

**Pennsylvania Equine Council  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Final Minutes  
January 20, 2018  
Pennsylvania Farm Show Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Charlie VanAuken at 11:00 am.
  
2. **Roll Call :**
  - A. **Board of Directors Present:** Charlie VanAuken, President; Edith Ryan, Treasurer; Gail Eichelberger, Recording Secretary; Jeanne Goforth, Linda Golden, Mike Kraft, Guy Seifert, Skip Seifert, and Elaine Winters.
  
  - B. **Board of Directors by Teleconference:** Bud Wills, Vice President; Aleta Seifert, Corresponding Secretary, Judy Cole, Amanda Gerner, Desilene Phillips and Tammie Witherup.
  
  - C. **Guests by Teleconference:** Gwen Wills.
  
  - D. **Board of Directors Absent:** Donna Foulk, Sharon Kessler, Burt Staniar and Ann Swinker
  
  - E. **Guests:** Brecca Faust, Rick Eichelberger, Karla Mertens and Bev Rice.
  
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Minutes of the November 3, 2017 meeting were emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review prior to the meeting. See attached. *A motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting was made by Skip Seifert, seconded by Guy Seifert. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.*
  
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Edith Ryan reported. A financial statement was emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review. See attached. Beginning balance October 1, 2017 was \$24,925.12. Total deposits for October were \$4,981.67; total payments were \$15,778.26. Ending balance October 31, 2017 was \$14,128.53. Beginning balance November 1, 2017 was \$14,128.53. Total deposits for November were \$2,274.05; total payments were \$2,039.62. Ending balance November 30, 2017 was \$14,362.96. Beginning balance December 1, 2017 was \$14,362.96. Total deposits for December were \$2,161.20; total payments were \$7,488.81. Ending balance December 31, 2017 was \$9,035.35. Edith reported that all money has been paid to the American Horse Council for the survey.

*A motion to accept the treasurer's report subject to audit was made by Mike Kraft, seconded by Linda Golden. Motion passed.*

5. **Corresponding Secretary's Report** – The report was emailed to board members prior to the meeting. A thank you was received from the Friends of the Farm Show for our support of the Celebrity Driving Event for 2018. Also a thank you was received from The Gordon 4-H Leaders, the winners of the PA State 4-H Horse Show and winners of the Draft Horse and Pony Events at the 2017 Keystone International Livestock Exposition. Linda Golden, Shelly Rodgers and Aleta Seifert worked on the Policies and Procedures. There is still work to be done. Skip Seifert and Aleta Seifert have worked on the 2018 PEC Trail Ride and have included information and an application in the newsletter.
6. **Foundation Report** –Report submitted by Jeanne Goforth. The balance in the Foundation General Account is \$21,663.87 and the balance in the Foundation Scholarship Account is \$641.47. There is a \$50.00 donation that must be added to the Scholarship account. Edith also has some money that is designated to the Foundation Account. Skip Seifert reported that there is some interest in setting up a grant for an Equine Euthanasia Program through the University of Pennsylvania and the New Bolton Center. Skip said that he will do all the paperwork involved to manage the grant. We would just need somewhere to put the money. Caleigh Anderson will be receiving the \$1,000.00 Scholarship Award at the Horse World Expo VIP night. *A motion to give \$500.00 from the Pennsylvania Equine Council to the Foundation Scholarship Fund was made by Gail Eichelberger, seconded by Guy Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*
7. **Old Business :**
  - A. **PA Farm Show ELC Report** – Mike Kraft reported. Mike reported that there were 324 hours of volunteer time put in for himself, Charlie and Skip. There were some volunteers that had to cancel due to illness. This created a hardship during some of the shifts. Mike commented that we need more support from the board and directors to help at this event.
  - B. **PEC Member Trail Ride**– A report was emailed to board members. Skip Seifert reported. The ride will be at Bob Summers camp again this year and take place on August 3-5, 2018. Anyone interested should send in the application along with payment. The application is in the newsletter. Members that attended last year can apply and they will be put on a waiting list in the order that their application was received.

Crawford County will also be hosting a member ride. The ride will take place at Two Mile Run Park in Venango County on September 13-16, 2018. It is primitive camping and high lines and corrals may be used. Any profits from this ride will be donated for improvements to the camp. Riders must be members and there is no limit to the number of attendees. The information will be in the next newsletter.

- c. **American Horse Council Impact Study Update** - Charlie VanAuken reported that the report is finished. The final release should come out in mid-February. The report should be available in time for the Expo. Guy Seifert asked if we would be selling the information or making it available for free. Charlie commented that we should wait until we see how the data is sent to us before deciding that. Guy said that we need an answer on how we will manage the information. Since we paid for it we should try to recoup as much money as we can. He wanted to know if we will be able to market the information. Guy suggested that we go around at the Expo and check with some of the vendors to see if they would be interested in the data. Bud Wills suggested we put something on the website that the information is available for a fee. Capri Stiles-Mikesell suggested that we have some stipulations on how the data can be used. Guy commented that it is very hard to control after it is in the hands of others. He suggested a cost of \$300.00 a copy. Capri commented that Danielle Smarsh, Ann Swinker's replacement at Penn State University, would like to write an article about some of the information. Charlie said that we should wait until we see how the data is presented. Capri said the report can be created into an E-Book and be sold on line. Charlie will keep the board informed as soon as he gets the information from the AHC.

## 8. New Business:

- A. **Election of the Executive Committee** –The Executive Committee members were discussed. *A motion to accept the Executive Committee members of President Charlie VanAuken, Vice-President Bud Wills, Treasurer Edith Ryan, and Board members Linda Golden, Mike Kraft, Capri Stiles-Mikesell, Elaine Winters and non-voting members Corresponding Secretary Aleta Seifert and Recording Secretary Gail Eichelberger was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Skip Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*
- B. **Committee Assignments**– Charlie VanAuken reported. There was a discussion about the Annual Meeting and if the meeting should be held in a different location. Guy Seifert suggested we have it in the eastern part of the state because we have high membership in that area.

Bud Wills commented that if it was changed then someone else would have to step up to plan the event. He needed to know by February 1, 2018 because hotel reservations must be made. It was decided that it would stay in State College for 2018 and possibly move to the east in 2019 and the west in 2020.

The 2018 Committee List is attached to the minutes.

**C. EXPO/VIP Night 2018** - The report was emailed to board members. Skip Seifert reported. Charlie and Skip met with the new caterer. It is now Savor. It was decided to do a cash bar this year to save on cost. Bud Wills will arrange for speakers. Capri Stiles Mikesell will oversee the Lecture Hall B and speakers. The PEC booths will be the same as in previous years. Volunteers can receive a new shirt through Elaine Winters or Bud Wills.

## 9. Committee Reports:

**A. Advertising** – Bud Wills and Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported. Bud and Capri are looking into putting our membership application in the Lancaster Farmer for two months.

**B. Collegiate Membership** – No report.

**C. Education Grant Program and Scholarship** – Gail Eichelberger reported. The scholarship recipient Caleigh Anderson will receive the \$1,000.00 scholarship award at the Expo VIP night. We have not received any grant application at this time.

**D. Electronic Director's Manual** – Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported. She has received the information from Helene McKernan. Capri will be getting together with Aleta Seifert to update the manual.

**E. Equine Learning Center** – Report was emailed to board members. Mike Kraft reported. He covered his report in Old Business. He thanked the volunteers again for their help this year.

**F. Equine Health and Regulation** – Report was emailed to board members. Burt Staniar reported that he attended the AHC Health and Regulatory Committee meeting on January 16, 2018. The main topic was the upcoming meeting between the AHC and the USDA regarding health and regulatory policies for the horse industry. Dr. Danielle Smarsh has joined the Penn State Animal Science Department. Ann Swinker reported that a Baltimore County horse tested positive for the Equine Herpes Virus.

**G. Facebook** – No report..

**H. Legislation** - Report was emailed to board members. Linda Golden reported. Skip suggested that we put together information on the vehicle weight regulations. The legislation on the electronic logging devices has been postponed. There will be a speaker at the Expo that will be talking about the new regulations. Invitations have been emailed to legislators to the Expo VIP night. Guy Seifert, Skip Seifert and Donna Foulk have been in conversation with townships about their local policies. The purpose is to make policies easier for livestock owners. They have hit a roadblock with the committee chairman and solicitor. Linda Golden shared that there will be a meeting with Shelly Mix from the Pennsylvania National Horse Show. The meeting is to discuss organizing a “Day of the Horse” to take place at the capitol.

**I. Membership** – Report was emailed to board members. Guy Seifert and Karla Mertens reported. There have been 302 renewals and 14 new memberships since the last meeting. Karla would like to see more people use Pay Pal to pay for membership because it is easier to keep track of. Capri Stiles-Mikesell will send out an E-Blast to remind people to renew their membership. Association members should encourage members to become Individual Members. Aleta Seifert did send out emails to saddle clubs and associations about membership. Karla Mertens suggested sending something out to the pony clubs since there are so many of them in Pennsylvania.

**J. Newsletter** – Report was emailed to board members. Judy Cole reported. Bud reminded people about sending articles about where they like to trail ride. A discussion took place about sending less copies of the newsletter to directors to save money.

**K. Nominations** – Bud Wills reported. Tammy Witherup is the new Regional Director for Region 6 which is the Northwest region. She will join the Board.

**L. PennAg Liaison** – Skip Seifert reported. A discussion took place about the value of belonging to this organization. The membership fee is \$150.00. She asked if we would be better served to be members of the PA Livestock Association. Membership is \$50.00 a year. Capri does attend and Charlie has attended. *A motion for the PEC to become a member of the PA Livestock Association was made by Mike Kraft, second by Bud Wills. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*

**M. Policies and Procedures** – No report.

**N. Signs** – Report emailed to board members. Skip Seifert reported that we have a good supply of signs. He has shipped 147 signs since the last meeting. This is a slow time for selling signs.

**O. Sponsorship** – Report emailed to board members. Skip Seifert and Mike Kraft reported that a lot of networking took place at the Farm Show. Some possibilities are John Deere, Ironstone Ranch, Trail Rider Gear, an equine dentist, Cowboy Mounted Shooting and Valley Ag and Turf.

**P. State Director Chair** – Charlie VanAuken reported. Charlie reported that there is interest in a Mercer County Director. This region has been growing.

**Q. Trails** – Report emailed to board members. Bud Wills reported that he and Gwen are working on the plans for the Expo. Anyone needing a shirt must get their order to them. They are working on the schedules for the trails workshops for this year. The Pennsylvania Equine Foundation was awarded a grant from the DCNR to continue the Trail Stewardship program.

## **10. Additional Business:**

**A. American Horse Council**– Skip Seifert had a question about the AHC Fall meeting. He asked if we had received a report. Charlie will look into it.

**B. 4-H Horse Development** – Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported that the 4-H Junior Horse Show will take place at the Grange Showgrounds on July 28 and 29, 2018. She suggested that this would be a good venue for opening up a sponsorship opportunity. She suggested that we use the money that was designated for KILE. This would be a good place for a membership drive, we must focus on the youth, *A motion to give all 4-H groups a free Association Membership was made by Mike Kraft, seconded by Guy Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*

## **11. Meeting Dates**

- (1) March 17 - Hoss's Restaurant, State College 11:00 am.
- (2) May 19 - PA Farm Show Building, Harrisburg 11:00 am.
- (3) August 14 – Ag Progress Days Horse Building 5:30 pm
- (4) Annual Meeting dates TBD.

**13. Meeting Adjournment**

*A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bud Wills, seconded by Guy Seifert. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Gail R. Eichelberger*

Gail R. Eichelberger  
Recording Secretary

## PEC 2018 Committee Chairman

Association Insurance	Aleta Seifert
Audit	Amanda Gerner
Booths	Elaine Winters
Collegiate Membership	Capri Stiles-Mikesell
E-Blast	Capri Stiles-Mikesell
Education Grant & Scholarship	Gail Eichelberger
Electronic Director's Manual	Capri Stiles-Mikesell
ELC	Mike Kraft
Equine Health & Regulatory	Burt Staniar/Ann Swinker
Expo	Skip Seifert
Facebook	Amanda Gerner
Finance	Edith Ryan
Legislation	Linda Golden
License Plates	Aleta Seifert
Marketing	Guy Seifert
Membership	Guy Seifert
Newsletter	Judy Cole
Nominations	Bud Wills
Penn Ag	Skip Seifert
Policies & Procedures	Aleta Seifert
Show & Breeds	Guy Seifert
Signs	Skip Seifert
Sponsorship	Mike Kraft/Skip Seifert
State Directors	Charlie VanAuken
Trail	Bud Wills
Web Maintenance	Aleta Seifert