



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

Monday, August 5, 2024 at 5:00 PM ET via Zoom

**1. Call to Order – Allen Bosworth**

- a. **Roll Call** – Board Members Present: Kristen Bagdasarin, Allen Bosworth, Jennifer Dixon, Larry Hartsock, Diane Hauslein, Anna Marie Knipp, Smith Lilly, James Nichols, Christy Parker, Clif Paulsen, John Scheidt, Chris Schubert, Rachel Seifert and Joan Todd. Board Members Absent: Julie Behrends-Jones, Juliette Dell, Joe O’Brien and Malissa Welke. Staff Present: David Mount, Katriona Adams, Amber Moon, Kim Skipton, Katie Porter and Samantha Robinson.
- b. **Adoption of Agenda** –Allen called for a vote to adopt the agenda. Motion made to accept the agenda with the addition of Conduct Review Committee report and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. **Approval of July 2024 Board Minutes** – Allen called for a vote to approve minutes from the last board meeting, July 8, 2024. Motion and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- d. **Declare Conflict of Interest** – None declared.

**2. Executive Director’s Report – David Mount**

- a. **New Championship Horse Show** – Allen reported that the attorney is making changes to the new championship horse show organizational documents based on board input. Smith reported that three requests for proposals were returned for the new horse show, with two sites unable to accommodate the show, and one site not responding. Additional site visits are planned.
- b. **NACHS Grant** – David reported the National Academy Championship Horse show will be awarding an annual \$25,000 Joyce Webster Academy Grant for American Saddlebred barns. It is proposed that ASHBA would administer the grant, which would include accepting the applications and disbursing the money. Criteria for the grant would include the recipient being a current ASHBA member and participating at the NACHS. Allen called for a motion to adopt the National Academy Grant program. Motion made and seconded. All in favor with one recusal. Motion carried.

**3. Competitions Council Report – Chris Schubert and David Mount**

David reported the goal of the Competitions Council is to update the Horse Show application and Star Show program for 2025, along with reimagining the National Select Series. In addition, the Prize Programs Committee will be looking at ways to continue to



simplify and streamline the prize programs. The Competitions Council will present their recommendations at the next board meeting.

**a. Prize Programs Committee Report – Smith Lilly**

Smith reported weanling nominations to the National Futurity classes were down 2% or 8 horses in 2024 and weanling nominations to the National Amateur Futurity classes were up 24% or 23 horses in 2024. Smith reported that the Prize Programs Committee voted to make the weanling nomination deadline of May 1 permanent. Also, the Prize Programs Committee voted on how the \$250,000 in added money would be distributed, which will go proportionally by number of horses competing in the National Futurity and Four-Year-Old Sweepstakes classes. Finally, a member submitted a proposal that ASHBA retroactively record World Championship titles and Broodmare Hall of Fame credit to all previous winners of the Sweepstakes classes not held at the Kentucky State Fair. A motion was made to reject the proposal and seconded. All in favor of rejecting proposal. Proposal was rejected.

**4. Development Council Report – Anna Marie Knipp and Kim Skipton**

Kim reported that the Development Council is working with the Youth Council and Charter Club Council on ways they can promote ASHBA membership. A membership drive will take place at the National Academy Championship Horse Show in November. Also, Kim reported that she will be launching a revamped Faithful Friends fundraising program and is in the initial stages of putting together a new Official Sponsorship Program for 2025, similar to USHJA.

**5. Finance Council Report – Rachel Seifert and David Mount**

**a. Second Quarter 2024 Financials** – Rachel reported for the first half of the year income was ahead of 2023, \$1,006,675.30 with an increase of \$46,917.79. On the expense side, overall expenses were \$915,345.06, an increase of \$56,533.78 over the prior year. Ordinary net Income was \$91,330 for the first six months. The Balance Sheet is strong with \$2.2 million in assets. The Finance Council reviewed and approved the financials at their meeting last week. Motion made to approve the second quarter financials as presented and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**b. Adjusted Budget** – David presented an adjusted 2024 budget, which was previously reviewed and approved by the Finance Council. Lost revenue from the Kentucky State Fair would be offset by bringing production of the Journal of the American Saddlebred in house for 2024. Other adjustments were proposed based on real numbers to date and small reductions spread over multiple expense categories. Motion made to approve the adjusted budget as presented and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Governance Council Report – Rachel Seifert and David Mount**

Rachel reported the Governance Council will meet to discuss drafts of revised governance



documents and bylaws, which would include combining the Code of Conduct and Registry Rules hearing processes into a single entity.

- a. **Conduct Review Committee Report** – Rachel reported that the Conduct Review Committee recommended that Kathy Peterson be expelled from membership with ASHBA and barred from rejoining in the future. Ms. Peterson will previously be the respondent in a Code of Conduct case brought forward by Holly Armstrong over falsified Registry documents. The Code of Conduct case was put on hold pending a court case in Iowa which found in favor of Ms. Armstrong. Motion made and seconded to accept the recommendation of the Conduct Review Committee. All in favor. Motion carried. Rachel added that the ruling will be posted on the ASHBA website.
- b. **Nominating Committee Report** – Allen reported that he previously failed to call for a vote to populate the Nominating Committee with two board appointees. In the annual meeting in February, the membership selected Betsy Boone and Judy Werner to represent the membership on the Nominating Committee and he appointed Joan Todd to chair the committee per Bylaws. Allen asked for nominations to fill the two board appointed seats. Nominations were made for Smith Lilly and Clif Paulsen and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**7. Marketing Council Report – Joan Todd and Katie Porter**

Joan reported that the Marketing Council is focused on outside breed promotion, which includes highlighting young adults in our industry and utilizing the Charter Clubs and Youth Council for grassroots campaigns. Katie reported that final designs of the new American Saddlebred specialty license plate will be presented at the next board meeting in time to be submitted to the Kentucky Department of Transportation in October.

**8. Programs Council Report – Malissa Welke and Katie Porter**

Samantha Robinson reported on successful youth activities at the Lexington Junior League Horse Show and thanked Sally Jackson for her support of the youth programs. Activities included a tea and trivia party, junior judging and an ice cream social. Also, Samantha reported on the new Youth Council marketing grants, including the first youth event funded by the grant program at the Blue Ridge Classic Horse Show in North Carolina. Finally, Samantha reported that she is in the process of finalizing the youth activity plan for the second half of 2024, which will include activities at the National Academy Championship Horse Show, St. Louis, Ocala and Kansas City.

**9. Registry Council Report – Kristen Bagdasarian and Katriona Adams**

Kristen reported that the Registry Council met last week and is in the process of putting together a breeder survey which will be sent to breeders and stallion owners. In addition, a breeder forum is being planned at the All American Horse Classic in Indianapolis. Katriona reported the Registry Council approved a draft charter for the Council, which includes responsibilities and council functions. In addition, the Registry Council approved a rule change to shorten the length of time for a conditional transfer from nine months to



six months. This will shorten the time the new owner has to wait for a permanent certificate by three months. Motion made to approve and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**10. President's Report – Allen Bosworth**

Allen shared that Juliet Dell has decided to step down from her position as director on the board, but would like to stay involved with ASHBA. Allen would like to make Juliet an honorary board member and tasked the newly seated Nominating Committee with recommending a replacement at the next board meeting.

**11. Additional Business – Allen Bosworth**

No additional business.

**12. Adjourn – Allen Bosworth**

Allen called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made and seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting ended at 6:37 PM ET.