



**Annual Meeting
Sheraton Uptown Hotel -Roxy Room**

**January 28, 2025
Albuquerque, NM**

PRESENT

President Jay Taylor, 1st Vice President Mark Brown, , 2nd Vice President Warren Franklin and board members Norma Alvarez, Denise Chambliss, Tom Goncharoff, Debra Laney, Mike Logan, Mac Murray, Helen Nave, and Susie Prather.

ABSENT

Brian Anderson

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

In his speech, President Taylor spoke about the record flooding in Ruidoso Downs and thanked the Downs At Albuquerque for stepping up so that Ruidoso Downs could be able to finish their meet.

The New Mexico Bred sale had outstanding results with an increase of 36% in the average price. The number of Thoroughbred horses has been a problem, but we are seeing an increase in Thoroughbred Broodmares.

President Taylor congratulated our two new millionaires KJ Bad Moon Rising owned by John and Kathy Lee and Corrina Corrina owned by Derrick Jenkins. Corrina Corrina recently became the highest NM Bred earner with a total of \$1,166,160. He congratulated the Peacock family for their incredible success with Senor Buscador who is out of a NM Bred named Rose's Desert.

We will be headed to AgFest in Santa Fe in early February. This is a great event and an opportunity to meet with our legislators and hopefully get to know some of them. Our Lobbyist, Joe Thompson will be keeping an eye out for any Bills that might affect our industry. There may be an attempt to move SunRay's racing days to another location and this is a concern.

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming. He had each of the Trustees introduce themselves and say where they are from and if they are TB or QH.

ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Director Mary Barber summarized each page of the Annual Report. She reported that the funds we have in our General Account and Investments come to \$738,113.71 which is \$13,684.95 more than at the end of 2023.

She had budgeted a total of \$480,000.00 for 2024 and we spent \$492,763.50 which is \$13,063.50 over budget but we had to purchase a new air conditioner unexpectedly that cost \$17,000.00. If not for the air conditioner, we would have been under budget by \$4,237.00.

The stakes race contributions from the breeders totaled \$3,715,000.00 for all five racetracks combined. Each of the NM Bred stakes races were listed by racetrack on this report.

The next page of the report showed the balance of funds from the Unclaimed Ticket Account and also the amounts that were contributed to each of the restricted New Mexico Bred overnight races at each of the five racetracks in 2024. 2024 was the first year that we added \$2,000.00 to each New Mexico Bred Trial races from the overnight funds. The next report showed the total amount of funds that the NMHBA added to restricted NM Bred overnight races at each of the five racetracks and how much of those funds came from gaming and how much came from the Unclaimed Ticket account. These funds totaled \$3,172,000.00. This is \$240,500.00 more than in 2023.

The next page showed two reports. The first report tells how much was contributed from the NMHBA to New Mexico Breds coming in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in open overnight races. This amount came to \$669,502.40 and that was \$167,750.50 less than in 2023. The second report included the total figures for the 10% Track Breeder Awards and the total for 2024 came to \$1,415,927.10 which is an increase of \$23,564.20 over 2023.

The next page brings everything together with the totals for the Incentive awards, the stakes funds, the restricted overnight races, the breeds running in open overnight races and the 10% Track Breeder Awards totaling \$12,978,373.94. These are additional funds over the open purses that New Mexico Breds earned in 2024.

The top five award recipients were MJ Farms, Mike C. Abraham, et al, Fred A. Alexander, et al, Pierre J., Jr. & Leslie A. Amestoy, et al, and Ventura M Ranch, LLC.

We had a total of 1,272 members in 2024. This is 57 more members than in 2023.

The 2023 horse registrations with a 2023 comparison showed that we had 36 less New Mexico Bred registrations. The Quarter Horses were down 38 and the Thoroughbreds were up by 2. The Quarter Horse Broodmares were up 126 with the Thoroughbred Broodmares being up by 6 registrations. We had a total of 33 new Stallions registered and overall, we were up 105 registrations from 2023.

The Horse Registrations report showed fourteen years of registrations from 2011 through 2024, and you can see that things have really changed over the years. We do have paid applications on file for 865 New Mexico Breds that have not been counted since they are not fully registered yet. There are 255 Thoroughbreds and 610 Quarter Horse foal applications that are pending.

The Gaming Revenue report shows the bank account totals for each racetrack as of December 31, 2024, and some of these accounts are down from the previous year and that is mainly because we have spent a lot of the funds. The total purse funds are broken down into stakes and overnight funds and the award funds are shown separately for each racetrack.

The Award Distribution Allocation for 2024 came to \$4,005,944.44 and the individual owner, breeder, and stallion owner awards are broken down. This only went through the New Mexico State Fair meet and the Downs At Albuquerque was not paid out since they ran after the State Fair. The awards for that meet will be paid out in the next distribution in November 2025.

The Race A Day Report has a section for each racetrack and reports on how many overnight, stakes, and trial races were run and the average of restricted New Mexico Bred races were run. Sunland Park averaged 4.04, SunRay Park averaged 3.12, Ruidoso averaged 3.69 Albuquerque / NM State Fair averaged 3.43, and Zia Park averaged 4.74 per day.

The History of New Mexico Bred races at each racetrack over the last ten years showed the number of overnight, trials, stakes, and the number of days that were run. This report shows that in 2014, we had 286 days of racing and in 2024 we had 183.

That concluded the annual report and Mary Barber asked if there were any questions.

Debra Laney made a motion to accept the Annual Report, seconded by Tom Goncharoff. Motion carried 10:0.

2026 ANNUAL MEETING DATE

President Taylor made the announcement that the place and date of the Annual Meeting will be determined by the Board of Trustees and an announcement will be made whenever that has been decided upon.

MEETING REQUIREMENTS PER THE BY-LAWS

Mary Barber reported that we mailed out 758 ballots. Instead of naming off everyone who sent in a Mail In Ballot, a list of those names is available. Amber Martin has the list of those names if anyone would like to look it over it will also be available for the next 90 days. This will save everyone from having to listen to the list of 224 names. In addition to the Mail In Ballots, we had sixteen people vote in person today. Their names are Speed Dreams Racing – Vanessa Alexander, Leslie Amestoy, George Michael Roberts, H Bar O – Thea Lea, Mark Lee, Mark McCarthy, Brian Casuas, Pierre Amestoy, Eloy Duree, Susan Hunter, Dominic Duree, Denise Chambliss, Mark Brown, Warren Franklin, Leslie Fincher, and Mario Dominguez.

Mary Barber verified that there are a total of 758 2025 members as of today. 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 76 votes for a quorum. There are 16 members that voted today, and we have 219 Mail In Ballots for a total of 235. We do have a quorum.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA

Doctor Samantha Holeck, DVM from the New Mexico Livestock Board gave a presentation on Equine Infectious Anemia or "EIA".

2024 was an unprecedented year with the biggest quarantine on record. There were 17 different outbreaks throughout 2024. There were 26 horses that tested positive and 24 of those were euthanized and 2 were isolated. One other horse died before being tested.

There were six investigations from April through December of 2024 and they have been trying to find how these horses were exposed. In order to enter New Mexico, you are required to have a current Coggins.

There are rules from the USDA, but they are incomplete. There is going to be a special meeting to introduce an emergency rule to try to establish how to handle this situation, but it will have a short life span. She would like to pursue making this a permanent rule. A case in Montana where a horse owner did not quarantine their horse that was positive, turned into twenty cases. We definitely need to make some changes to get the rules more consistent and she encouraged everyone to review these rules.

Dr. Holeck then asked if anyone had any questions.

Vanessa Alexander had many questions.

She was asked when the special meeting is going to be and she answered that it is at 1:00 p.m. this coming Thursday.

What is the total positive tests for 2024? There were 24 horses euthanized, one that died, and two that are still alive.

Does that include Heath Taylor Horses? Those horses were taken out of state and were not included in the numbers for New Mexico.

Vanessa Stated that she had made some IPRA requests from the Racing Commission and the Livestock Board. She received hundreds of documents from the Livestock Board but none from the Commission. She asked Dr. Holeck if she would agree that we have a serious lack of transparency and integrity within the Racing Commission? Dr. Holeck would not address those comments since she is not in a position to do so but appreciated Vanessa's concern.

Mark Brown felt that the quarantine barns are not suitable at some of our racetracks. Horses that live through this are quarantined for life. He suggested if you taking your horses to breeding farms, you should have a current Coggins.

Pierre Amestoy asked if we know clearly how this was transmitted. Dr. Holeck explained that this is strictly a blood born disease and can be transmitted through biting flies, not mosquitos. A human caused transmission is through contaminated needles, IV tubing, medications, equipment, anything

that is capable of moving blood from one animal to another. The tip of a contaminated needle could infect a much larger number of horses than biting flies. That is more often the reason horses get exposed. Once a horse has the virus, it can take weeks before he tests positive, even if he had symptoms before that.

Leslie Fincher asked if Dr. Holeck was aware of the quarantine pens at the Downs At Albuquerque and was told that yes, she was and that the Livestock Board gave permission for those horses to leave the racetrack to be taken to a private location.

Mario Dominguez asked if a stallion is infected, can he pass that on to the broodmare? He has Quarter Horses, so they do not do live mount. Warren Franklin commented that it would have to actually blood transfer during the breeding. Dr. Holeck added that if you are doing artificial insemination, that would help to separate from having a chance of transmission.

Yealonda Logan asked if the farms should require a Coggins test within two weeks before coming to their farm? Dr. Holeck thought two weeks might be a bit of a tight timeline. USDA is recommending 30 days.

Dominic Duree said that whenever we move horses, we have a Coggins test done and the results come back in five days, so we still don't really know if they are positive or not in that short amount of time.

Leslie Fincher asked if a horse at the racetrack needs to be retested every thirty days? Mark Brown answered that as long as your horse stays on the grounds, the Coggins is good for the meet but if you are moving horses in and out, they do have to have a new one every 30 days.

President Taylor thanked Dr. Holeck for coming and then introduced Dr. Warren Franklin.

ICSI PRESENTATION

Dr. Warren Franklin explained that in 2024, the New Mexico Horse Breeders' Association allowed mares to go out of state to have the ICSI procedure performed. We recently have made a certain set of rules and definitions to referee the ICSI program. We wanted to give members an idea of what we are dealing with.

Essentially ICSI is short for Intracytoplasmic sperm injection, and it is actually only one part of a three-part procedure in order to get an out of mare pregnancy. The first part is oocyte recovery. A mature follicle is very fragile so currently the standard is that you aspirate all follicles from both ovaries of the mare, and you can obtain anywhere from ten to occasionally 20 oocytes, which are the eggs from those aspirated follicles. Because we are getting some follicles that are mature and some that are not, once those immature follicles are obtained, they are put into a culture to let them mature. Once they reach maturity (50% to 60% of these eggs can actually be used to do ICSI on) . Then once an egg is ready a single sperm is picked up tale first by using a special micro manipulation microscope and then it is injected into that tiny, microscopic egg by using a tiny drill. Once you do that, fertilization has been obtained. Those fertilized eggs are then incubated for seven to eight days and then placed into a recipient mare.

This gives us some opportunities to have foals out of some older mares that have difficulty producing a foal on their own. It also gives us a way to harvest ovaries from a deceased mare and do the same procedure to have a foal. Only 30% of the oocytes obtained will eventually end up in a pregnancy. The percentage isn't very high, but it is getting better and better every year and more and more are being done.

The cost of this used to be \$20,000 to \$50,000 and now you can get this done for as low as \$10,000 to \$12,000 per pregnancy. The technology is there that you could collect a fertile stallion one time and breed every mare in the world.

Dr. Franklin then asked if anyone had any questions.

Mario Dominguez asked if there are any ICSI babies running and was told yes. There are a lot of ICSI babies out there. The ICSI labs used to be very segregated but now they are everywhere. The procedure just keeps getting a little bit cheaper. The biggest thing is the price of the recipient mares. Mario had heard that these babies are smaller than usual. Dr. Franklin stated that what a horse looks like or performs does not have anything to do with the procedure. Some people may argue that because it is not a natural procedure, they may be some changes. There are just a lot of them out there. A lot of embryos are from ICSI because they can get a lot of oocytes from aspirating the mare one time.

Mac Murray commented that on the sale catalog, they have to put that it is an embryo transfer, but they do not say that they were produced by ICSI. They are trying to get the AQHA to change that and put ICSI on the papers but all it says now is embryo transfer.

Jay Taylor wanted to clarify that it was mentioned that there are a lot of ICSI babies out there running but there are not any New Mexico Breds yet. This process has been unavailable in New Mexico and starting last year, you can go out to have this done but our rules could change if someone were to open a facility here. Dr. Franklin commented that because you can aspirate mares in New Mexico and collect the oocytes but then you have to send them to an out of state facility where they have this equipment. Royal Vista and Lazy E were a couple of places mentioned.

Leslie Fincher asked Dr. Franklin why he doesn't start doing ICSI here in New Mexico and his reply is that the microscope alone runs about \$2.3 million, and he does not have that amount of pocket change.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Members were asked if they wanted to sign up to speak for a limited time of five minutes each.

Vanessa Alexander spoke about several issues. She asked why we cannot just tell the truth. She introduced herself and said that she is also called Owen by some of the Trustees. She told the story about how she was elected to the board and then how she was removed from the board. She claimed to be an investigator that also has a background in law enforcement. She went on to say that the Racing Commission erased the New Mexico Horsemen's Association from NMAC and mandated the responsibility of oversight of the purse funds to the New Mexico Horse Breeders Association. This became effective as of May 24, 2022. So the NMHBA is mandated in NMAC, and still are as of today, and are supposed to send a monthly reconciliation of the purse funds and report details to the

Commission and that is not being done. She insisted that the breeders have control of the purse funds and owners are having to wait months and months to get their purse money and it is all the breeders fault.

President Taylor told Vanessa Alexander that her five minutes were up, and she would not stop talking and had to be told several times to stop talking.

Pierre Amestoy thinks that President Taylor is correct and somehow, we have to fix this between the tracks, the Commission, and the Breeders. He has talked to other horsemen that would like to end this and drop the lawsuits, but the attorneys will not let anyone talk to each other. We need to figure this out.

Warren Franklin explained that we tried to stay neutral, and he did approach the horsemen and asked if we could help with communications and their attorney said yes but nothing ever came of it. The horsemen were told that we are not taking on any of the horsemen's roles and told the Commission that we did not want to do that.

Pierre Amestoy stated that if we don't start talking soon, it is going to continue to decline. He was disappointed last year when the By-Law proposal to allow pregnant TB mares to come to New Mexico and foal and have a NM Bred. This would have helped our TB numbers. Maybe we could reach out to Arizona. If Turf Paradise were to close and get those people to come to New Mexico. That could bring in 500 mares and some babies.

Leslie Fincher asked why we wanted to get rid of the Horsemen's Association? They kept immaculate records and made sure the purse money went where it was supposed to go. They had committees at each racetrack and had a state board. The Horsemen's Association was a well-run organization. She went on about how the Horsemen's Association was unrecognized by the Commission and the Breeders did not oppose it. She went on for a while about the changes the Breeders have made. We only get a handful of people to our meeting and don't even have the consideration to have a Zoom for people who might want to listen in. She feels that we should go back to proxies.

There was a ten minute break.

2024 CHAMPIONS

Mary Barber named each of the 2024 champions

Thoroughbred Champions

2 year old colt/gelding	Holy Hank
2 year old filly	The Smooch
3 year old colt/gelding	Community Leader
3 year old filly	Honky Tonk Honey
Older horse/gelding	Let Him Be
Older Mare	Corrina Corrina

Quarter Horse Champions

2 year old colt/gelding	KJ Bad Moon Rising
2 year old filly	BV Bridgette Cartel
3 year old colt/gelding	Bigg Picture
3 year old filly	Miss Hi Tide
Older horse/gelding	RC Corona King
Older Mare	Flashtoglory

Stallions & Broodmares

Thoroughbred Stallion of the year	Marking
Quarter Horse Stallion of the year	Big Daddy Cartel
Thoroughbred Freshman Sire	American Anthem
Quarter Horse Freshman Sire	Suspicious Interest
Leading Thoroughbred Broodmare	Scared Money
Leading Quarter Horse Broodmare	KJ Kiss Me Goodbye

Mary Barber read off the results of the votes.

On the Thoroughbred side, the three Trustees elected were:

Susie Prather	139 Votes
Helen Nave	125 Votes
Bobby Lee	111 votes

On the Quarter Horse Side, the three Trustees elected were:

Brian Anderson	161 Votes
Pierre Amestoy	125 Votes
Mike Logan	118 Votes

By-Law Proposal to allow mares to foal out of state passed with a vote of 118 for and 98 against

By-Law Proposal to allow Trustees to attend meetings by electronic communication systems passed with a vote of 196 for and 18 against

By-Law Proposal to change the Trustee Terms passed with a vote of 204 for and 19 against.

President Taylor asked the Trustees to meet in the board room to elect officers and adjourned the meeting.

Jay Taylor
NMHBA President

Mary M. Barber
Attest