**Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America**

**Board of Directors Meeting- December 1, 2022**

The Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America meeting was called to order at 2:15 pm by President, Walter Schaefer Jr., at the Berlin Resort in Berlin, Ohio. The following were present for the meeting: Levi Beachy, DeWayne Beechy, Lewis Biddle, Jim Carey, Michelle Keaffaber, Herman Miller, Corbly Orndorff, Larry Piergallini, Walter Schaefer Jr., and Dean Woodbury.

**Minutes:**

Minutes were presented for approval for the May 20, 2022 Spring board meeting.

Jim Carey moved to approve the minutes.

DeWayne Beechy seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes were presented for approval for the May 21, 2022 Spring board meeting.

Jim Carey moved to approve the minutes.

DeWayne Beechy seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes were presented for approval for the July 25, 2022 conference call.

Dean Woodbury moved to approve the minutes.

Jim Carey seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**President’s Report:**

Walter thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Walter thanked Levi Beachy for all his time and effort on the board. The board continues to collaborate new ideas and programs as we see new changes and needs from the membership. The enthusiasm is around the Belgian horse and we continue to grow as a corporation.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Michelle thanked everyone for attending the meeting. This year has brought a lot of new ideas for programs within the Corporation. Michelle thanked everyone for all their hard work this past year.

**Bylaws:**

Larry will speak during the 2022 annual meeting about the frozen semen bylaw changes that were implemented during the Spring 2022 meeting.

**Marketing and Events:**

Michelle Keaffaber reported on the Marketing committee. A budget was approved during the 2022 Spring meeting, Michelle and Justin will have all upgrades to the booth for the Mid America Draft Horse Sale. Jim Carey will assist Michelle in purchasing a new trailer for the Mid America Draft Horse Sale.

Financial:

Larry Piergallini reported the financials for the Corporation.

Lewis Biddle moved to accept the financial report.

Levi Beachy seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

There are 3 CDs that are coming due prior to the spring meeting. The Corporation discussed different ways to reinvest this money as well as invest money that is in the Corporation Crossroads checking account.

Jim Carey moved to give Michelle Keaffaber and the financial committee authority to reinvest the First Federal CD, Goldman Sachs (EJ) CD, and Beacon CD that expire prior to the spring meeting. The financial committee has the authority to also move $125,000 out of the Crossroads checking account to invest where they see fit.

Lewis Biddle seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Personnel:**

Walter Schaefer Jr. reported on the personnel committee. Discussed performance of office staff and Chief Operating Officer.

Levi Beachy moved to go into executive session at 3:33 pm.

Dean Woodbury seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Levi Beachy moved to go out of executive session at 4:09 pm.

Dean Woodbury seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Annual Meeting:**

Herman Miller reported on the annual meeting committee. The committee is under budget for the annual meeting. The committee will be covering the hotel rooms for Robert Dunton and the Youth Ambassadors. In 2023, the annual meeting will be in Shipshewana, Indiana. Walter Schaefer, Jr. will announce this during the 2022 annual meeting. The board discussed including Pennsylvania as a location for the Annual meeting. The committee will bring a proposal to the spring meeting.

**Building/Maintenance:**

Jim Carey reported on upgrades that need to be done to the Corporation office in the future. The driveway will need replaced. Michelle and the committee will work on getting quotes to present during the Spring meeting.

Michelle Keaffaber presented a proposal for new computers for the office staff.

Larry Piergallini moved to approve a budget not to exceed $5,000 for computer upgrades for the office staff.

Dean Woodbury seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Keaffaber presented a proposal for an employee retention fund for the office staff.

Jim Carey moved to approve a budget not to exceed $2,000 for employee retention.

DeWayne Beechy seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Sponsorship Committee:**

Walter Schaefer Jr., reported on the Sponsorship Committee. The committee presented a proposed budget of 15% of the 2022 net profit. These funds will be used to sponsor programs or events that are currently not supported or a part of the Belgian Corporation or Belgian Alliance.

Larry Piergallini moved to approve the sponsorship proposal and a budget of 15% of the 2022 net profit.

Levi seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Walter Schaefer, Jr. will announce the new program during the 2022 annual meeting. Michelle Keaffaber will post the application on the Corporation website and announce on our social media platforms.

**Belgian Futurity:**

Larry Piergallini reported on the Belgian Futurity. The rule changes that were approved by the Belgian Alliance were presented:

1) Registered Belgian geldings are eligible to be shown in the Futurity, provided they comply with all other requirements of the Futurity rules. Qualifying geldings will show with stallions.

2) Sire and Dam payouts will be calculated by the total monetary premiums of the offspring shown.

3) a properly completed registration certificate application with proper fees (and transfer if applicable) are submitted to the breed secretary prior to the show to be eligible to participate.

4) The Futurity will recognize a Premier Breeder as Follows:

a. First place gets the highest points based on the # of horses in the class and the points decrease by placing.

i. For example: if 9 horses are shown in the class, first place get 9 points, 2nd gets 8 points, and so on.

b. In event of a tie, a winner will be determined by taking the points of only the classes that the two individuals competed together head-to head. If it remains the same number of points, it will be considered a true tie.

Larry Piergallini discussed the secretarial pay and sponsorship from the Belgian Corporation. The committee will come with a request for the Spring meeting.

**National Belgian Show:**

Michelle Keaffaber reported on the National Belgian Show. Michelle reflected on the 100th Anniversary of the National Belgian show- the committee received good feedback on the new awards and exhibitor lunch. The committee is beginning to work on plans for the 2023 show. A budget was presented for the 2023 National Belgian Show.

Larry Piergallini moved to give the Belgian Alliance $5,000 for the National Belgian Show.

Herman Miller seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Hall of Fame:**

Dean Woodbury reported on the Hall of Fame. Dean will be presenting on the 2022 hall of fame inductee, Robert Dunton. Lewis Biddle discussed new names for the 2023 Hall of fame- the committee will review the names.

**Belgian Merit Program:**

Larry Piergallini reported on the Belgian Merit Program. The Belgian Alliance approved the following rule changes:

1) All mare and Stallion Classes must be registered. Gelding classes can be Open to non-registered, but the registered horses will only count toward Merit points and Merit Status.

2) the weanling mare and stallion divisions will be split into Junior and Senior weanling divisions.

The committee will work through rule changes to include the registered team classes and riding classes to the Merit Program.

Corbly Orndorff reported on the Premier Sire and Dam in the Belgian Merit Program. The Belgian Alliance discussed changing the qualifications for the Premier Dam and Premier Sire in the Belgian Merit program. The committee will look into these changes for the Spring meeting.

**Trophies and Awards:**

Michelle Keaffaber presented on the Trophies and Awards committee. All Merit shows will be getting trophies this year. Michelle will have the awards ordered prior to the Spring meeting.

**Breeders Challenge:**

Larry Piergallini reported on the Breeders Challenge. For both the 2021 and 2022 auction there have been individuals that have not paid. The Alliance bylaws committee will work on an amendment to the bylaws to include a rule for individuals who do not comply with any program within the Belgian Alliance. Beginning for the 2028 Breeders Challenge, the foal nomination rule has been updated. If an individual purchases 4 services from the same stallion- they can choose two foals from any four of the mares that were nominated.

**NABC X:**

Michelle Keaffaber reported on the NABC X. There will be an ad for the event in the 2022 Belgian Review. Michelle and Justin are working on more marketing for the NABC X Facebook page- this will include highlighting sponsors. The event continues to get sponsorships. The event will be having an auction at the 2022 annual meeting.

The board discussed the process of pedigree generated JEB non-carriers and how it is reported on the online pedigree.

Levi Beachy moved to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Signed:

Michelle Keaffaber

Secretary, Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America