: Butch Wise (Matt Witman) moved to fund the additional \$2,000 above the budget for 2009 scholarships from the unallocated proceeds of the annual meeting silent auction. Motion Carried.

Phillip discussed the vacancy on the board created by the passing of Bobby Webb. He said he had reviewed the bylaws and was aware of the provision calling for consideration of appointing the next highest vote getter from the previous years election but in this instance he had talked with that candidate, and after much consideration he had determined that the most benefit to the board and members would result from the appointment of Skip Stucks.

MOTION: Phillip Stewart (Matt Witman) moved to appoint Skip Stucks to fill the balance of the unexpired term of Bobby Webb. Motion Carried.

The board reviewed wrap up information on the meet at Fair Meadows. The meet ended with a total of 1276 horses that still had 0 dates and did not get in a race during this years meet. That led to a discussion about the need for more races at all OK tracks. Jeff suggested we should do a letter of follow up to Charlie Stockholm to thank him for doing the cookout at Fair Meadows for the OQHRA again this year.

Debbie reported that there were some concerns with some of the works at BRD and the racing staff would be identifying all horses working off lists and there was going to be a close scrutiny to see that all works are valid works for the balance of the meet. She also reported on a conversation with Mr. Rieger of the racing commission regarding the rumors about illegal substances being used to enhance performance of racehorses. Mr. Rieger informed her that his undercover agents had purchased some allegedly contraband substances and they were currently being analyzed by the laboratory.

Under Other Business, Carl Pevehouse said there were a large group of owners that would like to see up to three or four restricted races for Oklahoma bred only horses. There was much discussion about the economics of this request and whether or not there were really enough OKB horses to fill that many races every day if it were a good idea economically. Mr. Pevehouse was urged to review the problems with the racing in states that currently require that level of participation by the state bred horses. He then explained that one of his major concerns besides not wanting the out of state horses to have all the money was the difficulty in getting races for 2 year olds. Debbie offered to provide statistical information on this meet that she felt would disprove Mr. Pevehouse's concern that most of the money was going out of state. She reported that over ½ of the current owner accounts in 2009 were OK owners, and that of the approximately 2000 total starters during this years meet, ½ of the total starters were 2 year olds, with about ¼ being 3 year olds, and the other ¼ being older horses. Mr. Pevehouse said he would like to have the facts available for discussion at a future meeting.

GR Carter addressed the board about the disabled riders fund that currently supports about 60 totally disabled riders. He said 9 of the 60 were Quarter Horse riders and about 16 were riders that rode all breeds. He was frustrated that AQHA has been asked to provide some type of financial support for these riders and have not responded. He also explained how the fund was initially endowed and told who administers the fund at this time. He would like for OQHRA to help with AQHA, and to also consider making a donation to support the riders from current benevolence reserves if that is a permissible use of the funds.

MOTION: Jeff Tebow (Lake Newcomb) moved to table this issue until the October board meeting and have staff provide additional information. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

