

# UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APRIL 15, 2024 3:00 P.M. EDT

## **MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Tom O'Mara, Judy Sloan, Max Amaya, Jacob Arnold, Allison Brock, Will Faudree, Ling Fu Wylie, Lisa Gorretta, Deborah Johnson, Jon Kreitz, Beezie Madden, Melissa Moore, Diane Pitts, Philip Richter, and Chester Weber

**Board Members Absent:** Tom Brennan, Ellie Brimmer, Mary Knowlton, Joe Mattingley, Lauren Nicholson, and Judy Werner

**USEF Senior Team Present:** Bill Moroney, Mike Delahanty, Terri Dolan, Hallye Griffin, Sonja Keating, Vicki Lowell, David O'Connor, Justin Provost, Debbie Saliling, and Stephen Schumacher

#### 1. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Mr. O'Mara called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. EDT. Following a call of the roll, Ms. Adams noted that a quorum was present.

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Ms. Fu Wylie seconded the motion to adopt the agenda. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

# 3. President's Opening Remarks

Mr. O'Mara stated that competition is picking up with a lot of planning for spring and summer competitions including the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris.

Mr. O'Mara noted that a report was included in the materials outlining his travel and event attendance for the first quarter of 2024. Subsequent quarterly reports will be provided as the year progresses.

Last, Mr. O'Mara noted that the Presidential Modification report as well as the three Council reports were included in the materials as informational but do not require Board approval.

## 4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Ms. Keating requested that Directors declare conflicts with any item on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

## 5. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024

Ms. Sloan moved, and Mr. Faudree seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2024, Board meeting. Following discussion and a vote the motion passed with Mr. Arnold, Mr. Kreitz, and Mr. Weber abstaining as they were not present at this meeting.

#### 6. Treasurer Report and Review of Financials

Ms. Sloan reported on the operating performance through the first quarter of 2024. Despite slower revenue earlier in the quarter, February was looking stronger and the Federation remains ahead of plan on the bottom line. Our investment portfolio has performed well on the market and reminded the Board that we do not count on these funds to offset our annual budget.

Mr. Delahanty reported that our current revenue of \$8.2MM is slightly short of plan and we expect this to balance out by the end of March. \$1.3MM net is favorable to plan based on the benefit of portfolio revenue with markets to date. Because of the continued strong performance, the balance sheet also remains strong. He highlighted the prepaid items on the balance sheet which reflect expenses paid since last year for the Olympic Games.

## 7. Consideration of Sport Requests

## 7.1 Approval of amendments to the U.S. FEI Endurance Calendar Policies and Procedures

Ms. Pitts moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded approval of the U.S. FEI Endurance Calendar policies and procedures amendments. Mr. Moroney stated that following the January Endurance meeting, the group decided not to focus on national events but rather to focus on FEI events, which is what is reflected in this document. After discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## 7.2 Approval of the 2025 U.S. FEI Jumping Calendar of CSI5\* Events

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded approval of the 2025 U.S. FEI Jumping calendar of CSI5\* events. Following discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

# 7.3 Approval of the 2025 USEF Junior Hunter National Championship Specifications

Ms. Sloan moved, and Mr. Faudree seconded approval of the specifications for the 2025 Junior Hunter National Championship. Following a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## 7.4 Approval of the 2025 USEF Pony Medal Final Specifications

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded approval of the specifications for the 2025 Pony Medal Final. Following a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## 7.5 Approval of the 2025 USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final Specifications

Ms. Pitts moved, and Mr. Arnold seconded approval of the specifications for the 2025 Hunter Seat Medal Final. Following a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

# 8. CEO Report

Mr. Moroney provided additional details on his written report highlighting the Equine abuse rule, travel, staffing, monthly data reporting, USEF Gender Inclusion Policy, BIG initiative updates, competition matters, the USDA import/export issues, and USEF National Championship judges.

Mr. Moroney stated that we are in the early phases of drafting the Strategic Plan for the next five years: 2025-2029. A small group has been meeting to flesh out the direction and will subdivide into smaller groups to socialize parts of it with our constituents.

In addition, Mr. Yoder has been assisting USEF with providing resources for the Amish community which also allows trainers to assist their riders.

Last, a sample Fan Guide was attached to the CEO report which shows a promotional resource now available to us based on our partnership with Equiratings.

There was discussion on membership increase of 3.5% in 2023 continuing with 5% to date into 2024. The rule passed last year requiring all foreign competitors to be members in order to compete in the U.S. contributed as well as Lite competition participation increases.

## 9. Old Business

There was no old business.

## 10. New Business

There was no new business.

#### 11. Executive Session

At 3:34 p.m. Mr. O'Mara requested that all staff leave the call except Mr. Moroney and Ms. Keating for an Executive session of the Board.

The following items were discussed during the Executive session.

## 11.1 General Counsel Report

Level Adams

Ms. Keating provided an operations report and a litigation update to the Board.

# 12. Adjourn

At the conclusion of the Executive Session the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. EDT.

Signed and submitted:

Karen Adams

**Recording Secretary**