



**Annual Membership Meeting  
Using Zoom**

**January 28, 2021**

**PRESENT**

**President Tom Goncharoff, 1st Vice President Mike Logan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jay L. Taylor and board members Norma Alvarez, Mark Brown, C. Warren Franklin, Debra J. Laney, Annette McCloy, Mac Murray, Verner R. Query, and Nancy Summers**

**ABSENT**

**Miguel L. Gallegos.**

**QUORUM**

**President Goncharoff acknowledged a quorum present.**

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

**Mary Barber asked that the agenda items number two and number three under Items For Discussion be reversed.**

**Debra J. Laney made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Verner Query. Motion carried 10:0**

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

**Jay L. Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes of December 2, 2020, seconded by Norma Alvarez. Motion carried 10:0.**

**Mark Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of January 8, 2021, seconded by Norma Alvarez. Motion carried 10:0.**

**PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

**President Goncharoff thanked everyone for joining the call. We had no idea we would be facing COVID when we voted to allow Mail-In Ballots, but we would have had to either**

postpone or cancel this meeting all together if that had not happened. We were very lucky to have gotten this done when we did.

We have lost a lot of racing days and it has been a very tough year. Hopefully, there is some light at the end of the tunnel. Schools are going to be opened, the numbers are going down, and people are getting vaccinated.

We plan to have our summer party and awards banquet at Ruidoso Downs again. Those award winners will be notified by mail shortly. We will keep everyone apprised as those plans are firmed up.

There are some legislative issues facing the industry. House Bill 101, the Lottery Bill that Sunland Park has proposed, House Bill 199 is the ADW Bill, and there is a Gaming Tax Bill that gives some tax relief to Ruidoso Downs and SunRay Park. This last Bill does not have a number yet. Our Board of Trustees have met and discussed these legislative issues extensively and our stance on these bills *is* that we are against the Lottery Bill and we are in favor of the ADW Bill. It is past time for New Mexico to have ADW. We are the only state in the country that does not allow ADW. We are in favor of the Gaming Tax Bill for SunRay Park & Ruidoso Downs. Mark Brown spoke up at this time to say that his understanding was that we were not against the Lottery Bill, but we had decided to not support it at this time until we had more information. President Goncharoff replied that is correct and a more accurate way to put it. He then thanked Mark Brown for the correction.

The changes we have made by having meetings by Zoom and changing to Mail-In Ballots were in hopes of giving our membership a better opportunity to participate and represent themselves. This meeting falls during foaling season and is hard for some to attend in person. In the past, if we could not make the meeting, we could give someone else our proxy. Because of the pandemic, these changes could not have come at a better time.

We have lost some pretty prominent people in our industry this year. Just to name a few, we lost Mr. Stan Sigman recently who was one of the owners of Ruidoso Downs. This man was totally committed to racing in this state. Ken Corazza recently passed away. He was a breeder who also raced horses and a member of the New Mexico Racing Commission. We lost Amanda Greer who was the executive assistant to Shaun Hubbard and later to Jeff True. That was a tragic loss for us. Amanda was such a great help to the breeders. She did not seem capable of saying no. On a more personal note, as you know, we lost Mr. Hubbard this last year who employed both my wife and myself. These people will be greatly missed.

Our stallion auction is going on right now. We urge all the breeders to please go and take a look at this on our website and see if there is a stallion who will suit your breeding needs. There are a lot of great stallions for which a breeding has been donated to in this auction. We really appreciate all the stallion owners who donated a breeding to their studs. This not only helps the breeders but the breeders association as well.

A note was sent out to all the members reminding the breeders that may be feeling hesitant about breeding that if you breed your mares in 2021, the foals will be born in 2022 and be yearlings in 2023. Certainly, this virus will be well behind us by then. There could be a supply and demand issue and those who opt to breed this year may be cashing in.

Nationally, racing is doing pretty good. New Mexico unfortunately is kind of an outsider as you all know. Both Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds have done remarkably well at the sales in spite of our circumstances. Especially the Quarter Horses. So, there is still quite a bit of optimism in our state.

In closing, I want to thank this Board of Trustees for their hard work. I commend these folks for showing up and participating. We do not always see eye to eye but that is probably a good thing and we always end up working together. A special thanks to all our members. It has been more than tough for everyone. Thank you to those of you that have stuck with us.

B. Ray Willis, past chairman of the New Mexico Racing Commission, commented that our problem right now is we have no place to race. He for one has all his horses in other states. He looks forward to getting them back here and in some New Mexico Bred races. He has mares in New Mexico that will be foaling out soon and he still believes in the system.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT – GIVEN BY 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT JAY L. TAYLOR**

Jay L. Taylor started out by going over the 2020 budget. A copy of the budget was shown on the screen for members to follow. In 2020 we forecasted income of \$491,659. We budgeted for spending of \$424,000 but at the end of the year, our actual amount that was spent was \$357,550. We did not make the forecasted income of \$491,000. We actually ended up making \$397,735. He commended the Trustees and Mary Barber for getting in front of this quickly and keeping us from going in the hole. He went over some of the line items on the report to point out where we were able to save. We came in way under budget so that was the good news.

The Annual Report was then put up on the screen and Jay L. Taylor briefly explained each page. The first page showed that we have \$324,730.98 in our operating account and that is actually enough to function for a year. He then went over our investments as well and pointed out that our funds in 2020 were actually up quite a bit from 2019. The 2<sup>nd</sup> page showed the cash receipts and cash payments. We made over \$100,000 less than in 2019 and yet we still came out in the black. That shows that everyone just did a tremendous job. He went over the breakage accounts and showed that most of the funds for stakes was from gaming. The Unclaimed Ticket account show that we made \$44,000 less. The overnight races paid out in 2020 was over \$1 million less than in 2019 and the loss of racing was a big hit. The next page shows New Mexico Breds in open overnight races and the 10% Track Breeder Awards. The funds were down so much due to racing being cancelled. The next page shows all the funds added together. In 2019, these funds totaled about \$11.5 million and in 2020 they only totaled \$6.6 million. This is a big hit to our industry. This page also shows the top five award recipients, the number of members and the registration totals.

Page ten shows our registration numbers over the years and at the bottom of the page it shows our Export Broodmare program numbers. This program is staying fairly consistent and has contributed around \$58,000 a year to our association. The Gaming Revenue page shows that we have nothing in the incentive award accounts and until we get the casinos back open those figures will not be going up. Page twelve is just the Award Distribution Allocation sheet showing what the awards were in 2020. Page thirteen is the race a day report that shows the totals for New Mexico Bred races at each racetrack. They need New Mexico Breds to fill their races and New Mexico Breds run in open races as well. The last page shows the number of NM Bred races run at each racetrack over the last seven years.

President Goncharoff remarked that if anyone would like a copy of this report, call the office and we will be happy to send you one. It will also appear in our magazine.

President Goncharoff thanked the staff for the work they do and also thanked Jay L. Taylor for all the time he has donated to help our association. He pointed out that we have also made great strides in trying to communicate with our members through our email blasts, updated Facebook posts, and our website that has just been significantly improved recently.

If you would like a list of legislators, contact the office and we will be happy to furnish you with that information.

Mark Brown made a motion to accept the Annual Report, seconded by Verner Query. Motion carried 10:0.

#### **2022 ANNUAL MEETING DATE**

President Goncharoff stated that according to our By-Laws, we need to set the date for our 2022 Annual meeting. The staff recommends Thursday, January 27, 2022 for the next Annual meeting to be held in Albuquerque.

Annette McCloy made a motion to accept the staff's recommendation to have the next Annual meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2022, seconded by Mike Logan. Motion carried 10:0.

#### **VOTING FOR TRUSTEES**

President Goncharoff went over the 2021 Ballot. He named the six trustees that remain on the board. The three Trustees who elected to run again and the three Trustees that elected not to run again. He thanked them for their service.

President Goncharoff then read the By-Laws regarding nominees. He then read the names of all of the nominees. All of the nominees meet the requirements set forth in the By-Laws.

Mary M. Barber then read the By-Laws concerning voting and informed the President that we have 571 current 2021 members. We need 10% of the membership in order to make a quorum and that would be 57. Of the 334 Mail In Ballots that were mailed out on

December 7, 2020, 154 ballots were returned. We had four members vote in person today for a total of 158 so we do have a quorum.

Mary Barber read the results of the vote.

**On the Quarter Horse side:**

Annette McCloy received 108 votes

Mike Logan received 105 votes

Vanessa Alexander received 60 votes

**On the Thoroughbred side:**

Susie Prather received 106 votes

Helen Nave received 86 votes

Verner Query received 74 votes

President Goncharoff welcomed the new Trustees and let them know that there will be another meeting following this one to elect officers. You will be getting an email invitation to another Zoom meeting from Mary.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

President Goncharoff welcomed anyone who would like to make any comments and asked them to raise their hand.

Debra J. Laney said that she appreciated her time on our Board of Trustees. She served two terms and she enjoyed being on the board. Being a Trustee was very rewarding and also a lot of hard work. She would also like to welcome the new Trustees and she hopes they can move the association forward.

President Goncharoff thanked Debra J. Laney for here hard work and extended and invitation to continue to work with us. We will miss you.

Mark Brown also wanted to say it was an honor to work with the outgoing Trustees and he hopes to see them at the races.

President Goncharoff wanted to comment on how he appreciates the outreach from the horsemen's association. This is the best relationship that we have had in the time he has been involved.

Leslie Fincher had been unable to connect earlier with audio and just wanted to ask for Mary to go over the results of the vote again which she did. She would like a copy of the Annual Report mailed to her.

**Jill Giles just wanted to thank Debra, Jay, and Miguel. She stated that they will be so missed, and she also welcomed the new Trustees. She also commented that we do need to continue to work together with the NMHA.**

**Jay L. Taylor feels that our association is much better now and so is our board. He thanked everyone for their hard work.**

**Ralph Vincent thinks the association is in so much better shape because of the board. He commended Tom Goncharoff on the job he is doing. He is so pleased with the job he is doing and also happy to see the membership grow.**

**Debra J. Laney made a motion to adjourn, Mark Brown seconded. Motion carried 9:0. Mac Murray had lost his connection and was no longer in the meeting.**

**President Goncharoff reminded the 2021 Trustees that we will have another meeting coming up.**

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**Tom Goncharoff**  
**NMHBA President**

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**Mary M. Barber**  
**Attest**