

**Pennsylvania Equine Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Final Minutes
November 16, 2018
Super 8 Hotel
State College, Pennsylvania**

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Acting President Bud Wills at 5:45 PM

2. **Roll Call :**
 - A. **Board of Directors Present:** Bud Wills, Acting President; Aleta Seifert, Corresponding Secretary; Gail Eichelberger, Recording Secretary; Judy Cole, Amanda Gerner, Linda Golden, Sharon Kessler, Mike Kraft, Desilene Phillips, Skip Seifert, Burt Staniar, Capri Stiles-Mikesell, Edith Ryan, Ann Swinker, Charlie Van Auken, Elaine Winters and Tammy Witherup

 - B. **Board of Directors by Teleconference:** Shawnda Felton, Treasurer/Membership.

 - C. **Board of Directors Absent:** Jeanne Goforth and Donna Foulk

 - D. **Guests:** Margie Buck, Rick Buck, Richard Eichelberger, Tamara Kastner, Stan Kessler, Bev Rice, Robin Smith, Marge Twigg, Miranda Twigg and Gwen Wills.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Minutes of the August 14, 2018 meeting were emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review prior to the meeting. *A motion to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting was made by Aleta Seifert, seconded by Linda Golden. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.*

4. **Treasurer’s Report** – Shawnda Felton reported. A Financial Statement was emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review. See attached. Beginning balance August 1, 2018 was \$32,577.31. Total deposits for August were \$2,677.77; total payments were \$6,202.33. Ending balance August 31, 2018 was \$29,052.75. Beginning balance September 1, 2018 was \$29,052.75. Total deposits for September were \$1,694.93; total payments were \$3,146.93. Ending balance September 30, 2018 was \$27,600.75. Beginning balance October 1, 2018 was \$27,600.75. Total deposits for October were \$2,461.64; total payments were \$7,261.14. Ending balance October 31, 2018 was \$22,801.25. *A motion to accept the treasurer’s report subject to audit was made by Tammy Witherup, seconded by Capri Stiles-Mikesell. Motion passed.*

- 5. Corresponding Secretary's Report** – Report was emailed prior to the meeting. We received a thank you from Nathaniel White from the EDCC and also a thank you from Keith Klein from the AAEP for our support. We received a request to sponsor the Farm Show Celebrity Driving Event again in 2019. Received a thank you to Bud for his participation in the 4-H Science of Agriculture roundtable discussion at Ag Progress Days from Logan Hall of the Chester County 4-H.
- 6. Foundation Report** –Report submitted by Jeanne Goforth. The balance of the Foundation General Account is \$62,526.48 and the balance of the Foundation Scholarship Account is \$191.47. There will be two \$1,000.00 Scholarship recipients this year. *A motion to transfer \$2,000.00 from the Pennsylvania Equine Council General Fund to the Foundation Scholarship Account was made by Elaine Winters, seconded by Skip Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*
- 7. Nominations and Election of the PEC Board of Directors for 2019** – Bud Wills presented the slate for the 2019 year. Board members up for re-election are Aleta Seifert, Gail Eichelberger, Judy Cole, Amanda Gerner, Mike Kraft, Ann Swinker, Shawnda Felton and Charlie Van Auken. They all sent in their resumes and requested to remain on the board for another term. Bud asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. All board members up for re-election will be retained for another term. Gail Eichelberger was nominated by Bud Wills to serve as the President. Bud asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. *A motion to elect Gail Eichelberger as President of the PEC was made by Ann Swinker, seconded by Edith Ryan. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.* Shawnda Felton was nominated by Bud Wills to serve as the Treasurer. Bud asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. *A motion to elect Shawnda Felton as Treasurer of the PEC was made by Mike Kraft, seconded by Capri Stiles-Mikesell. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.* There is one seat open on the Board of Directors. This seat will be reserved for a Regional Director who would like to hold a seat on the Board of Directors.
- 8. Presentation on Investment Options** – Shawnda Felton presented Shannon Sottile from Mosaic Wealth Consulting. She did her presentation via conference call. She is a Financial Advisor, self-employed from Indiana, Pennsylvania. Shannon explained a number of different options that we could use to invest our money. She answered questions and explained the benefits of certain options and also risks that we may encounter with some of the different types of investments. The Board of Directors will meet at a future time to discuss the different investment options and decide how best to handle the investments.

9. Old Business:

- A. PA National Horse Show** – Mike Kraft reported. At the August Board Meeting it was voted on not to set up a booth this year. After reconsidering that action an e-mail vote was taken to reestablish our presence at the show. Since Skip's furniture that was used in the booth area was being damaged, Mike looked into renting furniture. For \$169.00 a recliner, couch, 2 lamps, end tables, coffee table and a rug were rented. This included the delivery and pick-up. Mike, Skip and Elaine did spend time manning the booth. This year the booth was at the main entrance to the arena which gave us better exposure.
- B. York/Bloomsburg Fairs Report**– Mike Kraft reported. All went well with the York Fair this year. Mike thanked the volunteers for their help again this year. Due to some difficulties at the Bloomsburg Fair this year, Mike is reconsidering attending the fair in 2019. Joan could not find enough volunteers to help and the horses that were used in the chute did not work well. Lynette Fiske's son built the chute which was funded by donation money. Charlie commented that the horses that are used in the chute must be accustomed to doing this.
- C. PEC Member Trail Ride at Two Mile Run County Park**- Judy Cole reported. The 2018 PEC Member Trail Ride took place on September 19-21, 2018. There were 30 riders. The food provided by the caterer was very good and they received a generous amount of food. The excess cost after the caterer was paid will go to the park to help maintain the trails. The Mercer County PEC group took care of the details of the ride. The 2019 PEC Member Ride will be held at the Bob Summers Allegheny Horse Camp in Marienville next year August 1-4, 2019. Crawford and Mercer Counties will be looking into the possibility of holding member rides in 2019.
- D. Day of the Horse at the Capitol** – Linda Golden reported. The PEC display was set up in the East Rotunda. There was a lot of activity. It was probably not the best time because the legislators were in the last three days of session for the year. The Humane Society and SPCA also had displays. This gave us a lot of exposure because a lot of pet owners are also horse owners. People were very interested in the information on the American Horse Council Impact Study. Some people asked about the PEC's stand on slaughter. Linda told them that the PEC does not have a stand but she shared her own thoughts.

A group of librarians from Philadelphia asked how they can get more kids interested in agriculture. We probably would not have needed the TV. Most of the people just came up and talked. Very few watched the TV slides. In the future we should designate a Legislative Day.

- E. Coalition of State Horse Councils' Fall Meeting** – Bud Wills reported. Sharon Kessler and Shawnda Felton attended the meeting along with Bud and Gwen. The meeting was held in Washington, D.C. The legislative aides were hungry for horse information. The House Horse Caucus spoke to the attendees. This was a very interesting and was a meeting worth attending.

10. New Business:

- A. PEC Member Trail Rides 2019** – Bud Wills reported. We will have the August ride again at Bob Summer's. If anyone is interested in doing any other rides they should let us know. Yellow Snake is free for horse camping. At Promised Land there is a fee.
- B. Annual Meeting of the American Horse Council 2019** - Bud Wills reported. The Annual Meeting is held in Washington D.C. in June. Bud, Gwen, Ann and Burt have attended in the past. Hopefully they will be interested in representing us again in 2019. If anyone else is interested they should let Bud know. There was also discussion about having the PEC Annual Meeting and Issues Forum at a different location next year. It was suggested to have it in the Harrisburg area. We will have the Board look into creating a committee to look into costs and locations.
- C. Penn State University Ag Council Meeting** – Ann Swinker reported. Ann has attended the Educational Forum for two years. It is an opportunity to interact with the Ag Commodity Groups. There is discussion on the future of Pennsylvania agriculture. There is presently top research being done at Penn State University. Ann enjoys attending and is willing to continue as long as no one else is interested.
- D. Scholarship Awards** - Gail Eichelberger reported. There will be two recipients this year. Each will receive \$1,000.00. The winners are Caleigh Anderson and Margaret Brice. Both attend Penn State University. Burt Staniar knows both girls and commented that both are very worthy of the scholarship.

E. PA Horse World Expo and VIP Night – Skip Seifert reported. The dates for the Expo are February 28 - March 3, 2019. Capri is looking for ideas and speakers for the seminars. It was suggested that certain blocks be repeated on different days to accommodate the different crowds. Some ideas were boarding stable issues, licensing, laws regarding neglect of animals and how it is handled by the humane officers and mandated reporting of child abuse. We will check with Bud about getting a speaker for VIP night. Skip has talked to the caterer about the food.

F. PA Farm Show 2019 – Mike Kraft reported. The dates for the Farm Show are January 4-12, 2019. Mike will be sending out the call for volunteers. We will have six stalls again this year and two horses or the chute.

11. **Committee Reports:**

A. Advertising – Bud Wills and Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported. The *Paper Horse* will no longer be printed. The *Mid-Atlantic Horse* is very expensive. Capri would like to look into more local publications.

B. Collegiate/Youth Membership – Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported. It was suggested that we look for some students from the Penn State Campus to help with setting up criteria for the Collegiate/Youth Membership. Capri commented that G. T. Thompson was in attendance at the 4-H Science of Ag Challenge and was so impressed with the program that he talked about it on the floor of the House of Representatives.

C. Education Grant and Scholarship Program Programs – Gail Eichelberger covered this under New Business-D.

D. Electronic Director's Manual – Capri Stiles-Miksell had no report.

E. Equine Learning Center – Mike Kraft reported. Report emailed to Board Members. The 2018 year was very successful for the Equine Learning Center. As in the past the help of our volunteers help make this a success. The Farm Show started the year followed by Ag Progress Days. The ELC was also present again at the York and Bloomsburg Fairs. Mike again thanked all the volunteers for their help and dedication.

F. Equine Health and Regulations – Burt Staniar reported. There was a meeting October 22 of the US Animal Health Association. Resolution on equine euthanasia and disposal was discussed. The Food and Drug Administration develops safe methods in animal rendering. We currently support the EDCC. This organization appreciates our support. Burt will continue to watch for any health issues or updates.

G. Facebook – Amanda Gerner reported. Report emailed to Board Members. Amanda reported that we have more “likes” on our Facebook postings. Donna Foulk’s article on horse hay and mold had 3,200 people look at the post. 580 people responded to our post on the Annual Meeting. All posts and pictures must be in the jpeg or gif format. If people ask a question she will send it to the appropriate person.

H. Legislation – Linda Golden reported. Report was emailed to Board Members. Linda is still getting a lot of calls about boarding stables. HB 544 to amend Act 386 of 1960 adding a liability clause for recreational land owners, was signed into law by the Governor on October 24, 2018. It is now called Act 98. Linda received the question, “Is it legal for a farm to keep 2 horses outside in the elements with no structure from the weather”. She cited 5532 from Title 18: Neglect of Animal. A person commits an offense if the person fails to provide access to clean and sanitary shelter and protection from the weather. The shelter must be sufficient to permit the animal to retain body heat and keep the animal dry. We all agree that sometimes the animals would rather stand out in the cold and wet weather.

I. Membership – Shawda Felton reported. The report was emailed to Board Members. The final total membership for 2018 was 3,168. So far for 2019 we have 393 paid members.

J. Newsletter – Judy Cole reported. She has many good articles for this newsletter. The newsletter will be mailed November 27, 2019.

K. Nominations – Bud Wills had no report.

L. PennAg Liaison – Skip Seifert reported. At the Penn Ag meeting they discussed Boarding Stables. It was suggested that they establish a list of the different types of boarding stables and rate them by what services they provide. Also develop a list of standards. In Maryland the boarding stables have to have a Certificate provided by the Department of Agriculture.

M. Policies and Procedures – Bud Wills reported. The most recent version was emailed to board members. The Policies and Procedures must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the board of directors. *A motion was made to approve the Policies and Procedures, dated September 11, 2018 by Linda Golden and Skip Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.* The vote was unanimous. Aleta will resent the Policies and Procedures to all of the Board Members.

N. Signs – Skip Seifert reported. The report was emailed to Board members. There were 252 signs shipped in 61 shipments since the last meeting. There are 325 signs in inventory.

O. Sponsorship – Skip Seifert and Mike Kraft had no report at this time.

P. State Director Chair – Charlie VanAuken reported. Jefferson County was interested in starting a County Chapter. He will check on that. Montgomery County never got one started.

Q. Trails – Bud Wills reported. The report was emailed to Board Members. There were many activities that Bud and Gwen attended and participated in. They are listed in the report. Two 1-Day Trail Stewardship Workshops were conducted in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

12. Additional Business:

A. PEC By-Laws– It was necessary to make changes to update the By-Laws. *A motion to approve the changes in the PEC By-Laws was made by Burt Staniar, seconded by Linda Golden. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.* Aleta will resend the updated By-Laws to the Board.

B. Jacobsburg Park– Bud Wills reported that he has been contacted by Maura Kessler about trail work for the park. The park is located in Northampton County.

C. EDCC Contribution- The PEC has donated \$500.00 to the EDCC in the past. *A motion to continue our support with a \$500.00 contribution for each year for three years starting 2019 was made by Skip Seifert and seconded by Capri Stiles-Mikesell. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.*

13. Meeting Dates

- (1) January 26 - Harrisburg Farm Show Building 11:00 am.
- (2) March 23 - Hoss's Restaurant, State College 11:00 am.
- (3) May 18 - Harrisburg Farm Show Building 11:00 am.
- (4) August 13 - Ag Progress Days Horse Building 5:30 pm
- (5) Annual Meeting dates TBD.

14. Meeting Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Elaine Winters, seconded by Burt Staniar. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail R. Eichelberger

Gail R. Eichelberger
Recording Secretary