Board minutes from Board meeting on April 23rd, 2022
Members of the board in attendance:
Royal Roland, Jim Reese, Tony Paris, Scott Smith, Brandon Jenson, Mike Telfer, Joel McDanel, and Mike Conte.
Joel McDanel made a motion to approve the minutes from January 9th, 2022, meeting. Brandon Jenson seconded the motion. The vote was taken and all ayes. The minutes were approved.

Jim Reese gave a short rundown on the Treasurer’s report.
$2700 in fines from last year have been received from the USTA. $3790 from memberships and PAC. $44685 in nominations so far for February and March. There is more that should be coming in for April. They must be postmarked by the 16th of April. $26495 on new checks so far for April payments. Other misc. expenses and income were explained. Brandon Jenson made a motion to approve the Treasurers report. Tony Paris seconded the motion. The vote was taken and all ayes. Treasurer’s report passed.

The other item in the Treasurer’s report is the funding from Prairie Meadows that goes to our non-profit. They have sent us a check for $1,633,000 so far on March 28th for our non-profit organization. They have contacted us and we have about another $400,000 still coming this year. That makes $2,038,000 as the amount we are going to get from Prairie Meadows this year. The budget we set in January is $1,950,000 for this year so we are getting approx. $83,000 more than what we had in the budget for this year.

Legislative News:
The Thoroughbred people wanted to get more money from the purse pool. They were getting 2% and are now getting 4%. No one was against that so the legislators passed this. Lee Hein is the head of the Ways and Means Committee and he is a strong supporter for us. There has been some redistricting so he is now in with another Republican in Jackson County and it is a very contested race. We need to support him financially in this primary race.

Officials/Racing/Drug Testing news:
Charters will be Brenda Groter Hopp at What Cheer and Kim Larson at Humboldt. Starters will be Lisa Peters and Mike McDanel. Judge will be Michael Morales with the exception of Kallen Mouw on Aug 27th and 28th and September 25th.

Craig Schwartz will not be doing recording and YouTube videos this year. Tony Paris is looking into finding someone to video tape the What Cheer races and Dana Meyer is looking into finding someone to video tape the Humboldt races. May 29th will be charted.

Drug testing will be done by Industrial Labs again this year. Dana will get ahold of the person in charge of the supplies and get them ordered. She will also make sure that the invoices are also sent to Jim Reese for payment.

Deanna Poe has retired. She was our contact person at the Iowa Department of Agriculture. She was in charge of getting the ISF numbers for any horse racing in Iowa. A person by the name of Jamie Carter will be our contact for now. Her number is 515-281-6358. Everyone needs to get her your information asap so it gets done before the 1st race. Also, there was a reminder that all horses numbers need to be given to Judy Roland before the 15th of May otherwise they will not be able to race.
The next item discussed is the Wapello Fairgrounds updating the shed row. Tony gave a description of what needs to be done. The stalls need boards replaced and the roof needs fixing. Joel McDanel made a motion that we suggest to the non-profit to fund the improvements at the fairgrounds at Eldon, Iowa, in the amount of $19,500.00. Mike Conte seconded the motion. The vote was taken and everyone voted yes. Tony Paris will be in charge of getting the check from the non-profit and following thru with the people doing the updating and see they all get paid.

Next item discussed is the radio’s used by the officials, judge and start car. The radio’s were ordered in February so they can hopefully be here in time for the races.

Added on May 24th. The radio’s have not come in yet so they are giving us other radio’s until ours come in.

The next item is the proposed changes to the By-Laws. Mike Telfer spoke about what he has done on them. He needed to copy and paste them into a word document so they can be edited. He moved any prior amendments into the correct section. Any changes will be noted, agreed upon with the board and then the by-laws will be shown to everyone at the annual meeting banquet on November 19th and voted on by anyone at the annual banquet that is eligible to vote.

Then there is 265 horses nominated this year. Approximately 24 more than last year. There is also 11 aged pacers and 12 aged trotters.

The purses for the finals weekend were discussed. The nomination forms that were sent out say the championship races are going to $20,000 and the Consolation races are going for $4,000. The conditions book says championship races are going to $18,000 and the Consolation races are going for $9,000. The purses will be $18,000 for the Championship races, $6,000 for the Consolation races and $1,000 for the overnight races. On Sunday the races will also be for 3 year olds and older not 4 year olds and older.

On behalf of the races in What Cheer, Roger Roland is requesting $500 for the progressive Pick 10 and $375 for the Pick 5. Tony Paris made a motion to raise the progressive Pick 10 to $1000 and the Pick 5 to $500. Mike Telfer seconded the motion. Vote was taken and all ayes. Motion passed.

A motion by Brandon Jenson to adjourn the meeting was made. Mike Telfer seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.