

SDQHA
SOUTH DAKOTA QUARTER
HORSE ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
January 14, 2023, 2 PM CDT
Ramkota Pierre, SD

President's Address

President Bob Quickstad Sr. welcomed the membership at 2:06pm with a prayer as well as introduced special guests:

- Karl/Allie Stressman Exec. VP AQHA
- Frank/Robin Merrill Past President AQHA
- Jim/Joni Hunt 2nd VP Executive Com.

Secretary's minutes

Shelby Holmes presented the secretary's report from 1/7/2022. Kirsten Gonsoir made a motion to approve the minutes. Janet Hansen seconded. Unanimous approval was made by the general membership.

Treasurer's report

Jodie Svennes presented the treasurer's report for 2022 income and expenses. Shirley Wetz made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Penny Petersen approved. Unanimous approval was made by the general membership.

Youth

There was no youth present to give the general membership updates.

National Directors Reports

- Georga Sutton
Was not present for the meeting. Had to do chores on the ranch.
- Dean Johnson - Animal Welfare Commission
Also, a past President of the Black Hills Stock Show. 108 horses were sold at the Black Hills Stock Show for 2.875 million dollars. This showed that the horse industry is alive and healthy, even in the current economy.

Neck alterations have been a major concern, like tail blocking. Studies at 6666 are being conducted to determine characteristics of neck alterations. The first trail to find neck alteration was run at the AQHA World Show. Dean Johnson is also the chairman of the performance side of the ranching committee. The ranching facet of the show industry is growing.

In October, traveling to Mexico to put on a ranching heritage show/versatility. Talked about his daughter, Kimberly, and her involvement with the American Quarter Horse. After Mexico, their committee's next endeavors would be to Canada, Brazil, and Argentina.

- Jim Hootman - Nominations and Credentials Committee

Requested questions from the general membership due to aspects of his committee being confidential.

- Debbi Holmes-Stockstill - Public Policy Committee. Now on the Stud Book and Registration Committee

Debbi stated to the general membership that there is now a completed policy book.

Debbi also stated that there is a proposal to modify the Animal Abuse Act. The proposal would be to change the act to prosecute people who kill animals (hunting, fishing, etc) and beef producers for sending their animals to slaughter. This proposal didn't give enough signatures to vote but the group of people wanting these changes will try again this year.

- Larry Larson - Hall of Fame Selection Committee (term expired) & International Committee

32 humans and 15 horses were nominated for the 2023 Hall of Fame class.

Regarding the International Committee, Larry Larson listed many countries worldwide who have applied for grants to help build their following. Which is a great way to expand AQHA and the benefits the association has to offer.

- Kristin Gonsoir - Youth Committee

Kirsten Gonsoir talked about the big discussion on how to grow the association's youth members. An exciting update regarding youth numbers is that the membership has plateaued instead of dropped. Kirsten also

mentioned the AQHA Lead Program for 18-30 year old's who want to see how AQHA policy making works. There is also another program called AQHA University. Contact Kristen or go to the AQHA website for more information. She also encouraged trainers to get involved in the Pro Horseman program.

- Janet Hanson - Show Committee - Show Format and Guideline Subcommittee.

Janet talked about what the Show committee does and how it works and thanked the membership and board for everything.

- Jim Hunt - AQHA Executive Committee

Composed a ranching council to revise the ranch heritage award guidelines to not make it so political.

Also, talked about revising the fee for changing papers to make it higher. Talked to the AQHA Executive Committee to reduce that rate.

Jim Hunt introduced Karl Stressman

Jim Hunt introduced Frank Merrill

General membership comments and questions

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

New Business

1). By Law changes

Presented on the website. Janet Hansen made a motion to move the By-law changes. Dean Johnson seconded. A unanimous approval was made by the general membership.

2.) State Director Nominations and Elections

- i. East – Bob Carr
- ii. West – Belynn Johner
- iii. Central – Mindy Hubert

iv. At Large - Sheila Prins

Kirsten Gonsoir made a motion to approve the state director nominations. Larry Larson seconded. A unanimous approval was made by the general membership.

4). 2023 Show Dates

Presented on the SDQHA website.

Adjourn meeting

Dean Johnson made a motion to adjourn the general meeting. Bob Quickstad seconded. A unanimous approval was made by the general membership.