

**TEXAS THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL  
October 22, 2019 5:00pm**

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Adams with the following directors participating: Adams, Adger, Carson, Hicks, Johnsen, Leckinger, Sheffield and Tracy. TTA Executive Director Mary Ruyle, Director of Sales Tim Boyce and Jeff Hooper were also on the call.

Director Johnsen reported on meetings between management of Lone Star Park and the Grand Prairie Sports Facilities and Development Corporation regarding suggested major improvements to track facilities with a focus on items requested by horsemen. He recommended that President Adams send a letter to all parties to outline capital improvement projects as recommended by TTA and encourage an agreement to implement as soon as possible. Copies of the letter should be sent to the Texas Horsemen's Partnership and Texas Quarter Horse Association. Director Leckinger made motion to do so. Director Tracy seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Jeff Hooper led a discussion on the subject of retaining an Industry Advocate. Stakeholders met in Elgin, Texas on October 3 to hear a proposal by Daniel Becka to serve in that capacity. Stakeholders were asked to submit ideas to Marsha Rountree for tasks to be performed by an Industry Advocate, which she would use in preparing a Request for Proposal to send to Becka and other individuals or companies.

Hooper encouraged the Committee to take the lead in the process by committing to fund the position with the hope that other stakeholders would also commit. After discussion, the Committee recommended allocating up to \$100,000 to cover funding for a 12-month period. Director Carson made a motion for Mary Ruyle to use Hooper's template to solicit bids from Becka and other individuals or companies as recommended by other industry stakeholders, with a bid receipt deadline of November 8<sup>th</sup>. Director Leckinger seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting. Ruyle will notify the THP and TQHA accordingly.

Tim Boyce led a discussion regarding the idea of conducting an online auction or online exchange for breeding stock as a member service. After discussion, Director Hicks made a motion to have Boyce contact Tim Jennings to see if he is interested in conducting such an online auction, and if so, TTA will assist with general promotion through social media. Director Tracy seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

Ruyle discussed production of a printed and/or online version of a Texas Horse Industry Directory, possibly utilizing new funds from HB 2463. Director Carson made a motion to proceed with the Directory, limiting listings to businesses originating or having a presence in Texas. Director Sheffield seconded and the motion carried unanimously among those participating and voting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.