



**Special Board of Trustees Meeting
By Zoom**

**December 11, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT

President Tom Goncharoff, 1st Vice President Norma Alvarez, 2nd Vice President Nancy Summers and Trustees Brian Anderson, Denise Chambliss, Warren Franklin, Debra Laney, Mike Logan, Helen Nave, Susie Prather, and Patrick Sanders.

ABSENT

Mark Brown

GUEST

Ralph Vincent, Mac & Janis Murray, and Pierre Amestoy, Jr.

QUORUM

President Goncharoff acknowledged a quorum present.

ACTION ITEMS

The opinion from Raymond Sanchez about starting this program in 2024 was read to the Trustees. He feels that if the membership votes to accept this By-Law change and anyone was to try to sue the association, they would not have grounds for a successful lawsuit, and in is his opinion that it would be dismissed for failure to state a claim.

DISCUSS AND RECONSIDER BY-LAW CHANGE FOR QH BROODMARES BRED OUT OF STATE

President Goncharoff stated that this items is already on the ballot so what we are voting on is the final language of this proposal.

Debra Laney sent everyone the proposed By-Law addition for the Quarter Horses. She had talked to Nancy Summers who told her that the proposal for the Thoroughbreds would starts with foals of 2025 so Debra Laney wants the Quarter Horse proposal to mirror that date and start with foals of 2025.

Mary Barber asked if the Thoroughbred people decide not to put theirs on the ballot, would the Quarter Horses still start with foals of 2025 or go back to the original idea of starting with foals of 2024. Debra Laney thinks it would be better to start with foals of 2025 so that everyone that wants to participate can and to give everyone an equal opportunity. She thinks it is just cleaner to start in 2025. Norma Alvarez, Warren

Franklin, Mike Logan, Patrick Sanders, Denise Chambliss, Susie Prather, Helen Nave all agree that it should start with foals of 2025.

The other thing that Mark Brown brought up the other day was leasing mares and Debra Laney added that in because we go by AQHA rules. Norma Alvarez feels that the lessee is like the owner of the mare at the time and they will be the breeder of the foal. Mike Logan feels that we are not following the AQHA rules because for this program, the breeder will be whomever owns her at time of foaling instead of time of conception. He wants to grow our numbers and have a leased mare that would not be permanent. Norma Alvarez feels that the leased mare would still have to have a second NM Bred baby. They might lease the mare for several years. Brian Anderson does agree that whatever the AQHA does is okay with him.

Janis Murray asked if the mare can only have a foal by an outside stud once in her life?

Norma Alvarez made a motion to allow leased mares according to AQHA rules and the rules of this program, seconded by Debra Laney.

Susie Prather	Yes
Helen Nave	Abstained
Denise Chambliss	Yes
Mike Logan	No to leased broodmares
Patrick Sanders	Yes
Norma Alvarez	Yes
Warren Franklin	No
Brian Anderson	Yes
Debra Laney	Yes
Nancy Summers	Yes

The vote is 7 for, 2 against, and one abstained

That is all Debra has as far as changes to the language. She went over the seven items on her sheet that she had emailed out the day before (copy incorporated into the record).

Debra Laney asked if anyone had any questions or problems with any of this?

Mike Logan asked what happens if the mare dies? Debra Laney feels that they would need to come to the board to state their case and ask to be allowed to register the first foal. She thinks that if someone cannot get a second foal out the mare for a legitimate reason, they should come to the Trustees and the Trustees should allow the foal by the out of state stallion to be registered as a NM Bred.

Mike Logan asked about the sunset issue. He wanted to clarify that we are going to vote on this at the 2024 meeting to start with foals of 2025. He thinks we need to clarify that before we go any further. Debra Laney said that she does not have a sunset on this. Somebody wanted the members to vote on this every year and some people thought we should have a sunset where the board could make the decision on whether to continue the program or not. Norma Alvarez thinks it should be decided by a vote of the membership.

Ralph Vincent explained that basically the way he wrote the By-Law change, it has that the foal must be born in 2025. You will not need a sunset clause. If you want to extend the program next year, you would have to propose to have another By-Law change.

Warren Franklin asked if the mares will foal in 2025 or be bred in 2025 and was told it would be for foals of 2025. The breeding would take place in 2024.

Mike Logan asked even though this program ceases at some point, how do we make people fulfill their obligation in 2026 or 2027? Debra Laney read number three on her proposal facts sheet that covers that. The office is not going to complete a registration on the foal by an out of state stud until the second foal is registered or the Trustees approve it. If something happens and the Trustees do not approve it and we had accepted an application on that foal, the registration fee would be refunded.

Debra Laney went over some questions she had received.

The first question was “why is the board proposing this change” Debra Laney went over the horse sale results and the nominations to the NMSF QH Futurity are mainly coming from one or two farms. The largest QH farm in New Mexico has a five-year exit plan. There are only 69 horses nominated to the NMSF TB Futurity and the NMSF QH Futurity is down 100 horses from the last year. If you look at the current situation in New Mexico, there is one QH farm and one TB farm that is already dominating at the sales and races. This might actually include others. If you have a New Mexico Bred mare and put her in the broodmare registry, could she be in this program? The answer to that is no. The purpose is to attract new mares with new bloodlines to New Mexico. Lastly, she was asked if the loss of race dates is the real problem. Race dates have been going down for many years. We believe that if the New Mexico Bred population should continue to decline, there will be even less race dates and restricted NM Bred races could disappear altogether. At the meeting we had back in January of 2023, Ethan Lender was already proposing to eliminate New Mexico Bred races.

Nancy Summers asked if she has a registered New Mexico Bred that has never been in the broodmare program, is she eligible? No, the mare cannot have ever participated in the NM Bred program in any capacity.

Helen Nave still has a problem with not letting our registered NM Broodmare to go out and be bred to an open stallion and participate in this program. Debra Laney replied that she is always trying to keep commerce in New Mexico but that any of the other Trustees could have their own proposal that they want.

Denise Chambliss went over the broodmare registrations that we have received over the last few years. We do have a good amount of New Mexico Broodmares going into the registry. If these numbers are correct, then we are getting the numbers in here. Debra Laney said that we are getting some. Denise Chambliss thinks that the numbers are coming back and she agrees with Helen that maybe we should be letting them go out to open studs.

Debra Laney thinks that right now we are okay with the Quarter Horses but will start having a problem in the next few years. We are trying to preserve as much of the breed program and as much of racing as we can.

Norma Alvarez made a motion that we accept the wording on the Proposed By Law Addition for Quarter Horses with the changes to say (For Foals Born in 2025) and to take out number 8 that is a duplicate of number 6, seconded by Debra Laney.

Denise Chambliss – Yes

Susie Prather – Yes

Helen Nave – Yes (thinks we should include registered NM Broodmares)

Mike Logan – Yes

Patrick Sanders – Yes

Norma Alvarez – Yes

Brian Anderson – Yes

Warren Franklin – Yes

Nancy Summers – Yes

Debra Laney – Yes

Motion carried 10:0.

ALLOW RECIPIENT MARES TO FOAL OUT OF STATE

Mac Murray decided to withdrawal his proposal.

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY VOTE ON BY-LAW CHANGE FOR THOROUGHBRED BROODMARES BRED OUT OF STATE

Nancy Summers said that after reading the replies to Susie's email, she thinks we will ever get it through. It is discouraging to work on this and then nobody wants to change. She does not see any use in taking this to the members just to be knocked down. If it survives it survives or we will just be done. The Trustees aren't even for it. If anyone wants to discuss this later, she will listen. Nobody has an idea but they don't want to mess with this program. Warren Franklin asked why can't we start working on promoting this and have it come up for a vote later.

President Goncharoff asked if Nancy Summers is withdrawing her proposal to have this on the ballot for Thoroughbreds and Nancy replied that she is not going to pursue this for this year.

Susie Prather thinks we are rushing this and everyone she has talked to is against it. She thinks we should have this as a discussion at the Summer meeting. Can we not send out a ballot some other time during the year?

Nancy Summers thinks that when we start losing races, maybe then the Thoroughbred people will want to do something. President Goncharoff added that we could lose the NM Bred sale as well.

Warren Franklin thinks that by tweaking this like she said about capping the open stallion's stud fees, which could help to change people's minds. He does agree that it probably would not pass in January. He does see that we need to do something.

Debra Laney thinks we could have some round table discussions possibly at the Annual meeting to inform the members and ask for ideas of what we can do to fix this.

President Goncharoff thought that maybe Nancy Summers and Leah Star could put a statement together and have it in the newsletter. Debra Laney wants to do something like from Survey Monkey to send out to the members. Nancy Summers thinks we would not get a good reply to a survey. President Goncharoff agrees that we could start with a statement in the newsletter.

Denise Chambliss wanted us to not forget that the registrations for TB mares is up 39 from 2022. She would like to know how many active Thoroughbred broodmares there are. Mary Barber explained that the only way to do that is to possibly look at the registrations over the last few years. Some mares don't get bred every year. President Goncharoff added that 39 broodmares adds up to maybe 20 live foals.

Susie has 18 foals she has not registered yet and Sandra McKenna has another 15 or so that will be getting registered with us pretty soon.

Norma Alvarez wanted to commend Nancy Summers for trying and she knows it is very frustrating. It takes several years to get things like this done. The Export Broodmare Program took three years of being on the ballot before it got passed.

DISCUSS AND VOTE ON ICSI BY-LAW CHANGE

Debra Laney read the language from the page named NM Broodmares allowed ICSI OOS she is proposing to put on the ballot.

We might want to add that people who participate in this program would have to send in a form like when they go to a sale or the export broodmare program.

Mary Barber commented that we will probably need to have a special NM Bred application for these foals that were conceived out of state by ICSI.

Janis Spencer Murray commented that she agrees with allowing this but asked what year this would take effect and she disagrees with recipient broodmares having the embryo transfer done out of state. They can ship the embryo to New Mexico and have them implanted in the recipient here.

Mac Murray asked if you have a really good mare and you harvest her oocytes and you send her to a facility and they get embryos. What do we do in that case? Let's say you're very best mare dies and a veterinarian harvests her eggs and fertilizes them and you implant them in recipients in New Mexico, can they be NM Breds? Since the broodmare is dead and cannot come back to the state.

New Mexico accredited broodmares that die and have their ovaries harvested can be sent to out of state ICSI facilities can be bred to with an accredited NM semen that is acceptable by present AQHA rules.

Janis repeated that she does not think that recipient mares should have an embryo transfer done out of state. The embryo should be shipped back to New Mexico and have them implanted in the recipient mares here.

There was discussion between President Goncharoff, Brian Anderson, and Debra Laney about this and they feel that the entire process should be allowed to have ICSI done out of state and also to implant the recipient at the same facility.

Janis Spencer Murray feels that is a bad decision and that this is the reason why this will fail. We then lost the connection with Mac and Janis Murray.

Warren Franklin thinks that what Janis is saying is that if you freeze the embryo, you can easily ship it to New Mexico and it can then be implanted in New Mexico. It is not necessary to have that done out of state.

Denise Chambliss thinks that if it is possible to send the embryo back to New Mexico, it should come back to New Mexico.

Ralph Vincent said the change was very simple. It just says that if it cannot be done in New Mexico, it can be done out of state. So, from what Warren just said, if the embryo transfer can be done in New Mexico, it should be done in New Mexico.

Warren pointed out that if you do ICSI on a mare, you also have to have a recipient mare in sync if you do fresh. If the embryo is frozen then there is not a problem and he thinks most ICSI embryo are frozen.

Debra Laney asked if the ICSI facility would have a problem with sending the embryo to New Mexico. Warren Franklin explained that it is really a three-part procedure. We don't have any facilities in NM for ICSI but we don have facilities in New Mexico for embryo transfers.

Debra Laney would like to take a vote on whether we should even put this on the ballot. Warren Franklin thinks we need to do this. He does not think we will have a lot of these but it would be good.

Pierre Amestoy would want to have the embryo transfer done at the same facility where the ICSI is done. He might not have someone here that would do it for him and then it would not be worth doing.

Brian Anderson said that it is not just a mare problem but it is also a stallion problem. They have semen from Jet Black Patriot and there are a lot of mares that would like to be bred to him but it would have to be by ICSI. They have very limited semen so at this time it is worthless in New Mexico that wants a re-breed. Pierre Amestoy said that is the same problem they have with First Moonflash. They still have some semen that they would like to do ICSI with and this would help with the NM numbers.

Debra Laney thinks it should be the owner of the mare's decision on where they have the embryo transfer done. The recipient mare would have to come to New Mexico to foal.

Mary Barber asked how long the mare would have to be out when having ICSI done? Warren Franklin answered that it takes a while but it just depends on how many times they try. Brian Anderson thinks they should be required to be put into the Export Broodmare Program if they are having ICSI done out of state.

Ralph Vincent added that the way this was written, it included all reproductive techniques would be allowed out of state if it isn't available in New Mexico. We don't have to add all this language.

Mary Barber read the By-Law change that was written by Ralph Vincent.

Debra Laney made a motion that we vote on the language that Mary read, seconded by Brian Anderson.

Susie Prather – Yes
 Helen Nave – Yes
 Denise Chambliss – Yes
 Mike Logan – Yes
 Patrick Sanders – Yes
 Norma Alvarez – Yes
 Brian Anderson – Yes
 Debra Laney – Yes
 Nancy Summers – Yes
 Warren Franklin – Yes

Motion carried 10:0.

VOTE ON EMPLOYEE SEP PLAN (RETIREMENT) PERCENTAGE

President Goncharoff explained that in the past we have approved a 15% contribution to the SEP Plan for the employees.

Right now, only Mary Barber and Amber Martin are eligible for the SEP Plan. Erica has not worked here long enough. Erica will become eligible in June.

Mary Barber explained that what we are voting on today will be for the entire year of 2024. The Trustees usually vote on this in December for the next year.

Denise Chambliss made a motion to have the SEP Plan at 15% for 2024, second by Helen Nave.

Susie Prather – Yes
 Helen Nave – Yes
 Denise Chambliss – Yes
 Mike Logan – Yes
 Patrick Sanders – Yes
 Norma Alvarez – Yes
 Brian Anderson – Yes
 Debra Laney – Yes
 Nancy Summers – Yes
 Warren Franklin – Yes

Motion carried 10:0.

Debra Laney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Norma Alvarez. Motin carried 10:0.

Tom Goncharoff
President

Mary M. Barber
Attest