

Virginia Harness Horseman Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2024

The meeting was called to order by president, Scott Woogen at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Those present by phone were: Scott Woogen, Chief Robbins, Betsy Brown, Billy Carter, Stacey McLenghan, Tyler Shehan, Anne McDonald, Tracy Bradshaw, Leon Harris and Debbie Warnick. A quorum was declared.

MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the meetings held on February 29, 2024 and March 5, 2024 were reviewed and approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report for May 2024 was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 1. Lobbyist

- a. Scott reported that we have hired another lobbyist, Morgan Guthridge, to help with the lobbying efforts by us and the VEA.
- b. There was some discussion about the Mike Pearson's invoices. Scott and Chief will talk to him about his charges and lowering the amount of his invoices.
- c. We discussed the gray machine bills legislature that is currently being reviewed. The VEA supports asking for a tax on these machines to be given to the horsemen. At this point Churchill is against this.

Item 2. Spring Meet Wrap Up

- a. There was discussion about the payment process for horses that are tested. Normally testing delays the payment by one week so that payments are received two weeks after race day. There was one week when the lab had a problem and test results were delayed so payment was delayed an extra week.
- b. The track was too hard the first week but improved after that. Peter is going to continue to work with JD and the track crew to make sure the track is consistent.
- c. Peter had worked with Dee to correct some of the race problems from the fall meet. This has improved but Peter will continue to work with Dee.
- d. The VRC was actively checking barns and trailers during this meet. While this caused some upset with horsemen, it is the VRC's job to search barns and trailers. Chief said that we need to support the VRC staff as they do their jobs. Their goal is to make sure our track is safe and secure and that the horses are well taken care of.

As there was no further business to be discussed, Scott Woogen adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Warnick
Executive Director