



Board of Trustees Meeting
Place: Ramada Plaza Hotel Board Room

January 30, 2020
Albuquerque, New Mexico

PRESENT

President Tom Goncharoff, 1st Vice President Miguel L. Gallegos & 2nd Vice President Jay L. Taylor and board members Denton Crozier, Debra J. Laney, Mike Logan, Annette McCloy, Mac Murray, Thomas W. Pierce, Jr., Verner Query & Bill W. Shepard.

ABSENT

Mindy J. McArthur

QUORUM

President Goncharoff acknowledged a quorum present.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Jay L. Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes of December 5, 2019, seconded by Miguel L. Gallegos. Motion carried 10:0.

END OF YEAR AWARDS CRITERIA

Mary Barber pointed out that the AQHA rules along with a list of our award winners was included in the packets.

President Goncharoff stated that he was not sure we could get through this topic during this abbreviated meeting but explained that the AQHA has a policy regarding how positive tests affect trainers and horses end of year awards. The board will need to discuss this. It is a little complicated because if a trainer has a positive, every horse in that trainers barn is ineligible to receive an end of year award. Mary Barber added that if an owner does not move their horse(s) within 30 days of the positive test on a stablemate, they are also ineligible to receive an end of year award.

Debra J. Laney would like to see some examples of what the AQHA has been doing. She has read the rules and know what they say but sometimes what actually transpires is different. Annette McCloy asked if Ryansmanonthemoon was our highest money earner. Mary Barber reported that Ryansmanonthemoon would be our highest money earner in his category, however he does have a positive hair test. Annette McCloy mentioned that her trainer for Mister Riptide had a bad test but was moved to a new trainer. Debra J. Laney also brought up the date of the current AQHA rule and that we will have to discuss if we want to make it retroactive or go forward from here. Denton Crozier thought that some people may not have been aware of these rules and we cannot make it retroactive. President Goncharoff recommended we look at Oklahoma's rules. If a horse, trainer or owner has a ruling pending, the award is just held until it is resolved. Mary Barber stated that she had asked Leesa at the New Mexico Racing Commission if any of our highest earners had any bad tests, pending bad tests, trainers with bad tests and trainers with pending bad tests. We only had one horse with a bad test but there are five horses with trainers who had bad tests in 2019. President Goncharoff stated that if Ryansmanonthemoon had made enough to qualify for the end of year award before getting his bad test, that may need to be considered too. This is not going to be simple. We are not going to knock this out quickly. Mary M. Barber asked everyone to look it over and we can have it on the agenda for the next meeting. Debra J. Laney made a motion to table this subject until the next meeting, seconded by Verner Query. Motion carried 10:0.

There was more conversation concerning this subject and how the sires and dams of these horses may be affected as well.

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

The Trustees went through the agenda and discussed each item. President Goncharoff will give a short speech and introduce the Trustees and any industry leaders present. Mary will announce if we have a quorum or not. Debra J. Laney asked how many we will need for a quorum. Mary Barber reported that we will need 69 members and proxies combined to have a quorum. An Annual Report and Budget Report will be handed out to everyone at check in. Jay L. Taylor will deliver the report. Following the report, we will need to have a motion to accept, a second and ask for all who is in favor. The same thing will be done with the next item. Jay L. Taylor thought that it was just the Trustees who voted. Mary Barber stated that it is everyone but that she had never heard anyone vote against. We will then go to the Trustee Ballot, entertain nominations, verify that any new nominees are eligible and then ask all nominees to say a few words. Mary Barber will read the proxies into the record. President Goncharoff will then read the special items ballots into the record and plans to read a portion of the letter from our attorney who expressed that it was a good idea to get rid of proxies and have mail in ballots. Lowell Neumayer will give a short speech and then any member who signs up to speak will have five minutes. Bill W. Shepard thought that five minutes is too long, but Mary Barber reported that it had already been advertised that they would have that long. Mary will keep track of the time on her phone and have an alarm go off at five minutes. President Goncharoff stated that all current members have the right to speak if they want to. Jay L. Taylor thinks it would be a good idea to explain to the membership that just because something is on the ballot, that doesn't mean that the Trustees are for it. It just means that they thought the membership should be allowed to vote on it. President Goncharoff stated that there are some misconceptions that items are being railroaded through. We will then break for lunch and then come back and finish up public comment and then go into voting. Mary Barber reminded the Trustees that Debra J. Laney & Jay L. Taylor will help the staff count the Trustee Ballot and Marvin Kiesow and one of his associates from Moss Adams Accounting Firm will be coming to count the special items ballots. The breakout sessions will be next.

We thought it would be better to just have Megan Petty do her presentation and then open it up for questions. Maybe about twenty minutes. Then we will have Verner Query and Mike Logan go into their subject on the New Mexico Million and then open that up for questions. That way they only have to do their presentations once instead of twice. Making it a little informal and having the groups move up to the front for the discussion and not have the presenters up at the podium was discussed. If someone is not interested in the subject, they can go out in the lobby. Mary reminded everyone that after the meeting, the 2020 Board will need to stick around for a photo and to go upstairs to vote for officers. After the breakout sessions, we will have the drawings for the free breeding's and then the belt buckle presentations. At the end we will announce the results of the votes.

Mike Logan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill W. Shepard. Motion carried 10:0.

After the Annual Meeting, the new 2020 Board of Trustees met to vote for officers.

Debra J. Laney stated that we need to update the website. The minutes of the meetings and agendas need to be on the website. Mary Barber explained that we did have those things on the website and then other items took precedence. We only have two spaces that we can put things on the front page without them going into the archived items every time Mike Cusortelli adds a race story. The new website will have the capacity to have a menu item for Board Meetings and Agendas so that they will always be there. We hope to have everything copied over to the new site by the end of February. President Goncharoff asked if that is when we will be up and running and Mary Barber stated that will depend on the programmers but that is what we hope will happen. Debra had visited the calendar thinking she could find information on the meeting and it wasn't there. Mary Barber reported that it was on the front page of the website and included the address time and place. Mac Murray commented that the forms are difficult to find. That is one of the things we really need to have accessible for people. Mary Barber reported that the Export Broodmare Program will have its own menu item with the forms. Norma Alvarez commented that our website is second to Louisiana. She thinks we need to declutter our site and just include links to other things.

VOTING FOR OFFICERS

Mary Barber went over how the President can serve consecutive years but that the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents need to rotate. Someone asked if this is in the by-laws and although we searched through them, that was not found. Mac Murray thought that was correct that the 1st Vice President needs to be the opposite breed from the President. Norma Alvarez commented that she remembers that we did rotate officers by Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse in the past. Mike Logan feels it is good business to include representatives of both breeds.

Miguel L. Gallegos nominated Tom Goncharoff to be President, seconded by Debra J. Laney.

Nominations ceased. Tom Goncharoff is unopposed and will be our 2020 President.

Miguel L. Gallegos nominated Jay L. Taylor for 1st Vice President.

Annette McCloy nominated Mike Logan for 1st Vice President.

Nominations ceased.

Mary Barber passed around small cards to each of the Trustees to write down the person they wanted to vote for. Mary retrieved the cards and counted them. With a vote of 10 to 2, Mike Logan will be our 1st Vice President.

Tom Goncharoff nominated Jay L. Taylor for 2nd Vice President, seconded by Mark Brown.

Debra J. Laney nominated Miguel L. Gallegos for 2nd Vice President, seconded by Norma Alvarez.

Nominations ceased.

Mary Barber passed around small cards to each of the Trustees to write down the person they wanted to vote for. Mary retrieved the cards and counted them. With a vote of 8 to 4, Jay L. Taylor will be our 2nd Vice President.

The 2020 Board of Trustees are:

President	Tom Goncharoff (TB)
1st Vice President	Mike Logan (QH)
2nd Vice President	Jay L. Taylor (TB)
Trustees	Norma Alvarez (QH)
	Mark Brown (QH)
	C. Warren Franklin (TB)
	Miguel L. Gallegos (TB)
	Debra J. Laney (QH)
	Annette McCloy (QH)
	Mac Murray (QH)
	Verner R. Query (TB)
	Nancy Summers (TB)

After the vote for officers was concluded, the Annual Meeting and the results of the votes were discussed. There were a lot of people upset by the ballot items, but it was something the Trustees felt they wanted to allow the membership to vote on even if they were not individually in favor of it themselves.

DATE OF NEXT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The date of the next Trustee meeting was discussed. Mary commented that Miguel L. Gallegos had a conflict with Thursdays since he has to be out of town sometimes. Debra J. Laney asked if we could go back to Wednesdays. President Goncharoff commented that we need to make sure and not set dates that will conflict with the Horsemen's and Commission meetings. President Goncharoff asked Mary Barber to look at the calendar and come up with dates that won't conflict. We can then send out an email with dates and see if anyone has any conflicts. Norma Alvarez asked how often meetings are? Are they every other month? President Goncharoff said that it depends on our workload. Mary Barber reported that we had nine meetings in 2019. Nancy Summers asked what does a meeting entail? Mary Barber explained that they start at 11:00 a.m. and that we break for lunch which the Association provides. President Goncharoff gave the example of an agenda item that is being discussed now is our end of year awards criteria. We usually have our Awards Banquet the night of the Annual Meeting, but this year have decided to have it during Zia Festival weekend at our Summer Party. We are trying to determine if we should go by AQHA's rules regarding end of year awards. It is great that Mark Brown is on the Board because he is very involved with the AQHA and has a lot of knowledge.

AQHA RULES REGARDING END OF YEAR AWARDS

We are going to need to consider this very carefully and will take at least an hour for the Board to discuss. Mark Brown commented that it gets to be a very emotional subject. Nancy Summers asked if the Board votes on that and makes the decision or do we have to put it out to the members? President Goncharoff explained that it will be a Board decision. Mary Barber interjected that unless something is in the by-laws, the Board can make the decision. Anything that is in the by-laws can only be changed by a full membership vote. Norma Alvarez stated that we do go by the AQHA's rules and Mary Barber stated that we have always just gone by money earned. Both Norma Alvarez and Debra J. Laney stated that this issue has been voted on by the Board of Trustees. Mary Barber stated that it may have been before she was given the Executive Director's position and she was not aware of it. It had to be in 2018 or before since Norma was not on the Board in 2019. The AQHA rules were discussed. If a horse gets a bad test, they are not eligible to get the award and if a horse is trained by a trainer with a bad test, they have 30 days to move that horse to a different trainer or that horse is not eligible either. Mark Brown explained that this year they want to take it another step further and if a trainer gets a bad test, all his horses are ineligible for awards. Mac Murray asked if this included out of competition testing and Mark Brown said it does not. They are trying to find ways to include that. The Racing Commissions are not adjudicating these bad tests and it gives racing a black eye. Debra J. Laney asked when the rule goes into effect from 2019. Mark Brown explained that the owners had to move their horses and have to have a clean hair test. Mary Barber stated that she had called the AQHA and asked if hair testing was included in these rules and was told that any bad test for any substance that is against our rules makes a horse ineligible for an award. Mark Brown explained that if it is out of competition testing and the Racing Commission does not do anything to the trainer then these rules do not apply. The horse does not lose the purse and the trainer is not fined or suspended. The only thing that happens is the horse cannot run for sixty days. President Goncharoff stated that this shows that this subject cannot be rushed through and we need to wrap up for now.

Debra J. Laney reminded Mary Barber that she will need the emails and phone numbers of the new Trustees.

MEETING WITH NEW MEXICO RACING COMMISSIONERS

Miguel L. Gallegos had spoken to Beverly Bourguet and she would like the Commissioners and the New Mexico Horse Breeders Trustees to get together and have an informal meeting so that we can stress to them what issues we have. We could sponsor a mixer everyone could attend. A nice little meet and greet where we could make a presentation about our organization.

ASSOCIATION BUDGET

Jay L. Taylor brought up the budget and that it will be on the agenda for the next meeting. He would like the Trustees to email him or Mary any ideas they have that will cost the Association money so that it can be discussed and put into the budget. We have to have a budget and stick to it. He went through the history of the Association's finances and we were in bad shape. President Goncharoff commented that we will need to discuss who will be on each committee and then the Marketing Committee will need to come up with a plan to be voted on and then included in the budget.

Debra J. Laney feels that our income may be changing with Texas getting better purses and First Moonflash passing away, it could affect our bottom line.

Mike Logan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and President Goncharoff agreed and welcomed the new members to the Board of Trustees.

Tom Goncharoff
NMHBA President

Mary M. Barber
Attest