

TTA Board of Directors Meeting  
June 14, 2014 10:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Carson and the roll was called with the following directors present: Adams, Adger, Asmussen, Carson, Huntsinger, Martinez, Penn, Stephens, Tracy, and Witt, as well as TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle and Accreditation/Racing Manager Jennifer Gibbs. Directors Leckinger, Maikranz, Shifflett, and Wiggins participated via conference call. Directors Hartis and Rich joined the meeting in progress. Directors Bradfield, Few, Hessee, Milligan and Vardeman were absent.

Director Adger made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 31 Board of Directors meeting. Director Martinez seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle presented the financial reports for the fiscal year through April 30, 2014.

Director Maikranz made a motion to accept the financial report. Director Witt seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle reported that the Texas Stallion Stakes has been scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> at Retama Park, with the El Joven and La Seniorita on October 11 and the Hall of Fame Stakes on October 18.

The board then proceeded with the election of officers to serve through June 30, 2015. Director Adger nominated Ken Carson for the office of President. Director Witt seconded. A motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Carson by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Leckinger nominated Hal Wiggins for the office of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Director Adger seconded. A motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Wiggins by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Tracy nominated Mark Martinez for the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Director Witt seconded. A motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Martinez by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Director Stephens nominated Phil Leckinger for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. Director Witt seconded. A motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Leckinger by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Nominations were then taken to fill three at-large positions on the TTA Executive Committee. Nominees were John Adger, Keith Asmussen, Heidie Maikranz and Bill Tracy. With a roll call vote, Directors Adger, Maikranz and Tracy were elected to the Executive Committee.

President Carson appointed a Nominating Committee comprising Directors Adams, Adger, Huntsinger, Penn, Tracy (Chair), Witt and Vardeman.

President Carson appointed an Election Committee comprising Directors Huntsinger (Chair), Maikranz and Witt.

Director Leckinger discussed continued participation with Southern Racehorse magazine for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Director Martinez made a motion to approve one-year participation with a second year conditional on TTA receiving an agreed upon percentage of revenue derived from Texas stallions advertised in the annual Stallion Register, along with a provision to allocate, if necessary, an increase in postage paid by TTA. Director Stephens seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

President Carson reported that a TTA member has requested that the Board reconsider Accredited Texas-bred rules relative to a required breeding to an Accredited Texas stallion. After discussion, Director Adams made a motion to table the issue at this time, and have President Carson appoint a task force to review current rules and develop information and proposals for future board consideration. Director Adger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle reported on a request for discussion concerning Accredited Texas-bred berth nominations to the TTA Sales Futurity. The discussion included options to adjust the deadline for nominations, allow ATB berth entries at the time of supplemental nominations, and whether to keep or eliminate berth entries. Ruyle was asked to run projections for several scenarios and report back to the board within two weeks.

Ruyle presented a proposal by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) whereby TTA may rejoin the organization at an annual dues rate of \$1500. The current budget has no provision for this expense. Director Adger made a motion to rejoin TOBA. Director Carson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Directors Martinez and Leckinger discussed the Marketing and Sponsorship recommendation to hire Mary Cage as an intern to assist with social media through Twitter feeds, Facebook and blog postings. Director Adams made a motion to hire Ms. Cage on an hourly basis, not to exceed 10 hours per week through August 31, 2014, at which time the level of time involved will be re-evaluated. Director Adger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle reported that the Texas Thoroughbred Educational Fund recently received the third and final annual contribution from Will Farish. She also gave a brief overview of the upcoming Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner.

President Carson reported on the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Texas Racing Commission, during which Commissioners heard testimony on proposed rules relative to pari-mutuel wagering on historical races and voted to publish those rules in the Texas Register for a 30-day period in order to receive public comment.

Carson stressed that it will be very important for all horsemen and other interested parties to actively voice their support for adoption of the proposed rules. TTA will be posting information on a regular basis to its website, Facebook page and Twitter feed, utilizing email blasts and

mailings to members, and coordinating with other horsemen's groups, breed registries and racetracks to achieve the best results.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.