

**AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2017**  
**Las Vegas, NV**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Joe Kahre called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and led the invocation.

**ROLL CALL:** Present at the meeting were Bobbie Briggs, Al Bulgawicz, Harry Elder, Sid Hutchcraft, Joe Kahre, Bob Kane, Laura Mullen, Leigh Murray, Julianna Myers, Joanne Ross, Clair Seversen, Heather Ward, and Jason Warrenfeltz. Absent: Gene Baynham, Allison Rosauer.

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:** 13 directors were present of 15 total directors. We had a quorum.

**RATIFY FEBRUARY 2017 MINUTES:** Jason Warrenfeltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2017 minutes. Seconded by Harry Elder. All in favor. Motion passed.

**2016 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Approval of AMHA Clubs**

**Interstate Miniature Horse Club:** Sid Hutchcraft made a motion to approve the Interstate Miniature Horse Club as an AMHA approved club. Seconded by Bob Kane. All in favor. Motion passed.

**East Texas Miniature Horse Club:** The board reviewed the application of the East Texas Miniature Horse Club. President Kahre will have the AMHA Office notify them that there is additional information need to make their application complete.

**New York State Miniature Horse Society:** The board concluded that the by-laws of the New York State Miniature Horse Society were incomplete. The application was tabled pending further information. Bobbie Briggs will follow up with the club and try to help them get what they need.

**EUSAM:** Directors expressed concern that this club lacked a complete board and that they appear to be a studbook, not a club. President Kahre tabled discussion on this club until Sunday as we just received the application today.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**AMHA Regional & World Show Manager:** Jason Warrenfeltz made a motion to enter into a contract with Laura Mullen for 3 years as the Regional and World Show manager. Seconded by Bobbie Briggs. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**European Championship Show:** Sid Hutchcraft made a motion to approve ICAMH as the European Regional Championship host club and Stephanie Von Schie as manager for 3 years. Seconded by Al Bulgawicz. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**2018 Annual Meeting:** President Kahre brought up discussion regarding the 2018 Annual Meeting in Orlando and a possible change of location. He also asked that the Board put some thought into changing the Annual Meeting date to November of each year. Clair Seversen suggested Louisville, KY and stated that the Board can make this change. President Kahre appointed a committee comprised of himself, Alison Stonecypher, Sami Scheuring and Marilyn Meyer to research location options and bring their findings back to the Board. It was suggested that we combine the Annual Meeting with the World Show, but this is not allowed per our standing rules. It was also suggested that we move the meeting to Ft. Worth. There was also discussion on how moving to November might affect the flow chart for rule change proposals. President Kahre took a straw vote of the membership present to determine if they were in favor of moving the meeting to November. By all appearances, the majority were in favor of moving to November. President Kahre will put this item on the agenda for Sunday for further consideration. The Annual Meeting Site Search Committee will get back to the Board at the next teleconference with their findings. Julianna Myers suggested making this committee an ongoing one so that we could have data on potential Annual Meeting locations prior to voting on them.

**Hardshipping Committee:** Gene Baynham, Clair Seversen, and Jason Warrenfeltz were appointed to a committee to look into making hardshipping more available to the membership. Clair Seversen passed out a proposal with various options on how we might modify our current hardship rule. Options include hardshipping at approved shows other than AMHA approved shows, changing the age at which the horses are eligible for hardship, and possibly allowing a discount if one parent is already AMHA registered. Clair Seversen asked that the Board look over the proposals and get back to him with their opinions on the various options. It was discussed by several members of the Board and many points were brought forward. Harry Elder spoke to it from a by-laws standpoint. This item will be brought up later this weekend.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Clair Seversen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Seconded by Jason Warrenfeltz. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

**AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Friday, February 24, 2017**  
**Las Vegas, NV**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Joe Kahre called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and gave the invocation.

**ROLL CALL:** Present were Bobbie Briggs, Al Bulgawicz, Harry Elder, Sid Hutchcraft, Joe Kahre, Bob Kane, Laura Mullen, Leigh Murray, Julianna Myers, Joanne Ross, Clair Seversen, Heather Ward and Jason Warrenfeltz. Absent: Gene Baynham, Allison Rosauer.

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:** 13 directors were present. It was determined that we had a quorum to do business.

**SERGEANT AT ARMS:** John Sweatt was appointed Sergeant At Arms for this Annual Meeting.

**CONVENTION RULES:** President Kahre asked Bob Kane to inform the Board and membership of the rules of this Annual Meeting.

**RATIFY MEETING MINUTES:** Sid Hutchcraft made a motion to ratify the meeting minutes of the February 19-20, 2016 Annual Meeting General Membership Meeting. Seconded by Al Bulgawicz. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Kahre reviewed his past year in the presidency. He attended all three Regionals (as the gateperson) and the World Show to make himself available to the membership. There have been staffing changes at the AMHA Office and this is heading in a positive direction. President Kahre announced that Randy Peacock, our Office Manager, is retiring and introduced Alison Stonecypher, our new Office Manager. He urged the membership to look positively at how to make things happen for AMHA and its membership.

**OUTGOING DIRECTORS:** President Kahre recognized our outgoing directors: Bob Kane, Region 9; Julianna Myers, Region 9; and Harry Elder, Region 13.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Heather Ward

We have now completed the 2017 fiscal year and our loss for the year was \$81,918 as outlined in the audited financial statements dated February 13, 2017 from Gilliam, Wharram & Co., PC., which have been provided to the Directors and made available to members attending the AGM. While the results are not what we had hoped when we set the budget last year showing a loss of \$17,564, there were several unknowns to contend with, most of which have been addressed or are in the process of being addressed to benefit future years. We did have an extraordinary item which helped mitigate our loss for the year; the Texas Event Grant had an increase of about \$40,000 over budget as a result of our World Show Activities.

The bottom line is that the current key sources of revenue for our organization: registrations, membership and Miniature Horse World have declined over the past several years and do not provide sufficient income to cover our operating expenses. Registrations have improved recently; mostly thanks to the Hardship Program which we hope will expand further during the coming year to provide us with a viable income base. Membership numbers are somewhat down but the Finance Committee feels that with the new programs we can build on those numbers and with the staffing changes that have already been made, the membership net income has improved already in 2017. Changes have also been made to MHW magazine for 2017 with 4 published issues instead of 6 and 2 or 3 e-magazines, which once all the issues that come with change have been sorted out, should show improvement as well. The World Show provided a bright light during the year; with all the fun and enthusiasm generated by our President and many others, the 2016 World Show had its highest net income in 10 years which hopefully we can build on in 2017.

The EC met with the staff and implemented a change in staffing and reorganization of duties which has already shown to translate into an amazing change in attitude and motivation, along with an understanding that we are all on the same team working for the improvement and continuity of AMHA. Alison Stonecypher has done an incredible job in a very limited amount of time to make or recommend changes in operations and motivation of the existing staff. Thanks to our tireless President, Joe Kahre, who made it all happen quickly, we have a revived office staff. They, along with the new management staff, are continuing to examine all expenses and methods of operating, looking for areas of savings in dollars and time.

The Finance Committee is waiting for recommendations from the "Hardship Committee" as to changes to the hardship program that that committee will put forward at the AGM, which could

have a large effect on the FC Budget proposals. Rules and Regs advised on the previous request from the FC in June that “unless the AMHA is on the verge of collapse, new proposals should be presented at the 2017 Annual Meeting” and that “the rule . . . cannot be amended for 2 years.” The Finance Committee does understand this process, however, does wish to confirm once again that the Board has the power to change or amend the rules under Article V, Section 3, Powers Of The Board, as previous confirmed by our lawyers. The two-year limitation can be waived by the BOD “upon findings of exceptional circumstances which (1) concern the safety, health or well-being of the horse and/or exhibitor, (2) materially benefits AMHA’s programs or its financial stability, or (3) involves other compelling circumstances.”

Besides several email communications, your Finance Committee recently met by teleconference January 27<sup>th</sup> and February 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss items for the 2017 budget and have several items to conclude before the proposal to the Board on the budget is completed. They, through your Treasurer, have provided and will continue to provide financial advice to the President and to the Board. We are all on the same team and need all of our abilities and differences of opinion so that working together we can find the right paths for growth. We simply cannot sustain the losses that have occurred during the past two years which have used up about \$222,000 of our net assets. Our remaining cumulative Net Assets at December 31, 2016 amount to \$354,916 and we need to see that number grow in order to maintain a healthy organization. We will have some potential calls on our surplus in the near future for possibly a new accounting system and perhaps some capital improvements to our building and the funds to do so will need to be available.

Our current budget is still showing a loss for the year; however, we are working on getting that down to a break-even position for 2017. We, as Board members, all need to continue to do whatever we possibly can to promote membership in AMHA, support the expansion of our programs, and look for new ways to grow our association.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Joe Kahre

President Kahre stated that the present Executive Committee offers a great diversity of thought. He stated that the EC worked hard to communicate and work for the benefit of the membership. All EC reports are posted on the AMHA website.

**HUB COMMITTEE REPORT:** Al Bulgawicz

The HUB Committee met yesterday. We have 18 committees and every committee had either the chairperson or a representative there.

**BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:** Harry Elder

**Article XIV – Horse Shows - #1630**

Remove from the rulebook: “The World Championship Show shall be held in the Central (Regions 6, 7, 12, 13) section of North America. The World Championship Show site shall be selected based upon criteria including, but not limited to enclosed and covered areas; enclosed stalls sufficient in number to meet the current needs of the Association close proximity of hotels, restaurants, availability, cost, quality, features, etc.”

Vote was taken with 54 in favor, 8 opposed, 1 abstention. By-Law change passed.

**Article IV, Section – Members - #1632**

“Membership in AMHA is a privilege, not a right, and is open to all persons who subscribe to the objectives of the AMHA. Members agree to abide by its rules and regulations. Membership or application, therefore, may be terminated or refused by the Board of Directors. Members of the

association shall be admitted, retained, reprimanded, fined, suspended or expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the membership may, from time to time adopt. In all matters of elections governed by a vote of the members, each regular and lifetime member in good standing who has attained the age of nineteen (19) years shall be entitled to one vote. Associate or youth members shall not be entitled to vote. To do business with AMHA **one** must be a regular, associate or lifetime member with the exception of the following business transactions:

- Applying for a Permanent Measurement Card or a duplicate Permanent Measurement Card
- Purchasing a non-member Amateur Card or to opt-out of AOTE
- Updating any AMHA registration papers from temporary to permanent status
- Updating AMHA registration papers from stallion to gelding
- Transferring ownership of an AMHA horse
- Leasing an AMHA horse
- Requesting a duplicate registration certificate
- Miniature Horse World advertising

Separate non member fees are listed in the AMHA Rulebook for these items.”

Strike: “Doing business is defined as: any monetary transaction made directly with AMHA for goods and/or services with the exception of Miniature Horse World advertising and non-member Amateur cards.”

Vote was taken with 62 in favor, 1 opposed, no abstentions. By-Law change passed.

#### **Article VI, Sec 4 G – Presiding Officer - #1633**

Change to: “The presiding Officer of the Annual or any special meeting may exercise his/her right as a voting member on all balloted voting issues. The presiding Officer in all other voting issues will only vote either to create or break a tie.”

Vote was taken with 59 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstention. By-Law change passed.

**SHOW RULES COMMITTEE:** Bob Kane

#### **WS-010-B Location and Date - #1601**

“The World Championship Show shall be held in the United States. The World Championship Show site shall be selected based upon criteria including but not limited to enclosed and covered areas; enclosed stalls sufficient in number to meet the current needs of the Association; close proximity of hotels, restaurants, availability, cost, quality, features, etc.”

Vote was taken with 57 in favor, 4 opposed, 2 abstentions. Rule passed.

#### **WS-030 Classes - #1604**

Add:

185. Amateur Ladies Classic Pleasure Driving
186. Amateur Gentlemen’s Classic Pleasure Driving
187. Amateur Ladies Country Pleasure Driving

188. Amateur Gentlemen's Country Pleasure Driving
189. Amateur Ladies Single Pleasure Driving
190. Amateur Gentlemen's Single Pleasure Driving

Vote was taken with 63 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Rule passed.

#### **CL-030-K – Driving Class General Rules - #1605**

“K. When using a leverage big (Gig, Liverpool, Buxton, etc.) shown below are the acceptable rein positions, excluding the multiple hitch classes. Unacceptable rein position is a disqualification for the class. Martingales are prohibited with leverage bits. **No curb chains allowed.**”

Vote taken with 58 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions. Rule passed.

#### **CL-040 Roadster Driving - #1607**

“The depiction and descriptive paragraph are to be used to define the “ideal” roadster horse and are in no way intended to eliminate horses not capable of the ideal.

The IDEAL ROADSTER HORSE shall be shown with contact on the reins at all times. Stride should be “flowing,” exhibiting knee action and/or reach with hock action. The horse should be in the bridle with neck carriage comfortable with the poll being the highest point and flexion to fit the horse’s conformation. Roadster to be judged on performance, quality, speed, manners, attitude, conformation and appearance; IN THAT ORDER.

- A. Roadster shall be shown to a Bike (a two-wheeled cart with stirrups and no basket). Wheel covers are permitted. Shall be shown in Light Harness which consists of a bridle with reins attached to the bit only and passed through the saddle terrets and martingale if used. Also required, are blinders, a throatlatch and a noseband or cavesson. The bridle must have an overcheck or sidecheck attached from the bit to the saddle. A martingale and/or separate check bit are optional. All martingales and un-weighted bell boots are optional. The exhibitor must wear colors (cap and jacket to match, patterned after racing silks, no sequins or glitter). All youth exhibitors may choose to wear a helmet instead of a cap. Braiding of a horse’s forelock and first section of mane hair with ribbon optional. (Amended 2-21-03, effective 01-04) (Amended 02-12, effective 01-13).

#### PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY ARE PARAMOUNT

##### PERFORMANCE

Presence and elevation with forward impulsion, steady in each gait with definite gait changes.

##### QUALITY

A bold picture, demonstrating freedom of movement, while in the bridle, in a collected manner displaying the horse’s athletic ability with forward impulsion at a Jog Trot. At the Road Gait, the horse exhibits more power, speed and motion. The Drive On Trot is performance with a lengthening of stride but no decrease of collection or loss of form.

##### SPEED

A lengthening of stride with no decrease of collection or loss of

form.

MANNERS

Horse should appear willing to work and under control at all 3 gaits.

ATTITUDE

Settled in the bridle with smooth gait transitions.

CONFORMATION

Form to function.

APPEARANCE

Of both equipment and driver's attire.

- B. Judging procedure: Roadsters must enter the ring clockwise at a Jog Trot, then show at the Road Gait, turn counterclockwise at the Jog Trot, show at the Road Gait and Drive On Trot. Roadster horses should have animation, brilliance, and show ring presence. At all speeds they should work in form with head set and the legs working beneath them. At speed the trot should be in balance with long reaching action in front with straight, true movement. Pacey or mixed gaited horses that pace or rack will be penalized. Horses should be shown on the rail at all times except when passing. Performance at all three (3) gaits should be considered. When horses are lined up, driver shall not leave his/her vehicle except for necessary adjustments.
- C. Gait requirement: The principal gait requirement for roadsters in the Trot at three (3) different speeds—the slow Jog Trot, the Road Gait, and at a full extended Drive-On Trot. Horses must not be asked to rein back. A horse that has not demonstrated distinct gaits and smooth transitions (change of gaits) should not be placed over a horse that has demonstrated greater ability but has had a minor or incidental break in gait.”

The Performance Committee withdrew the picture associated with this rule and asked that the written description only be voted on. Vote taken with 58 in favor, 0 opposed, 5 abstentions. Rule proposal passed.

**CL-010-D Halter Class General Rules - #1610**

“Horses must be serviceably sound or be disqualified for that class, in good condition and well groomed. Transmissible weakness will be penalized. Overbites/underbites that exceed ½ depth (thickness) of the teeth will be severely penalized, with the exception of geldings. Judges MUST check teeth on all stallions and mares with the exception of mare being exhibited in a Youth 7 & Under class. In the Supreme Halter class, all teeth must be checked. (Amended 02-21-02, effective 01-03).

Vote taken with 62 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Rule passed.

**WS-030 – Classes - #1611**

“Add:

191. Youth Reinsmanship 8-18 0 qualifying points

Optional at all local shows and required a Championship and World Championship shows.

Vote taken with 33 in favor, 17 against, 9 abstentions. Rule passed.

**CL-025-G Performance Division - #1614**

“Front leg wraps and/or shin boots are permitted in **Jumper** only (**Not in Hunter**).”

Vote taken with 57 in favor, 6 opposed, 0 abstention. Rule passed.

#### **CL-030-F Driving Class General Rules - #1615**

New F: “F. 1. Earplugs shall not be used on any horse in the show ring.

2. Boots and wraps of any description shall not be used on any horse in the show Ring except Roadster and Jumper as defined in those disciplines.”

Vote taken with 60 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions. Rule passed.

#### **CL-030-H-5 Driving Class General Rules - #1616**

“Blinders are required. Overchecks or sidechecks are required and must be attached to saddle at all times. Only one time out will be allowed in the arena during the class. If that time out has been used and/or the check comes off a second time, the entry will be disqualified.”

Vote taken with 4 in favor, 57 opposed, 2 abstentions. Rule failed.

The fee schedule related to Article IV, Section Members By-Law was presented to the membership. The Board will revisit it on Saturday.

#### **SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE:** Jasmine Schlick

Thank you for revitalizing the Special Needs Committee. I am honored to be a part of it and think that it can be a great asset to the organization.

My hopes for the committee is to further expand and shine a new light on the Special Needs Division as well as encouraging the special needs exhibitors to get more involved with all aspects of the association. Our first order of business will be to propose a name change of the division from “Special Needs” to “Unique Abilities.” The committee and I feel the term Special Needs is outdated and puts a negative stigma on the division.

We would also like the Unique Abilities exhibitors to host/sponsor a lunch or ice cream social at the 2017 World Championship Show, this will allow Unique Abilities exhibitors to become involved and more familiar with their fellow exhibitors from all divisions. As the year moves forward the committee will discuss further opportunities to highlight the Unique Abilities division and showcase how miniature horses are truly the horse for everyone.

#### **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:** Joanne Ross

The International Committee met and had a quorum. The 2016 World Show International Gamblers Choice class was very successful with 10 contestants. The class had one of the largest audiences who enthusiastically cheered on the contestants, waving their country flags donated by Richard Elliott and Jacob Erickson. The purpose of this class was discussed. It was felt that the class was for the fun and experience of being in the ring at Ft. Worth. Members felt the class will be run as a halter class, judges ask questions (over the microphone if possible) of the contestants, and everyone will receive a participation award, not a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> . . . placing. Donated horses will be drawn by contestants from a deck of playing cards. The contestant must show the horse they draw. Switching horses is grounds for disqualification. They are encouraged to practice with the horse before the class, making a personal connection with their U.S. owners.



After much discussion and input about whether Canadian members qualify for this class, it was voted to include Canada. Canadians have the same qualifying rules as U.S. exhibitors which is different than other countries. Judy Lunde from Alberta pointed out that Canadian horses can have an 8-week quarantine before they return to Canada due to Stomatitus outbreaks in Texas. Owners may have to make two trips to the U.S. to qualify. This makes showing at the World Show very expensive. To be inclusive, Judy asked that Canadian members be allowed to participate. A motion was made by Joanne Ross and seconded by Sid Hutchcraft that anyone who is not a resident of the USA will be eligible for the International Gamblers Choice class. Passed unanimously. Bill Fairchild, All Things Equine, offered to donate plaques to all participants. We thank him for his generosity.

There was a lengthy discussion about the International clubs. The committee recommended that the Board create an AMHA certificate of affiliation to be sent to the club along with a ½ or 1 page ad coupon for the e-magazine and a brief information sheet about USLGE funding available to AMHA recognized International clubs. The committee will submit samples to the office. We recommend the Local Clubs Committee do something similar for U.S. clubs. The committee recommends that the form be revised to include sections for requested information, i.e. officers AMHA member numbers, date club was formed, number of members at time of application to insure this information is included. An updated form must be resubmitted every year along with the fee. Any recorded legal document required by the country be included, including registration of officers with a government body. The committee will work on submitting a form to the AMHA office as a working copy.

The committee recommends that an International E-Newsletter including Canada be created and a link posted on the newly created International section of the AMHA website. Bill Fairchild felt a need for more International news in the magazine. He showed an article of a pet expo that featured miniature horses as an example of articles that might be published.

The committee recommends that the AMHA investigate creating an EU Passport Program. This will insure the horses shipped are correctly identified with a chip and provide official documentation of vaccination from the U.S. veterinarians required by EU. This also has a possibility of additional revenue for AMHA. Currently passports cost \$50 plus \$35 for the microchip. This committee will form a sub-committee if the Board approves to start investigating the process.

The committee will produce a prototype report form for the International clubs to submit with their annual report which will be a condition to receive USLGE funding for qualifying club activities. This prototype will be based on the 2016 Czech report.

The committee recommends to the Board that International membership be available without the magazine, possibly for \$40.

Kevin Lathouwers and Tanya Cremers would like to implement an International exchange program for youth and adults. It would include spending 1-2 weeks at a sponsoring farm as a working guest. A list of interested farms would be published. This would be a separate entity, not a sponsored AMHA program. Kevin and Tanya will write up the program and procedures. They donated such a visit/exchange to the Amateur auction. It was purchased by Susan Stuart for \$1750. The amateur committee was very appreciative.

The final item discussed was to select High Point horse(s) for each country holding AMHA shows. This could be certificates and ribbon or medallion, something small but recognizes the efforts of our International show contestants. It would give an additional reason for belonging to AMHA and possibly lead to the promotion of more AMHA approved shows. The committee will investigate with the office the possibility and issues with such awards.

**INTERNATIONAL REPORT:** Kevin Lathourwers

Kevin Lathourwers gave a power point presentation explaining the complexities of miniature horse ownership for our International members as compared to miniature horse owners in the United States.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The meeting will resume Saturday at 9:05 a.m.

**AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Saturday, February 25, 2017**  
**Las Vegas, NV**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Kahre called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m. He updated the membership on the Awards Banquet held the previous evening.

**ROLL CALL:** Present were Bobbie Briggs, Al Bulgawicz, Harry Elder, Sid Hutchcraft, Joe Kahre, Laura Mullen, Leigh Murray, Julianna Myers, Joanne Ross, Clair Seversen, Heather Ward, Jason Warrenfeltz. Absent: Gene Baynham, Allison Rosauer.

President Kahre revisited the non-member fee schedule. No motions were made to amend the fee schedule. Therefore, it will remain as published on the work order and as voted in by the membership at the Board of Directors Sunday Meeting at last year's annual meeting.

**AOTE:** John Bennett/Kim Sweatt – Co-Chairs

Last year, Regis and Debbie Hartnett coordinated a program whereby one exhibitor in each AOTE class at the World Show received a prize drawn for randomly for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> place. Thank you Regis & Debbie! This year, that program will be sponsored by Kim and John Sweatt of Mirage Miniatures/Comstock Insurance Company. Sponsors were obtained for the AOTE Halter and Performance buckles at Regionals. Sherry Crowe, Debbie Meek & Bobbie Briggs will do Eastern; Kim & John Sweatt will do Western; and Leigh & Jamie Murray and Eric & Marilyn Meyer will be doing Central. John & Jennifer Bennett will sponsor the European Regional AOTE awards. Marie Powell will sponsor the World Show AOTE buckles. A facebook issue was also discussed and it was determined that there were no AOTE violations. The committee also discussed that there are not enough Amateur driving classes at the World Show. The AOTE committee was pleased with how positive the committee meeting was.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Julie Good

The membership committee had a quorum and a lively, exciting meeting. Julie Good stated that AMHA needs to continue to monitor club and member renewals. She stated that we have 600 horses participating in the Mini Hours Program. The question is whether to charge a nominal fee for participation. The committee voted to charge a fee of \$10 to participate in the program. This would give them some funding for awards. They would like to offer lanyards and pins for the 1000 hours prize. They have been giving certificates and stickers. They will probably remove the "grooming" category. The committee would also like to honor the Therapy Horse Of The

Year. They also discussed hosting webinars for the membership. They would like to start a new program called the Star Certification Program. Julie explained the program and the benefits to AMHA of implementing it.

**AMATEUR COMMITTEE:** Susan Stuart

The Amateur Committee had a quorum. The Amateur Auction at the Annual Meeting Banquet was a great success netting \$4043.00. The committee lost 4 members, so Susan encouraged people to sign up. The Reserve Super Amateur Award will continue to be a vest. Kim Sweatt will help coordinate the Super Amateur Awards. She is seeking sponsors for the high point buckles for the amateurs at Regionals. The committee is going to try to coordinate “thank you” notes from award recipients. They will also be working on the Wine/Cheese Party at the World Show. The Amateur Committee is going to put together a subcommittee to look into ownership requirements of amateurs with regard to the World Show. Joanne Ross will coordinate the amateur clinic.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE:** Michael Brandt

The committee met but did not have a quorum. The committee has a broad scope and looks into matters 3-5 years out with more emphasis on 3 years. Their purpose is to gather and propose ideas to the association. They will be having video/audio conference calls to discuss their business throughout the upcoming year. They would like to come up with a template that will help analyze ideas by calling for an explanation, positive impact, negative impact, potential cost and potential revenue.

**HALTER FUTURITY COMMITTEE:** John Bennett

The committee met with four members present and two absent. The committee discussed the stallion nomination forms and that the payment of 15% for Stallion Nominations needs to be paid to the Nominator. The office was given an updated form that includes the nominator’s signature as well as the stallion owner’s signature so that there will not be duplicate forms submitted to the office. The amended form was given to the office for updating prior to the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and for future use.

The number of weanlings showing in the Weanling Sweepstakes classes over the last 3 years was reviewed. The decision was made to offer the Weanling Sweepstakes classes for 2017 to see if support continues to increase and revisit this question in 2018.

There was discussion on how to increase participation in the 2-year-old futurity classes. Suggestions were: 1. Change the Amateur 2-Year-Old classes to AOTE; 2. Reduce the sustaining fee for 2-Year-Olds; 3. Disperse all or part of the stallion percentage to the 2-Year-Old pot to increase payouts; 4. Combine 2 & 3. It was determined that more member input was needed to make a good decision.

It was suggested by a member that the committee consider changing to the Arabian Halter style of showing rather than our traditional style. There was much discussion. It was determined that there was not enough support or information to make this change at this time.

A Director in Belgium requested that they be able to use the AMHA Halter Futurity Logo for the new AMHA European Futurity that they are creating. Allison Rosauer was contacted by phone and she thought for clarification, the logo should be slightly different so that it would reduce

confusion between the two futurities when horses that may be in the US Futurity are exported to Europe. Kevin will get in touch with Allison to go forward with this.

The committee thanks its 2017 sponsors!

#### 2017 Halter Futurity Sponsors

- Lucky Four Farms – Wade Burns & Jon Woodring
- Libertymere Farms – Bob & Chris Padula
- Covergirl Miniatures – Charlene Eisenmenger
- Los Arboles – Polly Weisberg & Ann Dwyer
- World Of Miniatures – Eric & Marilyn Meyer
- Double E Ranch – Richard Erickson & Jacob Elliott
- Limestone Miniatures – Janet King
- Apple Creek Farm – Elizabeth Fuselier Ellis & Jerry Ellis
- Hopkins Heavensent Miniatures – Debra Hopkins
- Scott Creek Farm – Joanne & Larry Ross
- Pecan Grove Farm – Jere Olsen & Peggy Lloyd & Denny Mounce
- JoVon Miniatures – Leigh & Jamie Murray
- Thornwood Farms – Patty Diehl

#### Champagne Sponsor

- Fountain Miniatures – Barbara Hibbard

#### **GELDING INCENTIVE COMMITTEE:** Leigh Murray

“You will never plow a field by turning it over in your mind.”

The Committee did not have a quorum. Elizabeth Ellis, Chair, could not be present. Randy Peacock provided financial information for the last five years (2012-2016). Promotional activities of the committee included looking into free advertising in the e-magazine, changing the logo for Gelding Incentive and checking to see if there is any free ad space in Miniature Horse World magazine. There are currently 25 classes that are eligible for payout at the World Show of which only 3 are performance classes. The committee feels that nominations have been lost due to this and will be looking into avenues to be able to make more of the classes eligible for payout.

Sharon Housley stated that all 3 Ultimate Gelding buckles for the Western have sponsors, 2 for Central and 1 for Eastern. The committee chair will have 3 sponsors left to secure.

The committee will explore the possibility of awarding Regional Champion Gelding for each region. We are encouraging local clubs to look at ways to develop their own Gelding Funds and Awards. Several clubs gave examples of what they do to promote geldings at the shows in their area. The committee is looking into designing t-shirts for the Gelding Incentive Fund. The committee is also looking into sponsoring a special table at the World Show with possibly breakfast or pizza.

#### **LICENSED OFFICIALS COMMITTEE:** Lonnie Perdue

The Licensed Officials Committee met at the Color Breed Council and did a judges seminar in Denver last fall. Our two Fall judges clinics have each made a profit. The LOC will be hosting

another judges seminar in Tampa this coming October. The committee recommends a change under LO-020-C Senior Judges. The committee would like to amend “b” and eliminate “c.”

“b. Change to Approved judges are eligible for Senior Classification . . .” rather than “Approved judges may apply for Senior Classification . . .”

“c. Six letters of favorable recommendation are required. Judges are responsible for providing AMHA with six (6) or more addresses for letters of recommendation. These letters must be sent to the AMHA and must contain a full name, address, valid phone number and email address of the reference. At least four (4) of these letters must be from judges who have seen you judge, the remaining two (2) may be from show managers who have seen you judge or knowledgeable Miniature Horse owners. Members of the Licensed Officials Committee may not be used as references.” A vote was taken to make this change. 61 voted in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstention. Rule change passed. Kevin Lathoutwers asked if the Licensed Officials Committee is considering a judges seminar in Europe. Lonnie Perdue stated that the LOC is looking into that matter. An election was held to fill the vacancy on the LOC Committee caused by Sid Hutchcraft’s term expiring. Votes were counted and the new LOC member is Michelle Meacham.

**LOCAL CLUB COMMITTEE:** Susan Stuart

The local club committee did have a quorum. The committee did do a survey to let the local clubs know that AMHA is concerned about them. Leigh Murray will take over improving the Local Clubs facebook page. It is called the Local Clubs Miniature Horse Forum. They also discussed a “Super Club Award.” The committee also discussed how club’s can get their questions answered and how to get exposure to miniatures in the communities. The Local Clubs Committee hosted a dessert bar at the World Show last year. The committee feels that the club application needs to be revised and be more specific about the requirements to be an AMHA club. They also feel that club officers need to be AMHA members. Further discussion centered around having local clubs have booths at Regionals, CDE clinics for local clubs and having Alison Stonecypher assist in promoting shows and events through social media.

**PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE:** Darlene Bridges

The Performance Committee had a quorum. The committee had discussion regarding classic and country pleasure driving classes, sponsorships for 2017, and 3 & 4-Year-Old Open Driving classes. The purpose of this committee is to clarify performance rules, not to instruct judges how to judge. We do not recommend combining the Futurity and Open 3 & 4-year-old driving classes. The committee discussed Golden Age classes. It was felt that 50 was too young for driving. We propose that driving be 60+ and Hunter and Showmanship be 50+. A rule change proposal will be submitted for this. The committee would like to encourage the Board to consider implementing the Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen’s driving classes in 2017. The Performance Committee does not recommend passing CL-030-H-5. The possibility of offering a Maiden Open driving class was discussed and the committee was not in favor. The Performance Futurity has confirmed its sponsors:

Cathy Waxler/Star Lake Tack – driving coolers  
Austin VanWyck/Victory Lane – futurity hats  
Hopkins Heavensent Miniatures/Brad & Debra Hopkins\*\*\*  
Cedar Creek Miniatures/Debbie Emery  
Texas Angels Miniatures/Susan Stuart\*\*\*

New West Ranch/Lonnie Perdue\*\*\*  
JoVon Miniatures/Leigh Murray  
Painted H Ranch/Aimee Davis\*\*\*  
Kaycee & Judy Lunde  
All Things Equine/Bill & Corky Fairchild\*\*\*  
Azariah Miniatures/Julie Good\*\*\*  
Junior Bear Ranch/Mike & Kerri Griggs  
Drive 'Em Wild Ranch/Cassidy Blanton  
Sami's Lil Horse Ranch/Ron & Sami Scheuring  
Mary & Franklin Wilson – Hunter Futurity\*\*\*  
Happy Appy Acres/Valeri Lansford \*\*\*  
B & D Ranch/Becky Kelly\*\*\*

Sponsors with an \*\*\* have been confirmed.

### **STOCK HORSE COMMITTEE:** Darlene Bridges

The committee reviewed the 2016 winners at the World Show and felt that the horses in the Stock classes were properly presented. Darlene discussed why baiting was removed from the stock horse rules. They are going to address that with a rule change that states that “the use of any type of artificial aide is prohibited (rather than baiting).” They addressed stance and suggested that continuing to stretch after the first warning should be penalized. They would like attire to require hats, boots and long sleeved shirts or the entry will be disqualified. There was some discussion that not all are on board with the name “Stock-Type.” The committee felt it would be confusing to change now that the classes have been implemented for 3 years. The committee is working on a handout to make available to judges and exhibitors to make clarifications on the class. The following changes are proposed:

**STANCE** – The AMHA’s Stock Type horse normally stands at ease with its legs perpendicular to the ground and parallel with each other. The horse shall exhibit a balanced stance and stand on the corners of its body as opposed to being spread too far apart or crowded too close together, or parked out. After the initial Judges warning, **STRETCHED HORSES TO BE PENALIZED.**

**REQUIREMENTS** – 1. Hats, boots and long-sleeves shirts, blouses or jackets are required. Failure to do so will result in a disqualification in that class.

### **CRITERIA & STYLE**

1. Stock Type division horses will be shown in a stock horse manner with the horse standing still, calm & square.
2. The handler should stand towards the side of the horse’s center line, more or less facing the horse. **THE USE OF ANY TYPE OF ARTIFICIAL AID IS PROHIBITED.**

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE:** Julianna Myers

The Youth Committee discussed mentoring Special Needs youth members at the World Show. Two ideas were brought forth as fundraisers for youth at the World Show: Selling pizzas on a particular day and purchasing a discounted Lutke harness and raffling it off. Items are needed for the Youth Silent Auction at the World Show. The committee will begin asking for items. It was also suggested that the Youth Committee offer World Show Bingo with a 60/40 payback. The cost of plaques for youth at the World Show is approximately \$3000. Last year we had a commitment for this that did not follow through. This year the sponsor will have to make their

donation prior to any plaques being ordered. The World Show will have the same class trophies for the youth as we had in 2016. All High Point Awards for Youth at the World Show will be the same except that the cash awards will be eliminated. A motion was made by Jason Warrenfeltz to remove cash awards from the high points at the World Show and decrease the sponsorship for these awards from \$350 to \$250. Bobbie Briggs seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Janet King has graciously agreed to provide the buckets filled with items for each youth participant.

Ideas for Youth Activities at the World Show included: cones course, scavenger hunt, liberty, relay hunter class, shankless events, quiz bowl, judging contest.

The committee will be meeting on March 7 and will discuss Regional Youth High Point Awards for the 13 regions of AMHA in the categories 12 & Under and 13-18 Years. Bobbie Briggs made a motion to add Youth Regional Awards for each of the 13 AMHA Regions for the 12 & Under and 13-18 Years age groups. This would be a one horse/one handler team. Seconded by Jason Warrenfeltz. Motion passed unanimously.

Youth header rules were discussed. Youth 13-18 may head in open classes. Youth drivers must have a header 19 years or older. Youth Driving and Youth Versatility age splits were discussed. The younger division is currently 12 & Under for Youth Versatility. It was discussed whether 8-12 would be more appropriate. Discussion on the qualifying requirements for the Youth 7 & Under driving participants resulted in a motion: Jason Warrenfeltz made a motion that Youth 7 & Under driving participants will show at two AMHA approved shows to qualify for the World Show 7 & Under Pleasure Driving class. Seconded by Bobbie Bridges. Unanimously approved by members present.

The International Committee asked that the Youth Committee look into the possibility of a way an International Youth can show at the World Show with a borrowed horse.

It was discussed that the youth costume is a fun class, but has not had high attendance. Jason Warrenfeltz made a motion to eliminate the Honor Roll Award for Youth Costume. Seconded by Bobbi Briggs. Motion passed unanimously.

It was discussed that the committee should do a poster warning youth not to wrap lead ropes around their hands. They also discussed a Supreme Youth Award similar to Super Amateur. This will be discussed further on March 7. The subject of a European Youth Exchange was discussed.

#### **PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE:** Paul Tarap

The Promotions Committee had a quorum. They are very excited to be working with Alison Stonecypher and Kaycee Lunde on social media promotion. They are working on updating local branding. They would like to sell some hats, t-shirts, etc. to help fund their activities. They will be doing the sale horse book again at the World Show. They hope to promote Regionals and the World Show even more than last year. They would also like to develop a promotional video.

#### **WORLD SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT:** Laura Mullen

## **Regional Championship Show Report**

2016 was a successful year for the AMHA Regional Championship Shows with each venue producing a profit for AMHA.

The Western was our first event and was held at the Reno Livestock Event Center. The Western had the distinction of having the largest increase in the number of horses over 2015—up 50 head. They also had the largest number of class entries (906) for an average of 4.72 classes per horse. I would like to thank the Norcal Miniature Horse Club for allowing AMHA to use their jumps and obstacles and thank Mike Griggs for making arrangements to have the equipment trailer hauled to the show. For 2017, the Western will be rotating to the Oregon Horse Center in Eugene, OR.

The Central was our second event and was held at the Hardy Murphy Coliseum in Ardmore, OK. The Central had 120 horses in attendance—down 47 head. However, with 728 class entries, the Central averaged 6.07 classes per horse which was the highest number of class entries per horse ever—in any region. The Central returns to Ardmore in 2017. The Hardy Murphy Coliseum has received a million dollar grant, so we are anticipating updating in that facility. Their first project is going to be insulating the stabling area to keep it cooler for exhibitors and horses. I would like to thank the Greater Houston Miniature Horse Club for allowing us to use their jumps and obstacles and thank Al Bulgawicz for hauling it to the show.

The Eastern was our last event and once again had the distinction of having the largest number of horses of all three Regionals with 211 head. The Eastern averaged 3.61 classes per horse. I want to thank Danielle Hill Training Center for hosting an exhibitor party for all those in attendance. We had a great dinner followed by some pretty entertaining karaoke. For those of you who may not be aware, Danielle and Brian have hosted this exhibitor party for many years and it really adds to the event.

Our President Joe Kahre attended all three Regionals and met the membership while working as our gateperson. The Western ran late into the evening, but at the Central and Eastern, Joe was able to have a get together to speak with exhibitors about AMHA and hear their ideas and concerns.

Budgeted revenue for the Regionals for 2016 was \$26,697. Actual revenue was \$30,370. So the Regionals overall exceeded projected revenue by \$3673—not necessarily exactly as budgeted per event, but overall. A big positive for AMHA!

## **World Show Report**

The World Show Committee met at the 2016 Annual Meeting to report the results of our facility search and formulate plans for 2016. The committee members are Kim Sweatt, Sami Scheuring, Lonnie Perdue, Lisa Hawkins, Sid Hutchcraft, Sherry Crowe and myself. I would like to thank this committee for all their efforts in researching various facilities and assisting with World Show activities. The World Show had 584 horses in attendance and 2129 total class entries for an average of 3.65 entries per horse. The youth entries were up significantly over 2015. This figure of 3.65 entries per horse is the highest entry per horse figure we have had at the World Show. The number has steadily increased each year which is a testament to the ever-increasing popularity of performance classes.



The World Show Committee developed a class sponsorship program and set to work selling sponsorship. As chairman, I took responsibility for sponsorship and sold \$7800.00 worth of class sponsorship which was a big increase over 2015. We are going to offer our “Buy five class sponsorships and get a free stall at the World Show promotion” again in 2017 in addition to single class sponsorship options. I have sponsorship forms available if anyone here is interested in participating.

The World Show Committee also set to work selling webcast ads for the 2016 World Show. I want to thank Sami Scheuring for heading up this endeavor. The 2015 AMHA World Show had “zero” webcast ads. The 2016 webcast had 19 ads that were sold by the World Show Committee. A big success! I would like to encourage you advertise on the World Show webcast in 2017. It is your biggest opportunity to reach miniature horse enthusiasts. There are over 67,000 log-ins to watch the AMHA World Show and it is viewed in 85 countries. It is really an advertising opportunity you cannot afford to miss.

I would like to thank Kim Sweatt for creating our article in the MHW reviewing our facility search. Thank you to Lonnie Perdue for coordinating the production of the World Show jacket and center ring landscaping. Thank you to Lisa Hawkins for taking apart our center ring drape, replacing all the lights and sewing it back together! And a thank you to Becky Kelley for repainting our jumps and obstacles. And a thank you to Lisa Hawkins’ husband Randy for building our notorious water obstacle along with our plank and mailbox. A thank you to Paul and Ailene Tarap of the Promotions Committee for organizing a sale booklet where exhibitors could advertise their horses. We would like to thank Bryce Baker & Shawn Hester of Piece Of Me Miniatures for organizing our colorguard at the closing ceremonies. A special thank you to Tony Greaves for singing our National Anthem.

Financially, the 2016 World Show was a success. AMHA doubled its profitability over 2015 with a profit of \$50,610. In addition, the Texas grant increased over 2015 and came in at \$59,532. This brings an overall profit of \$109,962.

Total revenue from the shows was \$410,876 or 31% of total revenue of AMHA.

I want to thank our President Joe Kahre for his efforts to coordinate exhibitor parties throughout the event. These activities were very well received and added greatly to everyone’s enjoyment of the show. Reece Family Miniatures/Danielle Hill Training Center hosted a dinner and breakfast. Hopkins Heavensent Miniatures hosted a dessert party. Stars Miniatures had a pizza party and supplied ice cream treats throughout the show. The Billy Idol syndicate hosted a brunch and Timeless Miniature Horses hosted bagels one morning. A potluck dinner was hosted in the Moncrief and went on for hours. Sawmill River Farm and Aloha Acres supplied coffee in the Moncrief every morning and various Moncrief dwellers supplied the donuts. Drive ‘Em Wild Ranch, the Blantons, hosted a whiskey tasting get together. Sharon Housley of Fantasia Farm did a root beer float party for the youth. The Amateur Committee hosted a wine and cheese party on futurity night. Regis & Debbie Harnett developed a program where a random prize of a directors chair was given in each AOTE class. I am not sure if this is all of the hosted activities, but as you can see there was plenty of fun to be had.

We have some exciting ideas coming forward for the 2017 World Show. The report was followed by a power point presentation explaining that the 2017 World Show will be hosted in the Will Rogers Coliseum rather than the John Justin Arena.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 1:37 p.m.

Members were reminded that we will have the same measurer for all three Regionals and the World Show. Also yearlings and two-year-olds exhibiting at the Regionals will be eligible for a measurement card that will make it unnecessary to measure at the World Show.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:**

Al Bulgawicz asked for nominations for President. Joe Kahre was nominated by Sheryl Peterson. There were no other nominations. Al Bulgawicz asked that Joe Kahre be confirmed as President by acclamation.

Joe Kahre asked for nominations for Vice President. Debra Hopkins nominated Jason Warrenfeltz. Marilyn Meyer nominated Sami Scheuring. Ballots were completed. Jason Warrenfeltz was voted in as Vice President.

Joe Kahre asked for nominations for Treasurer. Sherry Crowe nominated Laura Mullen for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. Joe Kahre asked that Laura Mullen be confirmed as Treasurer by acclamation.

Joe Kahre asked for nominations for Secretary. Harry Elder nominated Sid Hutchcraft as Secretary. There were no other nominations. Joe Kahre asked that Sid Hutchcraft be confirmed as Secretary by acclamation.

Joe Kahre asked for nominations for Director At Large. Valerie Lansford nominated Al Bulgawicz. There were no other nominations. Joe Kahre asked that Al Bulgawicz be confirmed as Director at Large by acclamation.

Sharon Housley made a motion “that this assemblage, due to the fact that Orlando may be impossible to book due to the economic constraints of the association, allow the appointed Annual Meeting Site Committee (Joe Kahre, Alison Stonecypher, Sami Scheuring, Marilyn Meyer) to investigate possibilities and bring information to the Board to vote on to determine the locations of the next annual meeting.” Seconded by Jason Warrenfeltz. 62 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention. Motion passed.

President Kahre stated that earlier at the Thursday Board Meeting, the concept of moving our annual meeting from February to November was brought up. President Kahre asked for a straw vote to determine who would be for this change in date. Discussion ensued. The straw vote was 55 in favor, 3 opposed; 5 abstentions. Sharon Housley would like the Annual Committee Site Committee to provide a range of options with pricing not only for 2017-18, but for future years as well so that we can make better decisions. She also suggested e-blasts to the membership with options a year in advance.

Al Bulgawicz made a motion to adjourn at 2:36 p.m. Seconded by Jason Warrenfeltz. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

## **AMHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG AT ANNUAL MTG**

Sunday, February 26, 2017  
SouthPoint, Las Vegas, NV

Called to order at 7:30 a.m.

### **Invocation**

### **Roll Call**

Present: Al Bulgawicz, Lisa Hawkins, Sid Hutchcraft, Joe Kahre, Laura Mullen, Leigh Murray, Joanne Ross, Sami Scheuring, Clair Severson, Heather Ward, Jason Warrenfeltz,  
Absent: Gene Baynham, Bobbie Briggs, and Allison Rosauer

**Determination of Quorum:** 11 Present. It was determined that we had a quorum.

### **Recognize New and Returning Directors**

A welcome was extended to the following new and returning directors: Sami Scheuring, CA Region 9 (new), Lisa Hawkins, NM Region 13 (new), Joanne Ross, OR Region 8 (returning), Heather Ward, BC, Canada Region 10 (returning), Gene Baynham, ON, Canada Region 11 (returning).

### **Old Business**

President Kahre brought up some items of business that were discussed at the BOD Mtg. on 2/23/17 with no action taken, as follows:

- **New York State Miniature Horse Society**

The NYSMHS request for AMHA club approval was discussed again. Even though they had submitted some new documentation in the last couple days, it was determined their request remained short of some important information. Scheuring made a motion to advise this club of the information that was still needed, and pending the receipt and confirmation of such information in the AMHA office, the NYSMHS be given club approval by AMHA. Severson seconded the motion and it was approved

- **EUSAM**

After some additional discussion by the BOD concerning the request by EUSAM (an International organization in the Netherlands) for AMHA club approval, Severson made a motion to reject this request, seconded by Warrenfeltz, and passed unanimously.

- **AMHA Annual Meeting Date**

This subject received considerable preliminary discussion by the BOD at the Thursday night BOD meeting with a special committee appointed by President Kahre to research possible dates and locations for such a change. This discussion continued and the pros and cons of changing the AMHA Annual Meeting date from late February each year to sometime in late October or November. This change would become effective with a new Annual Meeting scheduled for the fall of 2017. Severson made a motion to make this change in the dates for the AMHA Annual Meeting, with the dates and location to be

established by the BOD, pending the report and recommendations of the special committee to the BOD at their next meeting. Motion was seconded by Bulgawicz and it passed unanimously.

With this planned change in dates for the AMHA Annual Meeting, it will result in two Annual Meetings held in the same calendar year and an impact on the 2017 AMHA Annual Budget. A part of the Budget for the Annual Meeting is the current reimbursement program for members of the BOD, LOC Committee, and Show Rules Committee members. Severson made a motion that if a second Annual Meeting is held in calendar 2017, there would be no reimbursement to BOD, LOC, and Show Rules Committee members. Seconded by Murray. A vote was taken and the motion passed with Scheuring, Hutchcraft and Bulgawicz abstaining.

After the vote, more thought and concerning discussion occurred and Severson made a motion to reconsider the action just taken by the BOD. Seconded by Hutchcraft and this motion passed and the subject was then reopened for consideration. Following this consideration, Severson made a new motion to have reimbursement for the pending second Annual Meeting in 2017 include a maximum of \$300 for transportation expense only to the Meeting per BOD, LOC committee, and Show Rules Committee member. No other expenses would be included (lodging, meals, etc) in reimbursement for this second Annual Meeting in 2017. This motion was seconded by Scheuring and passed unanimously.

- **Standing Rules**

The BOD had each received a copy of the Standing Rules in the meeting packets. Upon review it was determined this printed copy was incomplete and there were sections/rules missing. So a decision was made to get this corrected in the office and send a new corrected copy to the BOD for review and action at their next BOD Mtg.

- **Hardship Program**

A special study committee was appointed by President Kahre (with BOD approval) to take a look at the new Hardship Rules (number 193 starting on page 64 in the Rulebook) and consider items that might be changed in the rules to make it more convenient and easier for members (and prospective new members) to Hardship horses into AMHA. The Committee looked primarily at two key areas: 1/ locations where horses can be processed for Hardship; and 2/ age of horses to be eligible for hardship.

Severson, a member of the study committee, distributed a handout to the BOD for consideration. After review and considerable discussion, the BOD was not interested in considering changing the age requirement for hardship as outlined in Rule 193. However, there was much interest in considering the possibility of adding sanctioned AMHR Shows to the requirement of AMHA Shows to the location for processing/evaluating horses for hardship into AMHA. This would make it much more convenient as there are large areas in the US where there are no AMHA shows for horses to be taken for evaluation and in most cases, if available, would require extensive transportation and travel costs to get them to an AMHA Show, plus great inconvenience. Severson made a

motion to add a new 193C-1-d on page 65 in the Rulebook that would add AMHR Sanctioned/Approved Show. Motion seconded by Warrenfeltz and passed unanimously.

### **2017 Annual Budget**

The Treasurer, Finance Committee and office staff have been working on a proposed new 2017 Annual Operating Budget for several weeks. This work continued at the Annual Meeting as the Finance Committee met to work on the budget for several hours over a three day period, reviewing and evaluating each line item. A proposed 2017 Annual Budget was distributed for BOD consideration. Ward discussed certain items listed on the budget and President Kahre outlined the need to continue doing all we can to reduce any losses and increase revenue. Ward also stressed the budget needs to be revisited often as we move through 2017. Ward moved to accept the 2017 Annual Budget as presented. Motion was seconded by Hutchcraft and unanimously approved.

### **Approval of Committee Chairpersons**

Vice President Warrenfeltz presented the following list of committee chairpersons:

AOTE – John Bennett & Kim Sweatt  
Amateur – Susan Stewart & Marilyn Meyer  
By Laws – Harry Elder & Jasmine Schlick  
Finance – Laura Mullen  
Gelding Incentive – Leigh Murray & Crystal Acton  
Halter Futurity – John Bennett  
International – Joanne Ross  
Local Club – Barbara Hibbard & Susan Stewart  
LOC – Lonnie Perdue  
Long Range Planning – Michael Brandt  
Membership – Julie Good  
Performance – Darlene Bridges & Austin VanWyck  
Promotions – Paul Tarap  
Rules & Regs – Harry Elder & Kevin Lathourwers  
Special Needs – Jasmine Schlick  
Stock Division – Sid Hutchcraft  
Youth Committee – Julianna Meyer & Phil Abbott

Hutchcraft made a motion to approve the committee chairs listed by Warrenfeltz. Seconded by Bulgawicz. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

Mullen mentioned the need to create a Standing Rule to add the 6 new Amateur Driving Classes (Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen in each of the three driving divisions-Single Pleasure, Country Pleasure and Classic Pleasure) in 2017. Ross made a motion to create a new Standing Rule so that these classes can be added in 2017 at the three Championship Shows and the World Show, provided the Show Manager can find the time for such in the class schedules. It was seconded by Warrenfeltz and passed unanimously.

President Kahre outlined the need for more information on the STARS program so the BOD can make proper decisions concerning the program. Hawkins stated there was a need to establish a fee for joining and enrollment in this program as monies are needed for providing recognition awards. The program presently has about 600 members/horses participating.

Alison Stonecypher presented a proposal and recommendation from the staff for reestablishing the Temp to Perm Amnesty Program. The recommendation was to use the same coupon program again during the dates June 1, 2017 through postmark August 31, 2017 and with the same fees Mares \$25, Stallions \$60, and Geldings \$10. Scheuring moved to accept this recommendation from staff and to move forward with the Temp to Perm Amnesty Program in 2017. Seconded by Warrenfeltz and unanimously approved.

Ward outlined there were certain fee increases included in the new Annual Budget and felt the BOD should be aware of such and vote to accept. There was some discussion of each and then the following actions occurred:

1/Warrenfeltz made a motion to increase the Stud Book fee from \$45 to \$50. Seconded by Murray and approved.

2/Mullen made a motion to increase the DNA fee from \$41 to \$45. Seconded by Heather and approved.

3/ Heather made a motion to increase the Processing fee from \$2 to \$3. Seconded by Severson. A vote was then taken. Voting Yes - Bulgawicz, Severson, Hawkins, Ross, Mullen, Hutchcraft and Ward. Voting No - Murray and Scheuring. Warrenfeltz abstained. Motion passed. Severson then made a motion to start this change on April 1, 2017. Motion seconded by Murray and passed with 9 yeases and Ward opposing.

Mullen then brought up for discussion the need to commit to a contract with Reno Livestock Center for the 2018 Western Championship Show. After much discussion concerning the rotation of the Western Championship Show between Reno and Eugene, OR, there was BOD support for continuing this plan and favorable comments about both and support to go ahead and commit to Reno for 2018.

Scheuring outlined her thoughts about the possibility of the establishment of a new association for small performance equine, 43 inches and under. It would be for performance horses only and no halter classes. This association would operate under the direction of AMHA and could create a new much needed revenue stream for AMHA and result in making better use of certain AMHA assets and staff. Presented as just a thought for consideration. No action taken by BOD.

President Joe Kahre encouraged directors to become more active in their region and to continue to be positive about AMHA and be a positive ambassador for AMHA.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Warrenfeltz at 10:33 a.m. Seconded by Ross. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

