

**MICHIGAN HARNESS HORSEMEN ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 20,2023  
@ NAGE MANAGEMENT OFFICE 2501 JOLLY RD, OKEMOS, MI**

**PRESENT:** Scott Altizer, Brett Boyd, Claudia Cary Davidson, Jerry Earls, Teresa Marotta, Kim Pluta, Charles Taylor, Crystal Terrell, Greg West.

**ABSENT:** Tom Barrett

**GUEST:** Legislative Rep David Ladd, Katy Stanke, Jessica Stevens, Don Harmon, Mike Way, John Goodyear, Aaron Colley, Marilyn Bertera, Julie DeMull, Skip DeMull, Steve Wing

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice President Brett Boyd called the meeting to order at 4 pm. A moment of silence for Sharon Sylvester, Van Fisher, Mike Harding, David Hartsook, and prayers for Randy Edmonds.

**Motion:** Crystal Terrell moved to excuse the absence of Tom Barrett, supported by Charles Taylor.  
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Add to New Business Trot N Pace and Benevolent Fund

**Motion:** Crystal Terrell moved to accept the agenda with the additions, supported by Teresa Marotta.  
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES;** Minutes of March 16, 2023 reviewed

**Motion:** Jerry Earls moved to accept the minutes as recorded, supported by Charles Taylor. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING REPORTS:**

1. **PRESIDENT REPORT:** Brett Boyd reports from Tom Barrett May 3 is Plymouth township board meeting to make the final site plan approvals. The purchase of the land is completed by Carlos and investors. .
  2. **TREASURER REPORT:** Board reviewed March financials
  3. **LEGISLATIVE REPORT:** Dave Ladd reports positive progress on the FY23 budget items, timing on supplemental is still fluid. The FY24 budget recommendations for AEIDF have been released by the Executive, House and Senate. House recommendations utilizing AEIDF to fund \$3.5 million in non-horse racing programs. Meeting to be scheduled with Rep. Brixie and Sen. Cherry to discuss the impacts of the House recommendations on future horse racing programs.
  4. **SCHOLARSHIP REPORT:** Four (4) applications were submitted for review, committee will review and present recommendations next month.
  5. **PARI-MUTUEL REPORT:** MHHA paid for the expenses for the third qualifier. Northville Downs: The 2023 meet opened April 7, 2023; racing Fridays and Saturdays. Through April 9, 2023 simulcast handle was \$12,338,778; compared to \$14,929,455 in 2022. Average live handle through the first four days was \$37,347; compared to \$31,740 in 2022
  6. **COLT STAKES:** Terrell reports through USTA report 172 Michigan Sired yearlings. A mailer for Sire stakes yearling nomination forms will be sent out to those on the list provided by USTA. 2023 Fair schedule is not finalized yet due to FY23 budget items.
1. **HORSE RACING ADVISORY BOARD:** No report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **PROPOSED FAIR SCHEDULE:** Tabled to next month
2. **CONTRACT EXTENSION:** Brett Boyd reports contract reviews in process, and to increase the number of race days, pending budget

3. **MHHA MEMBER CONCERNS:** Jerry Earls reports several forms have been turned in and are on file. The process is working, we will address the issues and get back to them.

**NEWBUSINESS:**

1. **VEST PROGRAM:** Katy Stanke reports there are requests for the Drivers Vest program. **Motion:** Kim Pluta moved this program has expired and is no longer available, supported by Greg West. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
2. **MHHA VIRTUAL REALITY SET UP:** Crystal Terrell reports to purchase a camera, head screen, wall screen, stand and race bike estimate cost \$1500.00 - \$2500.00. Used at fair, expos, marketing events, owner seminars etc. **Motion:** Kim Pluta moved to approve the purchase of the Reality Set Up, budget up to \$2,500.00 and ask the Race Horse Advisory Board for financial assistance, supported by Greg West. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. **TROT N PACE CONTRACT:** Crystal Terrell reports conversation to amend their contract to decrease the live streaming because of less race dates. Need advertising information and a plan made. Teresa Marotta will take contract review over and report back next month.
4. **BEVEVOLENT FUND:** **Motion:** Greg West moved to send \$2,500.00 to Rick Lake and Sharon Dalke for fire relief, supported by Kim Pluta. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**MEMBER COMMENTS:** Mike Way reports the Hall of Fame Museum is open in Jackson.

**DIRECTORS COMMENTS:** Horsemen please fill out the Economic Impact Survey, to help the industry. Get to know your Senators and State Reps. MHHA drag is made and ready. Kentucky Derby day NVD has agreed to offer jog cart rides, need horses and drivers.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Greg West moved to adjourn at 6:15 pm, supported by Jerry Earls. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Next Meeting May 18, 2023 Ngage Office 4 PM

Minutes prepared by Secretary Claudia Cary Davidson, April 21,2023 Pending board approval