

laHHA Board Meeting

Tentative Minutes

July 4th, 2009

The laHHA Board of Directors met at 11:40 am on July 4th, 2009 at the fairgrounds in Humboldt, IA. Larry Jenson and Jeff Carey were absent.

Jim Reese presented the Treasurer's Report. We have received the 3rd of four \$250,000 payments from Prairie Meadows for the summer fair funding. The final payment is scheduled for August 15th. **Motion by Bob Kohlwes, seconded by Jack Wilkening, to approve the treasurer's report. All Ayes.**

Officials Committee

Scott said Kally Mouw is going to be the Associate Judge at the Humboldt races as part of his training to become a presiding judge. Hopefully he will eventually take over most if not all of the northwest Iowa judging. Five people took the judges test in June when TC Lane was here and are starting as Associate Judges.

Race Day Issues

The board discussed the rainout policy and potential changes suggested by members. Currently policy is for overnight purses to be retained by the association. The board discussed paying out those purses or paying a smaller rainout fee (\$50/horse) but decided that the policy should not be changed mid-year and will be discussed again this fall.

The board also discussed how the rainout policy works when a card is partially raced. It was agreed that it was unfair for some horses to receive purse money from being in an early race before rainout and then also getting to race for the carryover money at later fairs. **Motion by Dan Roland, seconded by Scott Smith, that effective immediately if a stakes card is partially rained out that the cancelled races will be paid rainout money with the pools split by age/gait/class (feature or NW) and divided equally by the programmed horses that did not get to race. All Ayes.**

Motion by Mark Holtan, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, that the points for year end awards will only be awarded if all divisions of a class of feature races are completed. All ayes.

Mark gave an update on the drug testing. The Bedford results are not yet available, possibly because of the holiday. When he receives them he will make sure there's a binder at the table where you pay the entry fees so horsemen can view them. The board discussed whether it was appropriate to post them on the web site but did not reach a consensus.

Royal gave an update on the discussions with the other breeds and Prairie Meadows. We have reached a tentative agreement with the other breeds to a plan that would give us \$1 million for the fairs and 16 days of racing at Prairie Meadows in 2010. There is another joint breed meeting scheduled for July 6th for discussions on a joint long term plan. He has been working with Coon Brothers to get a more detailed and accurate estimate on the cost to build a 7/8ths mile harness track inside the mile track at Prairie Meadows but has not received permission from Prairie Meadows management for access to all the information Coon Brothers needs.

Mark updated the board on the status of contracting out the website and redesigning it. The preliminary estimate from EDJE, Inc is \$1,700 for setup and \$180/quarter for maintenance. We should have the first proof next week and hope to have it online by the end of July.

Gary Hafner asked some questions about the PAC and legislative donations. Royal said there is no guarantees that because we donate to a candidate that they will side with us or whomever gives them the most. The higher checks the PAC writes are to legislators who have done the most to help us in the past.

Motion by Scott Smith, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, to adjourn the meeting at 12:30pm. All Ayes.