

FINAL MINUTES
VIRGINIA HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD
Blue Ridge Café - Ruckersville, VA
Tuesday, January 9, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The Horse Industry Board Meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at the Blue Ridge Café in Ruckersville, VA by Chairman Nancy Paschall.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Nancy Paschall, Chairman
Alison Umberger, Vice Chairman
Sue Alvis
Sue Fanelli
Nancy Troutman
Mike Stohrer
Debbie Easter
Dr. John Wise

GUESTS / STAFF

Heather Wheeler, Program Manager, VDACS
Cathette Plumer, Virginia Quarter Horse Association
Jim Ellis, UVA Weldon Cooper
Thomas Guterbock, UVA Weldon Cooper

APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meetings (September 12, 2017) were approved.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Heather Wheeler reported on the finances for each fund. Income and revenue are listed as follows:

Coggins – cc 625 (Figures through July 31, 2017)

Beginning Balance 7/1/2017	\$290,028.17
Revenues YTD	\$47,044.35
Expenditures YTD	-\$40,583.44
Cash Balance YTD	\$296,489.52
Uncommitted Balance (Cash bal 7/1/16 + rev - budgeted)	\$222,772.35

Feed Tonnage – cc 626 (Figures through July 31, 2017)

Beginning Balance 7/1/2017	\$269,021.05
Revenues YTD	\$2,196.16
Expenditures YTD	-\$37,128.91
Cash Balance YTD	\$234,088.30
Uncommitted Balance (Cash bal 7/1/16+ rev - budgeted)	\$94,495.21

OLD BUSINESS / UPDATES

Horse Population Study

Jim Ellis and Thomas Guterbock from UVA Weldon Cooper joined the VHIB Board Meeting to discuss the final report for the Virginia Horse Population Study commissioned by VHIB. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Guterbock discussed the methods used to conduct the study and responded to questions from the Board.

Emergency Grants:

The Virginia Horse Industry Board received an Emergency Grant request from the Virginia Presidential Paso Fino Horse Association for a marketing grant in the amount of \$2800. This grant would allow the association to develop a Virginia Certified Paso Fino Horse Program to increase the number of Paso Fino horses being trained in Virginia. The Board moved, seconded and unanimously approved that VHIB would fund the marketing grant request.

NEW BUSINESS

Virginia Bred Grants

Lengthy discussions were held by the members on each application and annual report. Examined were the impact of each program, the number of participants, the number of horses, the conducting of the program and the promotion of the Horse Industry Board as the main supporter of the individual programs. The following equine groups and amounts were approved:

Organization	Amount Approved
American Saddlebred Horse Association of Virginia	\$4,000
Commonwealth Dressage & Combined Training Association	\$3,450
Virginia Paint Horse Club	\$6,000
Virginia Quarter Horse Association	\$8,000
Virginia Presidential Paso Fino Horse Association, Inc	\$2,900
East Coast Stock Association	\$2,000
Virginia Pony Breeders Association	\$7,000
Virginia Horse Show Association	\$5,000
Virginia Palomino Association	\$1,500

Sponsorship of Awards for 4-H Equismartz

The Board moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the Board would provide \$2,500 to the Equismartz program to be used to fund awards to be given to participating 4-H'ers. The Board will ask 4-H to consider awards for leadership and sportsmanship as well as considering recognizing rookie and senior members in each category.

2018 Virginia Animal Control Association Conference

Board Member, Sue Fanelli presented information on the upcoming 2018 VACA Conference being held in Roanoke, October 17-19, 2018. VACA has put out a call for speakers and white papers and Sue Fanelli would like to see VHIB to organize either a presentation or white paper on horse handling for the conference. During the discussion, board members expressed an interest in either presenting or putting together information for the conference, as well as, having an exhibit booth at the event. Heather Wheeler will reach out to the conference organizer to request information to be considered at the April 9, 2017 VHIB meeting.

2018 Horse Festival/Parade of Breeds

Heather Wheeler received a proposal from Glenn Martin at the Meadow Event Park pertaining to the 2018 Horse Festival to be held March 23rd-25th. This proposal was for the sponsorship of the Breed Pavilion and Parade of Breeds held during the Horse Festival. With the sponsorship, the event will be free to participants and VHIB will sponsor a networking event on Saturday, March 24th for participants and Board Members. The Board moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the VHIB would approve \$6500 for the sponsorship of the Breed Pavilion and Parade of Breeds for the 2018 Horse Festival. VHIB will recruit and organize the event and will extend invites to Virginia Bred recipients and VHIB Grant recipients to participate.

Horse World Expo

The Horse World Expo in Maryland has been cancelled. The Pennsylvania Expo is still scheduled to run March 1-4, 2018. With the cancellation of the Maryland event, VHIB sponsorship was reduced to \$1500. Heather Wheeler will attend the event and staff the exhibit booth during the Expo. Board Members were encouraged to attend as well.

Horse Population Study – Board Discussion

The Board discussed the information provided by UVA Weldon Cooper staff earlier in the meeting and discussed the survey in general. The contract VHIB entered into with UVA Weldon Cooper for the study had a June 30, 2016 deliverable date (as the result of an extension granted earlier in 2016) however, UVA Weldon Cooper failed to deliver the final report until October of 2017. The data provided in the report (from 2014) at this point is four years old and has lost value to the Board for reporting purposes. A contract extension was not requested from nor granted to UVA Weldon Cooper to allow for a later delivery of the report and UVA Weldon Cooper became unresponsive to VHIB inquiries regarding the survey during 2016. In addition,

the Board expressed concern over the discrepancies between the VHIB final report and a report that UVA Weldon Cooper completed for a segment of the horse industry for the year prior. Due to the late delivery and the low confidence in the accuracy of the results of the survey, the Board moved, seconded and unanimously approved that VHIB would not pay the remaining amount on the contract with UVA Weldon Cooper. Heather Wheeler will work with the procurement office at the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to negotiate an agreement with UVA Weldon Cooper regarding the final payment.

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board will be held on April 10, 2017 in Charlottesville, VA.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.

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