**Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 20,2022**

The Corporation board meeting was called to order at 3:23 pm by Corporation President Walter Schaefer, Jr. at the Belgian Draft Horse Corporation office in Wabash, IN. The following were present for the meeting: Levi Beachy, Lew Biddle, Jim Carey, Herman Miller, Michelle Keaffaber, Corbly Orndorff, Larry Piergallini, Walter Schaefer, Jr., and Dean Woodbury. DeWayne Beechy was present on a phone conference call.

**Minutes:**

Minutes were presented for approval for the March 8th conference call.

Jim Carey moved to approve the minutes.

Lew Biddle seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Financials:**

Larry Piergallini presented the Alliance Financials.

Levi Beachy moved to accept the financial reports as they were presented.

David Moser seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Corbly Orndorff moved to give Michelle Keaffaber and the financial committee authority to reinvest the CDs coming due prior to the December meeting. The committee will notify the board of the reinvestment.

Levi Beachy seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**President’s Report:**

Walter Schaefer Jr. thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for all of their hard work on their respected committees. The excitement around the Belgian breed remains strong and the Corporation continues to grow financially. He reminded the group of the goal to provide an environment to be able to openly express ideas and opinions but still come together as a team.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Michelle Keaffaber thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Michelle reflected on her past 8 months with the Grow Wabash County Leadership Course. She learned a lot and will be utilize those skills in her position. Michelle also thanked the office staff for all of their hard work. They remain 2 weeks out on paper. She also reflected on her maternity leave training with the staff. She reminded the board that she will be on maternity leave soon. She thanked all of the committees for their hard work and preparation throughout the year as she prepared for maternity leave.

**NABC X:**

Scott Seymour and Justin Berry presented for the NABC committee. The committee is requesting a sponsorship from the Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America.

Lew Biddle moved to be a general sponsor of the NABC X in the amount of $65,000 distributed in 3 payments, one per year.

Levi Beachy seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Bylaws:**

Larry Piergallini presented the committee proposal change for deaths on accounts.

Jim Carey moved to adopt the affidavit release and indemnification agreement.

Yes: Levi Beachy, DeWayne Beechy, Lew Biddle, Jim Carey, Herman Miller, Corbly Orndorff, Larry Piergallini.

No: Dean Woodbury.

Motion carried.

The office staff will continue to educate both members and nonmembers on the difference between “&” accounts and “&/or” accounts. The board discussed the conversion process of these accounts.

Dean Woodbury moved to continue the conversion process of both member and nonmember accounts.

Jim Carey seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Larry Piergallini presented recommended changes to the frozen semen bylaws for the following articles:

* Additional rule VI Section 4, xii
* Article VI, Section 4VI- definition of “in herd”.

Herman Miller moved to approve additional rule VI Section 4, xii to read:

***For semen frozen prior to 1/1/18 and (1) where the stallion has died and was DNA profiled prior to its death and the owner at the time of its death was also the owner of the stallion when the semen was frozen or (2) where the semen was frozen prior to 1/1/18 and the stallion is still alive and is DNA profiled and the owner of the stallion was also the same owner when the semen was frozen, then that owner, in either situation, may elect to have the above frozen semen rules apply.  However, all foals of both sexes resulting from the use of that frozen semen must be parentage verified at the time of registration.***

***It is emphasized that if semen was frozen from a stallion prior to 1/1/18 and that stallion was transferred to another owner, then the frozen semen rules that were in place prior to 1/1/18 shall apply and not the above rules.***

***If the owner desires to take advantage of the above election, the owner must file a Frozen Semen Report and file an Application for Frozen Semen Certificate(s) and pay the fees per the fee schedule by December 31, 2023.  If not filed by that date, then the owner shall have until December 31, 2024, to file a late Frozen Semen Report and late Application for Frozen Semen Certificate(s) but pay the penalty fee as listed on the fee schedule.***

***The election permitted by this paragraph will no longer be available after December 31, 2024.***

Jim Carey seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Corbly Orndorff moved to amend Article VI section 4VI-. to read:

***The Corporation, upon the stallion owner’s request, shall furnish an Application for Frozen Semen Certificate(s). Upon proper completion and filing of the Application for Frozen Semen Certificate(s), the Corporation shall issue Frozen Semen Certificate(s) to the owner. Frozen Semen Certificate(s) will be utilized per breeding and not per straw and will be required for each breeding of an out of herd horse. These certificates will be purchased by the stallion owner. The utilization of a Frozen Semen Certificate shall not be required by the stallion owner(s), if the frozen semen is utilized within stallion owner's own herd (meaning mares are registered to the stallion owner's name or, if more than one stallion owner, the mares are registered in at least one of the stallion owner's name,  but not an additional person, unless the additional person is the stallion owner's spouse or the other owner(s) of the stallion) unless the stallion is sold, deceased, or semen is sold or transferred, in which case Frozen Semen Certificates must be applied for.”***

Lew Biddle seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Bylaws committee and office staff will educate owners on the updated frozen semen bylaws and “&/or” accounts. A write up will be included in the Spring newsletter and upcoming Belgian Review. The office staff will send out a notice with all outgoing mail.

**Personnel:**

Walter Schaefer, Jr. presented the personnel report.  Discussed performance of office staff and Chief Operating Officer.

**Marketing/Events:**

Michelle Keaffaber reported on the events she went to last Summer and Fall. The booth will attend the Classic Series Finals in Shipshewana and the Topeka Livestock Auction Draft Horse Sale.

Walter Schaefer, Jr. and Michelle Keaffaber presented for the Marketing committee. The committee is proposing upgrades to the booth as well as purchasing a larger trailer to travel to events.

Jim Carey moved to give the Marketing committee a budget not to exceed $5,000 for upgrades.

Herman Miller seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Annual Meeting:**

Michelle Keaffaber presented the Annual meeting report. The Annual meeting will be held at the Berlin Resort in Berlin Ohio for 2022. Michelle presented an annual meeting budget.

Larry Piergallini moved to give the Annual Meeting committee a budget not to exceed $12,500.

Jim Carey seconded the motion.

Motion carried Unanimously.

**Building/Maintenance:**

Michelle Keaffaber presented the Building and Maintenance report. All upgrades that were approved in the December meeting have been completed. Michelle will look into replacing toilets and sinks in the office.

**Pulling/Farm Team:**

Michelle Keaffaber presented on the Pulling and Farm Team committee. The committee changed the awards from chairs to blankets for this year. Michelle has been working with Jack VanVoorst to get the blankets ordered and to the pulls.

**Nominating Committee:**

Herman Miller presented on the Nominating committee. The Nominating committee selected candidates and they will be announced in the summer newsletter. The candidates this year include four new names; Chris Jess- Arthur, IL, Mark Ryburn- Washington, PA, Ray N. Yoder- Millersburg, OH, and Teresa Zube- Kiel, WI. Lew Biddle and Walter Schaefer, Jr. are running for reelection. Levi Beachy will not be running for reelection.

**Sponsorship Committee:**

Walter Schaefer, Jr. presented on the sponsorship committee. The committee has put guidelines as well as an application process for all external sponsorship requests.

Levi Beachy moved to accept the sponsorship application deadline of April 1, 2023. The board will discuss guidelines in December and review applications during the 2023 Spring Meeting.

Jim Carey seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Carey motion to adjourn.

Dean Woodbury seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Signed:

Michelle Keaffaber

Secretary, Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America