

**NCHA ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS KICK-OFF MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 3, 2022  
MARRIOTT AT CHAMPIONS CIRCLE – FORT WORTH, TX**

The 2022 NCHA Annual Convention began with a kick-off meeting for Board of Directors held at 7:00am on Friday, June 3, 2022, at the Marriott at Champions Circle located in Fort Worth, Texas.

President Ora Diehl called the meeting to order at 7:06am and welcomed everyone back to the Annual Convention.

Roll was called with a quorum of 114 Board of Directors in attendance including:

**Region I:** Western/Central Canada – Connie Down-Cicoria and Sandy Reid; Colorado – Nathan Miller, Ron Pietrafeso and Bob Tragemba; Idaho – Denise Shewmaker; Montana – Suzanne Nellen; Oregon – Marcea DeGregorio and T. Scott Tullis; Washington & Alaska – Holly Jones and Dean Rebhuhn; Wyoming – Kristen York

**Region II:** Arizona – Sherry Cowan, Joe Kalt, Tim Smith and Mike Wood; California & Hawaii – Phil Benadum, Kathy Cardon, Tim Castilaw, Rock Hedlund, Fiina Ugrin Jolley and Suzanne Rodoni-Silverberg; Nevada – Theresa Gillock

**Region III:** Iowa & Wisconsin – Travis Grover; Kansas – Rebecca Waters; Minnesota – J.P. Bell and Bob Janssen; Missouri – Ernie Beutenmiller, Jr. and Sonny Martin; Nebraska – Kirby Smith; North & South Dakota – Jason Reed

**Region IV:** Indiana – Byron Green; Kentucky – Randy Mesalam; Michigan – Dan Agnew; Ohio – Jeff Brown, Steve Duff, John Lavelle and Chuck Smith; New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT) NY, NJ & PA – Marty Miller, Bill Stein and Jack Werner; Virginia, West Virginia, D.C., Maryland & Delaware – Roy Bauer and Jim Johnson; Eastern Canada – Eric Van Boekel

**Region V:** Alabama – Andrew Sligh; Florida – Josh Deason, Ora Diehl, Bill Kidd, Sandra Lines and Sharon Overstreet; Georgia – John Hulsey and Mark Senn; North Carolina – Garry Merritt and Barnwell Ramsey; South Carolina – Tracy Barton; Tennessee – Zeke Entz and Maben Thompson

**Region VI:** Arkansas – Diana Cunningham, Toddy Pitard, Tommy Williams and Lewis Wray; Texas East – Johnny Bates, Bradey Davis, Jan Gandy, Cynthia Patty, Ronnie Smith and Michael Wood; Louisiana – Robert Charles Brown, Elizabeth Quirk and Bruce Richerson

**Region VII:** New Mexico – Leslie Graor and Richard Hicks; Texas South – James Davison, Jimmy Eakin, Scott Ferguson, Bobby Hunt, Janice Little and Jane Mancuso; Texas West – Cheryl Callis, Sherry Graham, Skip Jones and Steve Smith

**Region VIII:** Oklahoma – Cara Brewer, Lloyd Cox, Jody Galyean, Kathleen Moore, Ty Moore, Bill Riddle and Brad Wilson; Texas North – Jeremy Barwick, Sharon Beach, Lindy Burch, R.L. Chartier, Jo Ellard, Matt Gaines, Casey Green, Cody Hedlund, Gavin Jordan,

Tom Lyons, Susan McBryde, Frank Merrill, Matt Miller, Ken Mock, Bruce Morine, Rick Mowery, Lachlan Perks, Dan Popeck, Phil Rapp, Ben Roberson, Jonathan Rogers, Corrie Rousey, Ted Sokol, Chubby Turner and Bronc Willoughby

Absent were the following:

**Region I:** Western/Central Canada – Darcy Geherman, Les Jack, Amanda Smith and Doug Wiens; Colorado – Steve Norris, Nicole Pietrafeso and Joel Schulz; Idaho – Barbi Madgwick; Montana – John Seymour; Oregon – Cameron Versteegen; Utah – Josh Hofeldt and Steve Williams; Washington & Alaska – Jeff Knight; Wyoming – John (Jack) Enright

**Region II:** Arizona – David Costello; California & Hawaii – Bob Adams, Norm Clark, Rick Corso, Morgan Cromer, Bernie Talbot, Carol Ward and Stan Williams Jr.; Nevada – John Echeverria

**Region III:** Illinois – Rick Jackson and Bret Parsons; Iowa & Wisconsin – Seth Kirchner; Kansas – Grant Smith; Missouri – Greg Beutenmiller and Joe Wes Davis; North & South Dakota – Matt Lopez

**Region IV:** Indiana – Andrew Larson; Michigan – Crystal DeWitt; European Directors (Waived) – Josef Bachmeier, Jana Kucerova, Martin Parage, Denis Pini and Sergio Traverso

**Region V:** Alabama – Julie Beasley, Brenda Burns and James Hooper; Florida – Pam Scott; Georgia – Nate Pettit; South Carolina – Ric Rumble; Tennessee – Barbara Brooks

**Region VI:** Texas East – Punk Carter; Louisiana – Gwen Coie, Keith Deaville, Edley Hixson, Jr., and Chris Thibodeaux; Mississippi – William Cole, Taylor Flowers and Don McGraw

**Region VII:** Texas South – Frank Bowen, Burt Bull, Hydie McAlister, Mike Mowery, Harrison Perrin and Sam Wilson; Texas West – Josh King

**Region VIII:** Oklahoma – James Payne; Texas North – Clint Allen, Chris Benedict, Dennie Dunn, Leon Harrel, Jim Milner, Steve Oehlhof, Tarin Rice and Tatum Rice

Purpose of this kick-off meeting was to provide some opening remarks for the annual convention by welcoming the Board of Directors and establishing a quorum before each report to their respective regional meetings.

Ora opened with a moment of silence for all those that have suffered any loss or hardships since our last convention.

Immediately following, everyone was asked to stand and join in to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the United States of America. Thanks was offered to all who serve and protect each day.

Before adjourning, President Ora Diehl highlighted the events scheduled during the annual convention which included but not limited to the Past President's Seminar and some training seminars for Standing Committees and Directors along with the ordinary business of the annual meetings.

President Ora Diehl adjourned the meeting to allow each Director to attend Regional Meetings.

**NCHA ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1<sup>st</sup> SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 3, 2022  
MARRIOTT AT CHAMPIONS CIRCLE – FORT WORTH, TX**

The first session of the 2022 NCHA Annual Board of Directors meeting was held at 5:30pm on Friday, June 3, 2022 at the Marriott at Champions Circle located in Fort Worth, Texas.

President Ora Diehl called the meeting to order at 5:55pm central standard time.

Roll was called with a quorum of 109 Board of Directors in attendance including:

**Region I:** Western/Central Canada – Connie Down-Cicoria and Sandy Reid; Colorado – Nathan Miller, Ron Pietrafeso and Bob Tragemba; Idaho – Denise Shewmaker; Montana – Suzanne Nellen; Oregon – Marcea DeGregorio and T. Scott Tullis; Washington & Alaska – Holly Jones and Dean Rebhuhn; Wyoming – Kristen York

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Absent were the following:

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**Region VI:** Texas East – Michael Wood; Louisiana – Gwen Coie, Keith Deaville, Edley Hixson, Jr. and Chris Thibodeaux; Mississippi – William Cole, Taylor Flowers and Don McGraw

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Ora opened with a moment of silence for all those that have suffered and are no longer with us followed by a heartfelt prayer and a reading from the book of John 16:33 that emphasized the importance of guidance, health, peace and strength.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

At Large Executive Committee Member Ernie Beutenmiller addressed the Board of Directors by reciting the NCHA Mission Statement...

*The National Cutting Horse Association promotes and celebrates the cutting horse, whose origin on Western ranches allows us to support ranching and its Western heritage. By establishing rules for the conduct of cutting horse shows, NCHA strives to give cutters a level playing field and a progressive class structure which accommodates everyone from the beginner to the advanced competitor. NCHA draws on the diverse talents and background of its members and encourages their participation in helping it achieve these goals.*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As we have celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> year of our association, our founding fathers provided an industry that many of those sitting in our audience today have built a foundation around. Please take a minute to thank our founding fathers for what we have and where we are as an association today. Applause was offered by the attendees.

President Ora Diehl mentioned that as we move forward with our convention, we will gather and conduct business, honor recent inductees at the Members Hall of Fame Gala and hear from some guest speakers on Sunday during Board of Directors Session II. Our standing committees have worked hard to provide you with current agenda items to discuss during our meetings. The Board of Directors have been diligent in supporting and fulfilling their duties for our association. We gather for one common purpose, the betterment and success of our association.

Ora expressed gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful team of Executive Committee members that she has had the honor of serving with these past few years. Ora also recognized the NCHA staff members for their hard work and dedication to making it all happen and continue strong for our membership.

As we continue our work, our duties and our responsibilities, she reminds each in attendance of a quote from our very own Buster Welch, "this is our time to give back as an honor with an awesome duty and gratifying personal responsibility, one that many NCHA members and supporters are well equipped to embrace."

President Ora Diehl offered a recap of her journey as an officer of this association and encouraged the membership to stand strong as they have come a long way in a short amount of time under her leadership. She addressed the attendees by thanking them for the privilege to serve as their President.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Executive Director addressed the members in attendance that everyone in this room can attest that the world has been a crazy place, not only have we incurred a multi-year worldwide pandemic we are now faced with rising costs of every aspect of our lives. Many of you in attendance are show producers and have intimately felt the rising costs to produce a show, others of you in this room are trainers, owners and competitors all of whom have also felt the rising costs of participating in this sport we all love.

As an organization, our goals are multi-faceted, we need to focus on ability to maintain fair and equitable entry fee structures for our participants, we need to focus on the ability to produce and manage our shows according to schedules and spaces that best suit our needs and the needs of our equine athletes and most importantly we need to focus on the sustainability of this unique sport of cutting for future generations. Jay closed by welcoming all with plans of having a productive convention and thanking them for taking the time to attend.

## **PROOF OF DUE NOTICE**

President Ora Diehl provided the proof of due notice that was emailed to all Board of Directors on May 2, 2022, and also appeared in *The Cutting Horse Chatter, Spring Issue of 2022*.

## **DISPOSAL OF MINUTES**

A **MOTION** was made by Frank Merrill and **SECONDED** by Tracy Barton to accept the minutes from *(Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors – August 2, 2021)* that appeared in *The Cutting Horse Chatter, October Issue of 2021*. **MOTION PASSED.**

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

It was reported that the following regions met and voted on Executive Committee representatives for each region and are committed to serve a three-year term scheduled to expire at the annual convention in 2025. The newly elected regional members to serve on the Executive Committee for Regions IV, V and VIII are as follows:

**Region IV:** John Lavelle

**Region V:** Sharon Overstreet ran unopposed and was reinstated

**Region VIII:** Kathleen Moore

The existing Executive Committee members congratulated and welcomed them all to their new positions on the committee.

President Ora Diehl turned things over to President-Elect Ted Sokol to facilitate the next agenda item.

## **2022 AT LARGE CANDIDATES**

There was (1) one at large Executive Committee position open for election at this year's convention for a three-year term scheduled to expire in 2025. The 2022 At Large candidates are as follows: Cara Brewer (Jay, OK) from Region VIII, Ora Diehl (Ruskin, FL) from Region V and Rick Mowery (Weatherford, TX) from Region VIII. Each candidate addressed the board of directors in attendance highlighting their campaigns and answering questions as they prepared to run for the open At Large position.

President-Elect Ted Sokol announced that the election for this position will take place during the Board of Directors 2nd Session Meeting to be held at 9:00am on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

## **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

A **MOTION** was made by Skip Jones and **SECONDED** by Ben Roberson to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for the Period of August 2, 2021 – May 31, 2022. **MOTION PASSED.**

## **NCHA FINANCIAL REPORT**

NCHA Treasurer Denise Seiz and Mark Senn, the current Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee addressed the Board of Directors by providing a financial update on the current status of the association with reports to highlight FY2021 year end and YTD as of April 30, 2022.

Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mark Senn offered appreciation to all the hard work that the Finance Committee members have put forth the past few years to straighten out of finances and get us where we are today. This effort was led by the countless hours that Ora Diehl and Denise Seiz dedicated to balance our Great Plains accounting system with HUB of which we are proud to report has balanced since. Mark wanted these members to be recognized for all their time and support for our association. Mark emphasized that we are extremely fortunate to have Denise Seiz as our Treasurer.

Denise thanked Mark for his kind words and stated that we have a Finance and Audit Committee that works very hard, and she is honored to be a part of it and serve as Treasurer of this association.

Denise began her presentation to the attendees by announcing that she is excited to share some positive financial reports but before getting into the numbers she wanted to give a few comments. Over the past few years as a result of the pandemic, our association was presented with some unique challenges. The good news is that she is happy to report that even with those unanticipated challenges, this association is financially sound. In fact, under the direction of our Executive Director Jay Winborn, the NCHA Officers and an incredibly talented Executive Committee and Finance Committee, this association through challenging times made great strides financially and

operationally to better serve our membership. Specifically, the Finance Committee has worked hard on three things.

- First to improve our financial transparency, to maintain adequate reserves and develop the framework in which accurate financial data could be used in the management of the day-to-day operations. These efforts supported by the EC, Finance Committee and the Executive Director have led to monthly financial reports that are shared with the department heads and any significant variances from budget is investigated
- Second the Stallion Foal Program funds have been separated and they now have their own checking account along with investment fund account to manage appropriately. Each month the Chair and Vice Chair of the Stallion Foal Committee are provided reconciliation reports of the checking account, investment portfolio, foal nomination reports and lastly stallion subscription reports for complete transparency.
- Third and most importantly given the status of our economy, the Finance Committee and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Stallion Foal Committee meet with our investment advisors (Frost Bank) on at least a quarterly basis to review the performance of our investment portfolios, current market conditions and advisors forecast of things that need to be considered.

This summarizes a quick overview of the accomplishments, procedures and policies that NCHA has in place to secure the financial well-being of our association.

**National Cutting Horse Association  
Statement of Financial Position  
September 30, 2021**

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                             |                             |
| Cash & Investments                        | \$ 12,299,539               |
| Stallion Foal Cash & Investments          | 3,198,628                   |
| Accounts Receivable, net                  | 1,558,184                   |
| Property & Equipment, net                 | 1,450,518                   |
| Prepaid Expenses                          | <u>423,438</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                       | <b>\$ <u>18,930,307</u></b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                        |                             |
| Deferred Event & Sponsor Revenue          | \$ 4,382,807                |
| Deferred Stallion Foal Program Revenue    | 2,959,400                   |
| Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses       | 637,484                     |
| Deferred Membership Revenue               | <u>256,007</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                  | <b>\$ 8,235,698</b>         |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                         |                             |
| Undesignated                              | \$ 7,598,053                |
| Board designated for Youth Program        | 399,125                     |
| Net Income                                | <u>2,697,431</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>                   | <b>\$ 10,694,609</b>        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b> | <b>\$ <u>18,930,307</u></b> |



|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| REVENUE:                                      |               |
| Shows & related activities                    | \$ 19,050,241 |
| Affiliates & Independent Producers activities | 1,430,825     |
| Promotion & development                       | 1,255,152     |
| Investment income, net                        | 1,016,043     |
| Member services                               | 734,687       |
| Other   | <u>43,668</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE                                 | \$ 23,530,616 |

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| EXPENSE:                             |                      |
| Shows & related activities           | \$ 18,248,987        |
| General Administrative               | 2,793,793            |
| Promotion & development              | 1,061,213            |
| Member services                      | <u>747,874</u>       |
| TOTAL EXPENSE                        | \$ <u>22,806,867</u> |
| Net Income before MERP reimbursement | \$ 723,749           |
| MERP reimbursement                   | \$ <u>1,973,682</u>  |
| Net Income after MERP reimbursement  | \$ <u>2,697,431</u>  |

**National Cutting Horse Association  
Statement of Financial Position  
As of April 30, 2022**

|                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS                           |                      |
| Cash & Investments               | \$ 12,847,792        |
| Stallion Foal Cash & Investments | 3,137,967            |
| Accounts Receivable, net         | 2,714,892            |
| Property & Equipment, net        | 1,424,582            |
| Prepaid Expenses                 | <u>246,792</u>       |
| TOTAL ASSETS                     | \$ <u>20,372,025</u> |

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| LIABILITIES                            |                |
| Deferred Event & Sponsor Revenue       | \$ 3,362,252   |
| Deferred Stallion Foal Program Revenue | 3,008,300      |
| Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses    | 830,117        |
| Deferred Membership Revenue            | <u>230,314</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES                      | \$ 7,430,983   |

|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| NET ASSETS                         |                      |
| Undesignated                       | \$ 10,295,484        |
| Board designated for Youth Program | 399,125              |
| Net Income                         | <u>2,246,434</u>     |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS                   | \$ 12,941,043        |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS     | \$ <u>20,372,025</u> |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| REVENUE:                                      |               |
| Shows & related activities                    | \$ 14,630,411 |
| Affiliates & Independent Producers activities | 960,276       |
| Promotion & development                       | 702,712       |

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Investment income, net | 202,396        |
| Member services        | 625,028        |
| Other                  | <u>107,819</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE          | \$ 17,235,503  |

EXPENSE:

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Shows & related activities           | \$ 13,654,976        |
| General Administrative               | 1,868,506            |
| Promotion & development              | 585,067              |
| Member services                      | <u>437,529</u>       |
| TOTAL EXPENSE                        | \$ <u>16,364,078</u> |
| Net Income before MERP reimbursement | \$ 871,425           |
| MERP reimbursement                   | <u>1,375,009</u>     |
| Net Income after MERP reimbursement  | \$ <u>2,246,434</u>  |

Denise is proud of how well the accounting department is running now and working together.

**NEW BUSINESS**

At this time, there is no new business to bring before the Board of Directors for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, **MOTION** was made by Frank Merrill and **SECONDED** by Casey Green to adjourn the meeting. The Board of Directors will reconvene on Sunday morning at 9:00am on June 5, 2022.