



**AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 5:00 PM EST Via Zoom

1. Call to Order – Allen Bosworth

- a. Roll Call – Board Members Present: Kristen Bagdasarian, Juli Behrends-Jones, Allen Bosworth, Sandy Currier, Jennifer Dixon, Larry Hartsock, Diane Hauslein, Anna Marie Knipp, Smith Lilly, James Nichols, Joe O'Brien, Christy Parker, Clif Paulsen, John Scheidt, Chris Schubert, Rachel Seifert, Joan Todd, Malissa Welke. ASHBA Staff Present: David Mount
- b. Adoption of Agenda – Motion made to accept the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Declare Conflict of Interest — None declared.

2. Executive Director Search – Allen Bosworth

- a. Bosworth reported that he had appointed an ad hoc search committee consisting of several Board members and several members of the Association membership to serve on the committee. Looked for geographic and discipline diversity as well as people who had served on various boards previously and were unconflicted in this search. Bosworth announced that the following people had accepted to be on the search committee: Joe O'Brien – chairman, ASHBA Board members James Nichols and Sandy Currier, and ASHBA members Betsy Boone, Cece Hagan, and Priscilla Marconi. President-elect Chris Schubert will serve as a non-voting member.

Bosworth and Board member Diane Hauslein who has significant experience in hiring and writing job descriptions will work together to craft the job description and come up with a plan for publicizing it.

O'Brien commented that the committee will work with current Executive Director to discuss transition.

It was discussed to publicize the search committee when we publish for the job.

3. Member Correspondence

- a. There were discussions around correspondence received from members. All people had been followed up with.

Bosworth had met with two members at The American Royal in Kansas City. There was discussion about how the board is selected. The board discussed its desire to explore new ways to select the board that would give the membership more direct input yet maintain the diverse viewpoints that we believe we didn't have when all board members were selected by popular vote. Among the ideas discussed were hybrid approach; one that approximates what the Morgan Association does with districts. Some board members felt that we shouldn't change because we have a board that represents the very diverse constituencies of the Association. We discussed potentially asking the consultant who is an expert in the best practices of not-for-profit organizations.

4. Board Members Request for Financial and Other Records

- a. It was discussed that the three board members who requested financial and other records would not be able to come to the ASHBA offices on November 19 as initially requested and that they would attend on November 21 instead. It was asked which of the three would be at the meeting. One member stated not attending. One said not to respond on advice from counsel. The third didn't respond.

5. Consultant RFP – Bosworth and Welke

- a. There was a discussion about the Consultant RFP that the board had previously discussed to hire for Board coaching and to review bylaws, how the board is selected, and best practices in not-for-profit association boards. It was discussed that board should review the RFP and we would vote in the December board meeting.

6. All American Horse Classic and Prize Programs

- a. It was reported that the Association had received an invoice for an incremental payment from the All American Horse Classic for hosting the prize programs. The charges were essentially for stalls. The board discussed that didn't seem right given that the show received income for those stalls. Bosworth and Mount will contact the All American representatives to get clarification.

7. Website Update

- a. There was discussion about the website outage on November 13. After consultation with Vibrant, it was determined that the website had been down for about 90 minutes the evening of the 16th. It was due to a memory leak that impacted Concrete CMS was the cause. No data was lost or

exposed and it impacted more than just the ASHBA web site. The old web site was working during that time period. Vibrant indicated that it had made some changes that will address this issue in the future.

8. Additional Business

a. Nominating Committee – Joan Todd

- i. Joan announced that Georgia Ferreira who had been nominated and elected to the Board in the November 11 meeting had subsequently decided to withdraw from the process. The nominating committee met and nominated Sophia Fischer of Kentucky to fill that seat. Todd stated that Fischer had agreed to serve if elected. A motion was made to elect Fischer to the board and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Adjourn – Allen Bosworth

a. Adjourn at 6:11 pm EST