

Wyoming Horse Council Annual Membership Meeting
October 30, 2010
Riverton Fairgrounds
Minutes

Directors present: Bill Gentle, Judy Horton, Colleen Gillings, Rod Rivers, Jack Settlemire, Barb Burns, Barb Daniels

Members and guests present: Colt Rodeman, Sam & PJ Hales, Al Sammons, Charles Moore, Bob Daniels, Connie Taylor, Maury Jones, Jim Summers DVM.

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Gentle.

Approval of Minutes - Colleen Gillings moved the minutes be approved as printed. Seconded by Judy Horton. Passed.

Treasurer's Report - Barb Daniels reported for Cindy Gruwell that the checking account balance is \$2730.56. Barb Daniels volunteered to audit the treasurer's books. A budget will be presented at the next meeting.

Election of Directors: Judy Horton, District 1; Barb Burns, District 2; Barb Daniels and Rod Rivers, District 7 were nominated to serve another 3 year term as directors for their area. Jack Settlemire moved, Rod Rivers seconded those nominated be recommended for office. Passed.

Nancy Hoffman, Director for District 3, resigned her position. Colleen Gillings moved Lynda Nehr from Osmond, WY be appointed to fill the remainder of the term. Seconded by Barb Burns. Passed.

Back Country Horsemen - Al Sammons reported on the status of the 8 chapters of the Wyoming Back Country Horsemen, a service organization committed to preserving our access to public lands through volunteerism, education and advocacy. They have approximately 450 members in the state. In 2009 they volunteered 3815 hours, drove 24,214 miles for a value of \$202,876. Although the Forest Service has not closed any trails in Wyoming because of downed timber so far, they have closed some campgrounds. An inventory of all the systems trails in the 7 regions in the US has been requested. Rod Rivers was appointed the WHC liasion to the Back Country Horsemen.

Wyoming BLM Wild Horse Program - Jenny Lesieutre was unable to attend the meeting, Bill Gentle provided the information. The BLM is rounding up at Adobe Town and another area right now. It was suggested the WHC take a field trip to their holding facility at Rock Springs. They are working on the reproduction program but it is a complex issue. Nationwide there are 40,000 wild horses in containment and 40,000 on the range. The Secretary of Interior's new set of proposals is to purchase land in the midwest, south and east to hold the wild horses.

Membership - Currently there are 15 organizations and businesses and 16 individuals

that have paid membership dues. The Colorado Horse Council has developed a separate organization -Legislative Horse Development Authority - that is a 501c6 which receives \$5 on each brand inspection for education. It was suggested we look at other organizations and see how they conduct membership drives. A six part motion was made by Judy Horton and seconded by Barb Burns: 1. Judy Horton will utilize the legislative reception and expo to gain members; 2. Barb Burns will contact the University of Wyoming to see if we can get student and faculty members; 3. Colleen Gillings will look for corporate grants to use to further WHC goals; 4. Cindy Gruwell, Treasurer, will send notices to all people who have ever been members and will send membership cards to all 2011 members; 5. Bill Gentle will send emails and solicitation letters to groups and offer a speakers bureau. 6. We will identify goals and issues for next year to share with members and potential members. Passed.

Short Term Goals for the Horse Council - Membership and upcoming legislation.

Horse Expo - Four members of the Big Wyoming Appaloosa Horse Club discussed the goals and needs of the Wyoming Horse Expo. The 2010 was the first year for the Expo which included volunteer clinicians from Wyoming. They are setting up a separate corporate status for the Expo to enable more donations. The 2011 Expo will be held April 29 to May 1 in Douglas at the State Fair grounds. Barb Daniels moved the WHC co-sponsor the Equine Expo in 2011. Seconded by Judy Horton. Passed. President Gentle noted that this included the help from all WHC directors. The committee will meet on Dec 11 at 10:30am in the Casper Fairgrounds Ag Building to plan the expo.

Equine Health Issues - Dr Jim Summers - Luckily there have been no real problems so far. All VS testing has been negative. No reported cases of pyroplasmosis or EIA. The question of the need for a coggins test for Equine Infectious Anemia was discussed. The problem being that it is not treatable, there is no vaccine for it and it's a killer. It's especially a problem in southern states. There were 2 positives in Montana this year.

West Nile - last summer 7 people were diagnosed in the state but no horses. Several mosquito pools tested positive especially in Fremont County and Torrington.

Still working on the equine passport with surrounding states.

Pari-Mutuel Commission - Charles Moore - There was no racing in Wyoming this year, 2 days of parimutuel roping qualified for 360 days of simulcast license. Horses at the roping were drug tested with no problems. The Legislative Travel, Recreation and Wildlife Committee is working on some legislation to assist with cost cutting - not requiring licensing of people not directly involved in racing, increasing steward ability to fine up to \$1000, advanced deposit wagering

Legislative Reception - The 2011 Legislative Reception will be held January 18th in Cheyenne. We will be co-sponsoring with the Wyoming Livestock Board and the

Wyoming Outfitters & Guides Association. Additional information will be available at a later date.

Legislative Issues -

Recreation Safety Act, Equine Liability - This legislation was passed in 1993 but due to recent court cases we thought we needed to look at it again. Charlie Moore will talk to Judge Downs.

Veterinary Practices Act supported by the Wyoming Livestock Board gives the board the authority to set rules for continuing education, increases fines for practicing vet medicine without a license, and increases pay for board members. Currently there are 646 active licensed veterinarians in Wyoming and 279 are actively practicing.

Race track - lottery and video gaming - We've heard there will be some legislation in this area, but haven't seen the bill yet.

State Fair Awards - Judy Horton moved, Jack Settlemire seconded, the WHC continue to provide one award for the youth horse show at the Wyoming State Fair in 2011. Passed.

UW Equine Specialist - Discussed the possibility of using stalls at Hansen Teaching Arena, and the progress on the 4-H horse rule book.

Horse Rescue - Colleen Gillings reported on horses available for adoption at Jackson Hole Horse Rescue.

Next Meeting - January 18th in Cheyenne before the legislative reception.

Jack Settlemire moved to adjourn, Judy Horton seconded. Passed