

**Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 5, 2013
Evangeline Downs
Opelousas, Louisiana
1:00 P.M.**

Directors Present:

Jay Adcock
Brett Brinkman
Charlotte Clavier
Jake Delhomme
Jeff Delhomme
Dr. Dexter Gary
Nathan Granger
Michelle La Voice
Neal McFadden
Jim Montgomery
Val Murrell
Lora Pitre
Michele Rodriguez

Directors Absent:

Keith Myers

Others Present:

Judy Agular
Therese Arroyo
Rob Byrne
Julie Calzone
Billie Jo Courville
Bobby Duhon
Roger Heitzmann III
Tommy Hewett
I. Lee Lange
Linda McLellan
Beverly Maynard
Nathalie Montgomery
Jerry Newgebaver
Pat Newgebaver
Allen Peltier
Patrick Richmond
Victoria Richmond
Loretta Romero
Raj Shetya
Randel Stutes
Czarina Walker
Alison Wallis
Mike Whitler

Dr. Dexter Gary called the meeting to order and asked Loretta Romero to call the roll. A quorum was present and the meeting was ready to proceed with business.

Charlotte Clavier led us in prayer.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on December 6, 2012. Michele Rodriguez seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Roger Heitzmann explained the progress the organization was making. Louisiana Champions Day was a success with the military presence and we will continue to support our troops again next year. Roger added a once a month staff meeting to keep all offices aware of current and future happenings.

The office mailed out 1099's, Horse of the Year Ballots, and Out of State Breeders awards. The 2015 Louisiana Futurity had 629 nominations this year which is very close to last year's count.

TOBA candidates will be chosen at the next meeting.

Roger reported the membership was declining. Lora Pitre suggested the associate membership cost be lowered. Nathan Granger suggested we revisit the criteria of membership to enlarge the membership.

Czarina Walker made a presentation on the functional specifications for a new LTBA computer system. The next step will be the design plans which will be ready next week for the technology committee to review. The board discussed the internal side which will allow us to follow the horse and not the owners.

Raj Shetya was our next guest who was invited by Keith Myers to speak to the board about the new computer system. Raj explained the need for a contract to be in place with the different boundaries to protect our transition such as servers, host, backup and recovery for the new system. Raj volunteered to look at our contract and projected budget for the association.

Sunny Francois reported on the update to our current system. The test portal was in place for the online membership form on the internet web-site. Michele La Voice made a motion to accept Sunny's presentation on the implementation of the online membership form using Pal Pay. Charlotte Clavier seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Julie Calzone presented a selection of web-site changes and requested that the staff and board of directors fill out the questionnaire and return it to her office.

Patrick Richmond, the President of the Louisiana Horse Rescue Association addressed the board asking for their assistance in obtaining a standard of care to be adopted for equines. Patrick thanked the board for prior donations made to Louisiana Horse Rescue and requested that the LTBA amend their by-laws to allow breeder's awards be held and escrowed for members not in good standing.

Dexter Gary said no disciplinary action could be taken unless a written complaint was received and the matter has been resolved in court.

Lora Pitre made a motion to send a letter to Clay Ryder @ Ryder River Ridge asking him to address the concerns and complaints received by the office at the next Board of Directors Meeting. Charlotte Clavier seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Linda McLellan made a presentation to the board on changes to be made in the future to Louisiana Horse Magazine. Linda announced this is the 50th year edition and asked for pictures or articles of interest to be sent to her.

The annual meeting will be set for June 8th at the Fair Grounds Race Course in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Committee Reports:

Breeders Sales Company: Val Murrell – Chairman.

No report

By-Law Committee: Neal McFadden – Chairman.

No report

Events Committee: Michelle La Voice – Chairperson.

Michelle informed the board that Delta Downs split the costs of the t-shirts on Premiere Night and everyone who attended had a great time.

Finance & Audit: Charlotte Clavier – Chairperson.

Charlotte reported on the financial statements and budgets for the association. Michelle La Voice made a motion to accept the La Horse magazine budget as reported. Charlotte Clavier seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Keith Myers volunteered to have our coverage on commercial insurance, liability insurance and auto insurance reviewed and any changes will be sent to the board before our next meeting.

The board entered into a discussion about the financials and a motion was made by Charlotte Clavier to add a convenience charge in the amount of \$5.00 in order to implement Pay Pal on our online web site. Michele Rodriguez seconded this motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to approve the financial report as present to the board. Lora Pitre seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Governmental Affairs: Nathan Granger – Chairman.

Nathan stated the sales tax exemptions currently being scrutinized in Baton Rouge is being monitored and reminded the board of the Acadian Caucus luncheon on April 9, 2013.

Val Murrell made a motion to hire a lobbyist to protect our interest. No action taken.

Grievance Committee: Brett Brinkman – Chairman.

Brett reported on the committee's findings concerning the fee schedule for violations. The board entered into discussion concerning the fees and criteria for violations. Nathan Granger made a motion for the chairman of both the inspection and grievance committees along with the President of the association meet to review violations make a ruling and then send to the Board for approval. Jay Adcock seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Inspection Committee: Jim Montgomery – Chairman.

Jim Montgomery made a motion to go into Executive Session. Neal McFadden seconded the motion.

The board returned to regular session.

Allison Wallis reported Mike Whittler's contract was reviewed and approved.

Membership & Nominating: Lora Pitre – Chairperson.

No report.

Salary & Benefits: Michele Rodriguez- Chairperson.

Michele reported that the \$150,000 requested from the key man life policy that was to be used in the 2012 budget was not distributed until 2013. The actual amount received in 2013 was 121,016.13 which was the maximum amount the LTBA could receive without dipping into the policy.

Technology: Keith Myers – Chairman.

The reports were given earlier at the meeting.

Old Business: None noted

New Business:

Mr. Rob Byrne presented an update on the share holder meeting for the Equine Sales of Louisiana.

Lora Pitre made a motion to waive the penalty on accreditation fees on horses adopted by Louisiana Horse Rescue from Ryder River Ridge Farm and allow them to register for the fee of \$25.00 Charlotte Clavier seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Date, Time, and Place of next Board of Directors meeting.

The next meeting was set for April 10, 2013 in Opelousas, Louisiana at 1:00 P.M.

There being no further business to come before the board of directors, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Heitzmann III
Secretary / Treasurer