



**Annual Meeting  
Sheraton Uptown Hotel**

**January 26, 2023  
Albuquerque, NM**

**PRESENT**

**President Tom Goncharoff, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mike Logan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Verner Query and board members Brian Anderson, Norma Alvarez, Mark Brown, Annette McCloy, Mac Murray, Susie Prather, and Nancy Summers**

**ABSENT**

**C. Warren Franklin & Helen Nave.**

**COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEE BALLOT NOMINEES**

**R. Patrick Sanders is from Jacksboro, Texas and he breeds his horses at Susie Prather's DoubleTree Farm and has Danny Morales as his racehorse trainer. He would like to see the horsemen and breeders move forward. He would like to help to make our program the best in the country.**

**Mike Logan stated that he is more than happy to answer any questions. Pierre Amestoy asked how Mike feels about the NMRC cancelling the horsemen? We are breeders and horsemen. Mike Logan explained that he never stopped supporting the horsemen and that he is a horsemen. We need a horsemen's representation and we don't have that at this time. Someone to go over the condition books and the race dates. Now it is only the racetracks and the breeders and things have not been very positive for us. Pierre Amestoy asked if he would support any efforts to reinstate the horsemen and also in Santa Fe during the legislature. Mike Logan feels that he can speak for the entire board in that they never stopped supporting the horsemen. The Commission unrecognized the horsemen, not us. Vanessa Alexander demanded to be allowed to ask Mike Logan a question. She asked Mike Logan about the letter the breeders sent to the horsemen and the NMRC but then went on and on about several issues such as talk about the Governor coming down on horseracing, SB 378 presented by Senator Munoz. We talked to Paul Blanchard about that. Billy Smith said that this would crush the breeders. At that time, she was asked to come to the microphone and ask her question. She then said her question is to all the Trustees. She asked if we were aware of and planning on being the one horsemen's group in the state of New Mexico? The Trustees answered that they had nothing to do with that.**

Brian Anderson got up and introduced himself and said that he has a breeding operation in Tularosa and that he had moved here from the state of Montana. He would be glad to stay on the board and also stated that they have both Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds.

Susie Prather introduced herself. She would like to be re-elected.

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

President Goncharoff thanked the Trustees. They are volunteers who work very hard and take the job very seriously. He is super appreciative of all their efforts. We don't always agree in our meetings which is a good thing but they treat each other with respect and civility and we try to reach solutions that we think are best for our industry and for our state. Secondly, our executive director Mary Barber and her able staff Amber Martin and Linda Griego work their tails off. They are the ones who keep the trains running on time and we are all very much better off for their efforts. They work super super hard so thank you all.

Debra Laney, a Trustee nominee, had not been given an opportunity to speak so President Goncharoff asked her to come up and speak. She came up and told the members that she is running on the Quarter Horse side of the ballot. She thinks that horseracing is a dying industry and that not everybody sees that. She would like to keep our industry alive as long as possible. In order to do that, we will have to work together and not against each other.

#### ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Director Mary Barber summarized each page of the report. She reported that the funds we have in our General Account and Investments come to \$754,778.32 which is \$3,154.05 less than at the end of 2021. She went over the budget and had budgeted a total of \$418,600 for 2022 and we spent \$422,819 which is \$4,219 over budget. The stakes races contributions from the breeders totaled \$\$1,330,000 at Sunland Park, \$430,000 at SunRay Park, \$390,000 at Ruidoso Downs, \$620,000 at the Downs at Albuquerque/ NM State Fair, and \$930,000 at Zia Park. The next page of the report showed the balance of funds from the Unclaimed Ticket Account and also the amounts that were added to each restricted New Mexico Bred race at each of the five racetracks. This is a chart that Ralph Vincent originally came up with and that we continue to use. Page six showed the total amount of funds that the NMHBA added to restricted NM Bred overnight races. These funds totaled \$1,068,500 at Sunland Park, \$128,000 at SunRay Park, \$151,000 at Ruidoso Downs, \$374,500 at the Downs At Albuquerque, and \$941,000 at Zia Park for a grand total of \$2,663,000. This is \$1,500,250 more than in 2021. Page seven showed the funds the NMHBA contributed to the purses for NM Breds running in open overnight races. There was \$298,008.50 more contributed in 2022 than in 2021. Page seven also showed a chart of the 10% Track Breeder Awards. This fund was up \$748,461.70 from 2021. Page eight showed that between the Incentive Awards, Stakes contributions, Overnight contributions, breeds in open overnight races, and 10% Awards totaled \$11,483,132.91. Mary Barber commented that this figure went way up in 2022 since all of the racetracks ran their full scheduled meets and we are back to pre-COVID figures. She went over the top five award recipients in 2022. They were MJ Farms, Mike C. Abraham, et al, Pierre & Leslie Amestoy, et al, Fred Alexander, et al, and Robert M. Driggers, et al. We had 1,047 members and this is 142 more than in 2021. The NM Bred registrations were down by 131 and overall, we were down by 137 registrations in 2022. Page nine showed the

chart of registrations from 2009 through 2022 and this year we were able to provide a chart of the paid applications that are on file showing a total of 756 pending registrations. Page ten showed the gaming revenues for each racetrack as of December 31, 2022. Page eleven was the Award Distribution Allocation sheet showing how our races are graded and what each individual award totaled. This fund is also back up to pre-COVID figures. Page twelve was the race a day report for each racetrack in 2022 showing that all five racetracks averaged three or more New Mexico Bred races per day. The final page showed the number of restricted races and number of race days for each racetrack from 2014 through 2022. This chart shows that we ran 449 less overnight races alone in 2022 than we did in 2014 (a copy of the annual report has been incorporated into the minutes).

There were a few questions from the audience.

Pierre Amestoy asked about the gaming figures and where they come from. Do they come from the racetracks? Mary Barber explained that those are our figures and they match our bank statements. He also asked about the last page that shows a great loss of race days from 2014 to 2022.

Jay Taylor asked about the budget. He asked about the bump in salaries. Mary Barber explained that Paulette Taylor worked for a small salary and now we have a new part-time employee that came in at a higher salary. She also explained that there were unexpected raises given to all three employees that had not been budgeted for. Jay Taylor did mention that we only went over by about 1% so that worked out very well.

President Goncharoff asked for a motion to accept the annual report. Mark Brown made the motion and Brian Anderson seconded. By a show of hands, the motion carried with none against.

#### **2024 ANNUAL MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

President Goncharoff reported that according to our By-Laws, the date and place of our next annual meeting in 2024 needs to be determined. The staff recommends Thursday, January 25, 2024 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Norma Alvarez made a motion for the next annual meeting to be on January 25, 2024, seconded by Mike Logan. By a show of hands, the motion carried with none against.

#### **MEETING REQUIREMENTS**

Mary Barber read the list of names of those members who voted for the Board of Trustees by either mail in ballot or in person today. She verified that there are 752 members. According to the By-Laws, 10% of the membership need to vote either by mail in ballot or in person so there needs to be a minimum of 75 votes. We have 150 mail in ballots and 16 members who voted in person for a total of 166 so we do have a quorum.

#### **OUTGOING TRUSTEES BUCKLE PRESENTATION**

President Goncharoff presented a belt buckle to Annette McCloy and Verner Query in thanks for all their contributions to our Board of Trustees and our association. We are greatly going to miss them both.

## NMHBA STANCE ON THE CURRENT CLIMATE OF THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY IN NEW MEXICO

President Goncharoff spoke about the summit that the New Mexico Racing Commission put on January 5<sup>th</sup>. We are under a lot of stress to put it mildly. Every year we dread the release of the race dates for the following year because we know they are going to be decreased. It is very discouraging. As he stated during the summit, it is very hard to encourage breeders to breed. They unfairly blame the breeders for being responsible. We have hard working folks who invest their hard earned capitol. They need to be encouraged and not discouraged. They have no certainty. Our people have been met with open hostility at some of the racetracks. Trainers are concerned about complaining in fear of being retaliated against. Then there is the responsibility the racetracks have in putting on a good product for the fans and horsemen. Is it a good experience? It seems to be taking a back seat. We get a little offended when racing problems are laid at our feet. Mary gives her report at every Commission meeting and our average field sizes are very competitive with the rest of the country. Even better than a lot of other jurisdictions. Could we do better and have more numbers? Absolutely! But those numbers don't lie. The breeders, in concert with the Downs At Albuquerque are having the first million dollar futurity and a half million dollar derby. We have already seen the positive results those two races have had in the sales results and also increased breeding interest. New farms are coming here with Copper Creek Ranch and the sale of Crystal Springs Farm to two partners that have made a huge commitment to New Mexico. Even the Thoroughbred sale numbers were phenomenal. The owner of Ruidoso Downs purchased the highest selling Thoroughbred at the New Mexico Bred sale. There is light at the end of the tunnel but we do have a lot more to do.

## TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Ralph Vincent explained that at our Summer Meeting in Ruidoso back in August, a Task Force was put together and he volunteered to head it up. There were a lot of people who contributed a lot of different ideas on how to improve our association.

He intentionally focused on what the breeders could do. So, the first part of this was about what we could accomplish. Somehow the idea of the summit came up but he has to take exception to the meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> being called a summit. It was a regular commission meeting where we got to hear from them and nothing else. He ended up walking out of the meeting. He felt that President Goncharoff did a great job trying to present the breeders side of it. But it was not a summit. A summit is where you come together to share ideas. We heard all the ideas from the Commission and that is about all we got there. When the idea of a summit came up, we worked on coming up with ideas. What is good, what is bad, what are the opportunities and what are the threats to the industry. Looking at it from that standpoint.

He went over the white papers that was provided. One of the strengths of racing in New Mexico is the year round racing. Turning to weaknesses was the lack of communication and definitely the lack of a voice coming from the major stakeholders who are the horsemen. That is a major deterrent. We have also said this to Commissioners. You take away the voice of the horsemen, that is a huge deterrent on the industry. The next one is the lack of consistency of a racing schedule. When we are breeding for a foal that we plan to run in three or four years, we want to know what the schedule will be at that point. This has also been an in issue and continues to be. Pierre also brought up racing opportunities. He would like to not talk about number of days, but number of races per day. What are the racing opportunities for our breeds. These numbers are way down because we used to run eleven or twelve races per day and now, we are down to nine. That is a big decrease if you kept the

same number of days. Another problem is the expense of moving from track to track. You could make five moves per year! The number of stalls that are available. In the rule book a racetrack is supposed to be open for training thirty days before their meet and this is not being enforced. Those are problem areas that were listed.

Moving on to the racetracks, these were some of the comments. One of the reasons we did this is the pressure on the board to increase foal numbers and everyone acting like this is the only reason for the decline in days. It is not what the breeders are doing but what we are all doing. The treatment of trainers, the treatment of owner, and the treatment of patrons are all issues here in the state that need to be discussed further and all of our racetracks could improve. They could improve on how they treat their patrons. They need to have incentives to bring a horse and race in that state. Have we done that in New Mexico at all? All they want to talk about is the Thoroughbred numbers and they seem to feel that straight meets are the answer. We have not done anything about it. We might not even have enough Thoroughbreds to run a meet. Also, when we shut down due to COVID, how many people left and did not come back because they were treated so much better even though the purses are not as good there.

The regulators were the next subject. The politics creeping into our industry has just been significant and a real deterrent to where we are going. It is disappointing. The racetracks have a whole outsized influence on how things work. The regulators are to regulate the industry which includes the racetracks. But with the politics, they get buddy buddy with one group while the others are left out in the cold.

The Racing Commission staff should be held accountable to clean up the industry. We hear they are out of testing money. That is just not true! He has seen the budget and he knows about the racehorse testing fund and if you have a plan for the entire year for testing, we have plenty of money. They just don't manage it well. The racehorse testing fund was created at the legislature and it was to grow to \$900,000 per year. Some of the years it only got up to \$750,000. Back then we had a real drug problem at the racetrack so that is why the racehorse testing fund. This was supposed to double the amount of testing that was going on. The total funds for testing would be \$1.8 million. What happened was that the Commission squandered that opportunity where the legislature is taking back some of that fund that wasn't spent. There is about \$1.2 million still. They should be accountable and should not be losing court cases.

We are the third leading industry in the state and we contribute a lot to the second leading industry that in New Mexico which is tourism. This is a \$500,000,000 economic impact in direct and indirect funds to the state. There is a \$60 million dollar contribution comes straight from gaming. And the reason we even have gaming is because of horseracing. Most of the legislators in Santa Fe know the importance of the horseracing industry in New Mexico but you should always be talking to your representatives and senators from your district and make sure that they understand the impact of this industry.

There was a very long list of recommendations of the breeders and they started to work on some of these things and will continue to. What are our incentives and how do we compare to other states. We see a lot of good stallions going to other states and why are they not coming here? We do have one of the best breed programs in the country. He doesn't know of any that are any better than New Mexico. Race conditions are so important. Where does your horse belong. An intern program for

farms, racetracks, breeder's organization, etc. There are great programs to get people involved in the industry.

There are no silver bullets but one of the things that came out of the study is a change to the percentage distribution of the incentive awards. The Horseracing Act was written a very long time ago and was put in place before the purses got to the level they are now. We used to run for a ham sandwich and now they are much bigger. The percentages have never been changed. This is in legislation but not in the By-Laws. Currently, 45% of the fund goes to breeders, 40% go to owners, 7% go to the stallion owners and 8% is used for admin fees. So, the proposal is to increase the stallion incentive by double and to increase the breeders incentive. This would decrease the owners portion of the award fund. The new distribution would be 58% to breeders, 20% to owners, 14% to stallion owners and 8% to admin fees. On the chart, you can compare what owners are getting versus breeders, the difference is only about 3% because the purse money is so much higher. The board is discussing this idea of making changes to the percentage breakdown.

He thanked all the people who worked on this.

President Goncharoff thanked Ralph Vincent for all his efforts that he has volunteered to put into the Task Force.

President Goncharoff mentioned that we used to have Raymond Sanchez as our lobbyist but when the association fell on some hard times, they decided to cut out that cost. Given the threats, real or perceived, down the road, the board decided to hire a full time lobbyist named Joe Thompson who is a real good guy and he will work in concert with Raymond Sanchez. Raymond Sanchez was once the Speaker of the House and is very well respected in Santa Fe. He is very well versed with the horseracing and gaming acts. One of the things we have heard about from the racetracks is that they do not like having to pay the 10% Track Breeder Awards. Even though this is just a rounding error for them, they do not like having to pay them. Another idea they told us is to get rid of restricted New Mexico Bred races all together and having the breeds run against open horses for additional purse money for those that hit the board. We perceive these as real threats and that is why we have hired these lobbyists.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Barber read an email from JILL GILES: My question to the NMHBA is with the direction that it looks like we are heading.... There will be no straight New Mexico Bred races and that the breeds will have no alternative other than to run in open races. If so, is this also the direction we are heading towards with the futurities, derbies, and stakes races? If this is so, what are the incentives to us as breeders to breed, raise, and run New Mexico breds other than extra purse money if we can outrun the open horses!

Mary Barber read a text message from FRED ALEXANDER: Good morning. Sorry I can't make the meeting today. I have a couple issues that won't allow me to attend. I would like to mention a proposal at the meeting. I would like the Thoroughbred membership to look into and consider a split from the current NMHBA setup and have our own New Mexico Thoroughbred Breeders Association. There is too much influence on the Quarter Horse side that I feel a lot of Thoroughbred owners and breeders don't want part of. This along with split meets that are in talks would help both breeds and would make things a lot easier in negotiating positive changes for each breed. Thank you.

PIERRE AMESTOY thinks we are asking the right questions but are we getting the right answers. We have had an onslaught from the Commission these last two years. We have to stick together and get back with the horsemen. They are running over us! If they go to not having any New Mexico Bred races he is out! It would be terrible and we need to find a way to get the right answers from this Commission. Somehow, we have to fix this. This is not good for any of us. The straight meets are a good idea. It was wrong of the Commission to blame everything on the breeders. We need to get the legislature involved to make the Commission to do things properly. We have to do something. Let's get with the horsemen and have a meeting.

President Goncharoff mentioned that he has had conversations with the new President of the NMHA Paul Jenson and they were hoping he could come to the summit but unfortunately, he was unable to attend. We do have a good relationship and have been keeping in contact with each other.

LESLIE FINCHER agrees whole heartedly with what Pierre Amestoy said. She cannot believe the breeders did not stand behind the horsemen. They are the ones who buy and run the breeds and you cannot just leave them out of the picture. The Commission don't obey any rules and they just make their own. They defy a court order. We have a member that you just dismiss because she knows the facts about how many cases this Racing Commission loses. One example is she got a license last year. She had printed out the application from the internet and filled it out and went to the Commission office but nobody was there. She sent it in with a check for \$120.00. Two weeks later she gets a call from a girl that works for the Commission asking where she got this application. She told the girl she got it off their website and the girl exclaimed that they had not used that application in years. The fee was wrong so she had to go and take them more money. That Commission is a joke! They make all these rules. They have been in violation of the law. There is supposed to be three breeders and there is only one. Somebody has to have some oversight over this Commission! The prices of food and drink at the racetrack are ridiculous. There has to be penalties against these racetracks for all the horrible things they are doing. People are leaving the state because of all of this! People don't want to be on the horsemen's committees because they are afraid they will be retaliated against. Let's get on the internet and write letters to the legislators.

PAT AGUILAR I'm a small breeder and I am kind of frustrated with this association and the communication we get as members. There is not enough communication and there is not enough transparency for small breeders like myself. For me I understand the difference between being a horsemen and a breeder. I have my horses with Sue. We breed them. It takes three and a half years from when I breed my mare and when I get them to the racetrack. What are we going to do to help the breeders? There are all these big races with big purses but how does that help the breeders to breed more horses. That is a reality. All these things are not helping the breeders. Now we are expanding our membership to non-breeders. People who are horse owners are not breeders and have no business making these big decisions for breeders. They should not have a vote on breeding issues. We are talking about how to get more horses bred. Almost everything is for racing and not for awards. We need to find ways to incentivize breeding. The reduction in racing days is killing the breeds and we do need to work together on that. Unless we do something, I am not going to breed this year when I have no certainty of what is going to happen. We need more days and we need split meets. That is what we have to do. We need to make it clear to the Racing Commission that we are breeders and we have no business being an association for racing.

**VANESSA ALEXANDER** stated that President Tom Goncharoff is one of the most dishonest, deceitful, and untruthful people that she has ever met and that includes during her time in law enforcement. She knows that she is seen as abrasive and confrontational and she apologizes but if you guys knew what she has been put through by these people and by the Racing Commission, it is absolutely disgusting and vile. The most horrific, grotesque, and inhuman... just gutter retaliation that she has been put through. She really looks forward to being able to explain what they have done to her in depth in court.

She had some questions for Ralph Vincent. The testing that the Racing Commission claims they have done, according to Director Trejo, he reported that in 2017, 4,777 blood and urine samples were tested, in 2018, 8,375 blood and urine which gives us a 1.9% positivity, in 2019 there were 10,565 blood and urine tests with a positivity rate of .42%, in 2020 he claims, and this is what he tells the legislature there were 4,949 tests in 2021 5,828 tests so since 2017 there have been 34,424 tests that he is reporting to the legislature that is apparently being paid for with his own budget. This is B.S. She asked Ralph Vincent how much it costs to pay for a test and he replied that it would depend, but about \$120.00. Vanessa Alexander thinks it takes about 30 minutes to do one test, it would take 6.5 hours a day, every day, for 365 days a year for Leasa Johnson, the chief investigator, to have done 10,565 tests in that one year. It just doesn't add up.

Rebecca Dow or Candy Ezzell, one of the two, got Izzy Trejo to confess during that disastrous hearing that was held by the Economic Policy Committee that the breeders also went to, that the funds to pay for the lawsuits they are losing comes out of the Racing Commission's budget. She has been in touch with the HR department with the state of New Mexico and Risk Management isn't paying the millions of dollars, it is coming out of the NMRC budget.

President Goncharoff just said a few minutes ago that he had invited the Horsemen's President Paul Jenson to the summit, the invitation meeting that nobody else was invited to, but that Dr. Jenson was not able to make it because of family issues. Well again another wonderful example of President Goncharoff completely being able to stand in front of people and lie to them. The text message she has from Dr. Jenson, she asked him if he was invited to the summit from President Goncharoff. The response was yes but I talked to Hossie who uninvited me and said I wouldn't be allowed to say anything.

Vanessa was told that her time was up and she stated that if anyone would like to talk about any of the evidence she has on fraud, corruption, lack of transparency, organized crime, and racketeering, she would love to show it to you.

By the way, last year after you guys did that cute little thing by filing false police reports on me, and by the way, all of your texts and emails to the Commissioners are public record and I am including you Debra Laney.

**SANDRA MCKENNA** First of all, she would like to say that she appreciates the fact that the Trustees give their time to this association. We have a big battle we are fighting and we all know it. First thing is we need a resolution from this organization to the Commission that we are working together and we will not be divided by the Commission. She thinks it is very important that they understand that the horsemen are horsemen and the breeders are breeders. Secondly there needs to be two new By-Law changes that happen this year. First thing is we need to have this Annual Meeting in November or December and it needs to be wherever we are racing so that there are more people attending than



this. The problem is that this is breeding and foaling season and it is hard for people to be here now. The fact that we are in Albuquerque when everyone on the racing side of this industry is down in Sunland Park. The other By-Law change that needs to be made is that we need to split this board by having a Thoroughbred side and a Quarter Horse side that operate independently but under the umbrella of the New Mexico Horse Breeders. The issues that are handled for Thoroughbreds such as the way we register horses, the way we breed, everything we do is totally different from what is done by the Quarter Horse industry and for the Quarter Horse side to be able to tell the Thoroughbred side what they should be doing, or visa versa, is wrong. In the next year or two, we will have split meets. We as a state are so far behind the curve that surely, they are going to wake up. Everyone around us have split meets and the Thoroughbred side of this will take care of itself as soon as we get split meets because there are no Thoroughbred trainers that are going to move here and set up a barn so that they can race here two days a week. That is just not going to happen. Whether we can get it worked out or not she does not know but she thinks these two items are very important.

TERRI MONTOYA, of the NM Horsemen's Association came up to speak. President Goncharoff announced that we do not normally allow nonmembers to speak during public comment but that an exception has been made. Terri Montoya thanked the association for the invitation to come to this meeting. The NMHA board met the day before and wanted to ask the breeders if the racetracks were going to drop a Bill to reduce the 20% to purses down to 15% to purses. They heard that of the other 5%, 1% would be used for HISA and the other 4 % would be used by the racetracks for expenses. Our board is just wondering how you feel about this reduction in purses. President Goncharoff commented that Chris McErlean of Zia Park had made that statement at the summit. This was him speaking singularly and he can assure the horsemen's association that the breeders are totally against that. Terri Montoya replied that is what they wanted to know and thank you again for having her.

Ralph Vincent commented that we should not assume that HISA funds are coming out of the purse money or out of our pockets. The industry is contributing \$60 million dollars to the states general fund. Someone needs to take a look at that and say let's create a fund that those funds go into and the Racing Commission budget comes out of that. HISA should also come out of that fund. The point he wants to make is it should not be assumed that those fees will need to come out of our pockets.

BRENDA GABALDON, also of the NM Horsemen's Association came up to speak. She said that some of the horsemen wanted to know how the breeders feel about it and if the breeders are aware of any organization that is in line to step up and take the horsemen's place as the horsemen's representative. President Goncharoff said that there was an allegation earlier when the Commission had an agenda item basically mandating that the breeders assume the horsemen's responsibilities. Contrary to what you heard, that did not come from us. That eventually dropped by the wayside and that did not go away on it's own. On the second question, we are not aware of any other organization to take the horsemen's place and we don't want one. He has told Commissioners that we need the horsemen's association. The ideal situation is that this lawsuit gets resolved and we can go back to the way it was before.

PAM SENA is an owner, breeder, and a hauler. She is also on the horsemen's state board and wants to thank the breeder's for the invitation. As far as the lawsuit goes, there is a Zoom meeting planned with all the lawyers, the horsemen, and the some of the Commissioners on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. They are going before a Judge for mediation to sit down and get this all worked out. Judge Lopez did rule that \$800,000 was taken from the purse fund that should not have been. Judge O'Connor originally ruled

in the horsemen's favor but that because of a change in policy that removed the horsemen, the ruling was moot. In the meantime, they have all got together and are talking. The lawsuit is not about trying to get back the money. All they wanted to do is have them stop taking those funds. The State Board has gone through a big change in that there are only two trainers on the Board. It is mainly owners on the board now. She has been getting a lot of calls from people about problems at the racetrack. They need to be able to have the horsemen's committee working with the racetrack management. Paul Jensen got a letter from someone saying that the racetrack at Sunland Park is not being properly cared for. They are using product from pallets that are ground up and there were actually nails that showed up in a couple of horses hooves. In the past, the horsemen tried and tried to talk to these racetracks and the Commission and they would not listen to them and that is why they filed the lawsuit. She also spoke about funds coming from Zia Park is going to Ruidoso Downs and that is illegal. President Goncharoff corrected her to say that was not true and Ralph Vincent verified that it does not say that the funds a racetrack generates has to stay at that racetrack in state statute.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRELIMINARY 2022 CHAMPIONS

##### Thoroughbred Champions

2 year old colt/gelding	Storm Leader
2 year old filly	Better Believe
3 year old colt/gelding	Diabolical Storm
3 year old filly	Bella Dona
Older horse/gelding	Cheese Tray
Older Mare	Slammed

##### Quarter Horse Champions

2 year old colt/gelding	Talbott
2 year old filly	First Lady On Canvas
3 year old colt/gelding	River Flash
3 year old filly	HS Golden Eagle
Older horse/gelding	Bigg Dee
Older Mare	Mi Moonflash

##### Stallions & Broodmares

TB Leading Sire	Marking
QH Leading Sire	Big Daddy Cartel
TB Leading Freshman Sire	Conquest Mo Money
QH Leading Freshman Sire	Eye Am King
TB Leading Broodmare	Charlotte's Drone
QH Leading Broodmare	Riverside Flash

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS OF STALLION AUCTION

The Stallion Auction results were read into the minutes (copy incorporated into the record). The auction brought in a total of \$31,801.00.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2023 BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESULTS****On the Thoroughbred Side:**

Susie Prather	142 Votes
Helen Nave	125 Votes
Denise Chambliss	69 Votes

**On the Quarter Horse Side:**

Brian Anderson	102 Votes
Mike Logan	89 Votes
Debra Laney	89 Votes

President Goncharoff congratulated the new and re-elected Trustees and reminded them that after a ten minute break, we will be having a Trustee meeting to elect officers back in the board room.

President Goncharoff then adjourned the meeting.

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Tom Goncharoff  
NMHBA President

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Mary M. Barber  
Attest

Following the meeting, Vanessa Alexander came up to the microphone and asked how much of the association's money has been spent on investigating members and Mary Barber replied that she can answer that question and the answer is zero. Vanessa mentioned legal fees and Mary Barber explained that we did have some legal fees but they had nothing to do with investigating anyone.