



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Part I

January 3rd, 2026 7:30 pm CDT

Zoom

I. Call to Order by President Bob Carr at 7:30 pm CDT

II. Roll Call by Jodie Svennes

Members present were:

Dakota Karber
Bob Carr
Jim Hootman
Jodie Svennes
Janet Hansen
Kristen Gonsoir
Georgia Sutton
Mindy Hubert
Amanda Dikoff
Jim Hunt
LeAnn Bender
Sheila Prins
JD Lauing
Heather Sutton
Randy Guggisberg
Jo Lynn Jacobson
?

III. Secretary's Report by Jodie Svennes

Shelby Holmes was unable to attend the meeting, so Jodie Svennes read the minutes. Amanda Dikoff made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as read. Sheila Prins seconded. Carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report by Jodie Svennes

General Account: \$20,527.18
Show Account: \$16,782.87
Total Funds: \$37,279.55

Jodie Svennes would like to bring attention to the website cost. The association pays for a 3-year subscription through Wix.com that is usually around \$648. In 2023, Jodie found a 50% off coupon and was able to get the 3 year subscription for around \$313.72. The 50% off coupon is only available to use one time. Now, the website costs have increased to \$846 for a 3-year subscription as of January 13th, 2026, when our fee is due. Jodie states that Region 2 uses Weebly for their website creation, which is \$528 for 2 years.

Dakota Karber stated that she used to do website things for Agtegra and states she would be willing to gather up some quotes and ideas before the January 10th portion of the meeting.

Jodie will have a full report at the in-person meeting on January 10th, 2026.

We also need to discuss possibly making a switch from Zoom to another mode of communication, like Microsoft teams, to cheapen up another part of the budget.

Amanda Dikoff made a motion to approve the financial report as of right now. LeAnn Bender seconded. Carried.

V. Committee Reports

A. Grievance - Chair Bob Carr

No grievances to report.

B. Audit - Chair Sheila Schelske

Sheila Schelske was not present to give a report.

C. Nominating - Chair Amanda Dikoff

Bob Carr received an email this morning that Sammy Ryan (West) is resigning from the Board of Directors. Dee Haugen has expressed an interest in joining the board, which would fill Sammy's position. Sheila Schelske's (Central) term is also up. Sydney Gray from Ridgeview, SD has expressed an interest in joining the board, which could fill Sheila's position.

Jodie Svennes will send Amanda Dikoff the membership list to approve that these two candidates are current members as of last year.

VI. Task Force Committees

A. Youth - Chair Debbi Holmes-Stockstill

Debbi Holmes-Stockstill was not present to give a report.

B. Membership - Chair Sheila Schelske

Sheila Schelske was not present to give a report.

C. Fundraising/ Point System - No chair (Sheila Schelske)

a. Arena Drag Raffle - Sheila Prins

Sheila Prins stated that the association has made roughly \$3000 off the arena drag raffle. Sheila did a facebook live and had her granddaughter draw the winning ticket. The winner will also have a full-page ad in this year's directory. Our expenses were around \$2300 which includes the drag, mailing, postage, etc. The question now is where these funds go. General fund? Year-end awards? This will be discussed more in Pierre during the January 10th meeting.

Options are being thrown out regarding doing another raffle and possibly having a page on the website to have more access for people to purchase tickets. A segway was thrown out as a possible raffle item, which are around \$375-700 each. Sheila Prins also mentioned possibly raffling \$1000 off the winner's bill at the Brookings Summer Shootout.

The plan as of right now is to get something going for this spring as people are more out and about at shows to be able to sell more tickets.

VII. Show Committee

The show committee has no updates at this time besides possibly decreasing the Aberdeen shows by choosing to either do the novice show or the ranch show. More updates to come as the year goes on.

VIII. Banquet Committee - Jim Hunt

Jim Hunt states that the committee expects another great turnout at this year's banquet and stresses his gratitude to Jodie Svenes for all of her hard work with the book keeping and the ins and outs of everything needed to make this event what it is. AQHA CEO Karl Stressman, South Dakota Governor Larry Roden, and past Miss Rodeo America Callie Mueller will all be in attendance. Everything has been sent in to print. 27 tables are sold and around 297 tickets are purchased as of right now. The committee expects to have around 375 to 400 people in attendance. The weather, as of right now, looks to be in our favor.

Jim Hootman states that we have hats, boots, a rifle, a shotgun, and some jeans to raffle off and for the live auction.

There will also be a coloring book available for any kids that will be there to color and to enter into a coloring contest where they will be brought up on stage during the banquet. Debbi Holmes-Stockstill and Wayne Stockstill have a big surprise that will be announced during the banquet regarding the contest. Stay tuned!

It is also important to attend the Sunday morning Church Service at 9:30am, where Callie Mueller will give a special testimony, John Kaiser will preach, and Tracy Bauer will be on guitar.

The committee is still in need of an auctioneer for the live auction. Jim Hunt has contacted some people but no official plans have been made.

Bob Carr mentioned Gage Gullickson, grandson of Joe Waldner, to possibly come and be an auctioneer. Jim Hootman offered to have Gage sit at his table so his meal is paid for.

If there are any other ideas for auctioneers, please let the banquet committee know.

Adjourn Meeting

Georgia Sutton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dakota Karber seconded. Carried.

Meeting will resume in-person at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre, SD on January 10th, 2026 at 8:00am



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Part II

**January 10th, 2026 8:00 am CDT
Ramkota Hotel Pierre, SD**

- I. Call to Order** by President Bob Carr at 8:00 am CDT
- II. Roll Call** by Shelby Holmes

Bob Carr
Jim Hootman
Debbi Holmes- Stockstill
Dakota Karber
Jodie Svenes
Sheila Prins
Heather Sutton
JD Lauing
Jim Hunt
Dean Johnson
Sheila Schelske
Kirsten Gonsior

Janet Hansen
Randy Guggisberg
Amanda Dikoff
Dee Haugen (not a current board member)
Jo Lynn Jacobson
BeLynn Johner
LeAnn Bender

III. Old Business

A) Audit - Jodie Svenes

Sheila Schelske reported the audit had not been done yet. Her term as BOD/Vice President is coming to an end but said she could stay on the audit committee as one of the non-board members needed to get the audit complete with the new Vice President.

B) Affiliate Agreement

Janet Hansen makes a motion to approve the affiliate agreement with AQHA. Dr. Heather Sutton seconded. Carried.

C) Directory

Dakota Karber is willing to help Jodie Svenes with the directory this year and is going to be the primary person on it. Dakota has a degree in Ag Business so she will be a valuable asset to SDQHA and Jodie Svenes in making this year's directory. Some ads have already come in so it is important to get your ads into either Dakota Karber or Jodie Svenes and payment to Jodie Svenes by February 15th, 2026. The inside front cover, centerfold, and inside back cover will be auctioned off at the banquet later tonight.

IV. New Business

A) Budget

Account Balances:

General: \$19,196.64

Show: \$16,752.37

Total: \$35,949.01

Profit for 2025 was \$2,253.00, which was a little over double the profit we made in 2024.

A \$2,500 grant from AQHA was utilized to support membership growth initiatives. Jodie Svenes' plans on applying for another \$2,500 grant through AQHA this year.

It was noted that printing costs have increased due to rising ink prices, if any board members have ways to reduce printing costs please let Jodie Svennes know.

To reduce expenses and improve convenience, a suggestion was made to transition from Zoom to Microsoft Teams, particularly since AQHA already uses this platform. Those present expressed general agreement with switching to Microsoft Teams.

There was continued discussion regarding the long-standing issue of 50-cent fees versus flat show fees. The association previously moved away from 50-cent fees in favor of a flat fee structure, though the Black Hills Stock Show continues to remit the 50-cent fees collected to the association. The board discussed whether it is worthwhile to continue this arrangement, noting broader concerns about identifying the tipping point between encouraging participation and maintaining profitability.

The importance of sponsorships was emphasized, as sponsors play a critical role in supporting both shows and the association overall. It was noted that sponsors tend to follow income streams, making increased visibility and publicity essential. Discussion focused on the need to add value to sponsorships through consistent social media presence, improved website engagement, and the possible use of a year-round social media manager. Delegation and volunteer involvement were also highlighted as key to sustaining engagement, with the goal of keeping members interacting with association content on a weekly basis.

It was acknowledged that changes to fee structures or agreements with the Black Hills Stock Show are not feasible for the current year; however, there remains an opportunity to implement changes for the Brookings Summer Shootout. Kristen Gonsoir made a motion to keep fees as they currently stand and to table show approval fee discussions until the Spring meeting. Sheila Prins seconded. Carried.

Additional discussion encouraged creative thinking in how awards are presented and how sponsorship dollars are utilized. Suggestions included alternatives to flag or banner sponsorships, such as short-go shirts at rodeos, branded T-shirts, jackets, and other items that maximize impact while remaining cost-effective.

Bob Carr emphasized the need for increased member involvement and that broader participation is needed. Kristen Gonsoir reiterated that no individuals are in trouble and emphasized that every member is valued, noting that the success of the association depends on collective effort.

Regarding contract labor, an annual expense of \$4,800 (\$400 per month) was presented. Sheila Prins made a motion to approve this expense. Amanda Dikoff seconding. Carried. Sheila emphasized that Jodie will be compensated on a monthly basis rather than annually.

Kristen Gonsoir then made a motion to approve the budget. Sheila Prins seconded. Carried.

Finally, it was noted that a presidential checklist will be created and passed on to future presidents and state directors to clearly outline responsibilities and expectations. Debbi Holmes-Stockstill is currently updating and revising the Board of Directors manual to provide guidance for new board members. Once completed, this manual will be posted on the SDQHA website.

B) Region 2

Janet Hansen made a motion to reaffirm Jodie Svennes and Belynn Johner as our Region 2 representatives as well as provide a \$500 sponsorship. Heather Sutton seconded. Carried.

C) Points Discussion

Bob Carr stated that he would like to form a small committee to spearhead this topic and recommended Janet Hansen serve as chair due to her extensive experience with points calculations. He also requested that Debbi Holmes-Stockstill serve on the committee because of her skill with bylaw wording. There was general agreement among those present to group awards into All-Around or High-Point and Reserve High-Point categories, with further discussion needed regarding the various divisions such as Rookie, Level 1, Amateur, Open, Youth, and Select Amateur.

Jo-Lynn Jacobson will calculate points this year under the guidance of Janet Hansen and Debbi Holmes-Stockstill. The committee has now been formed and will meet multiple times throughout the year to develop recommendations; all suggestions should be submitted to Janet Hansen for presentation to the committee, after which proposals will be brought back to the board.

JD Lauing proposed a potential fundraiser involving the raffle of a stallion fee, with further coordination to be handled by JD. Sheila Schelske made a motion to accept JD Lauing's proposal to raffle a stud fee to Stevie-Rey-Von, with board support for a 2027 contract; if a contract cannot be secured, an alternative stallion will be pursued. The motion was seconded by Amanda Dikoff. Carried.

Additionally, Amanda Dikoff made a motion for SDQHA to purchase two Nanobot Segways at approximately \$600 each to raffle at the Brookings Summer Shootout, with Sheila Prins agreeing to run this fundraiser again.

Jim Hootman came up with an idea to create a mini horse expo/convention at the banquet next year to celebrate 2026 being the year of the horse. Booths in the main foyer or demonstrations on dental or farrier work could be worked in. He states that this will be the state directors project. The National Directors are here to help and are a

phone call away but they don't want to change the state directors views. There will be inclusion and not exclusion of the National Directors.

It is important to note that Team Wrangler is free to us and would possibly be a good idea to have someone come in and talk about training styles, etc.

Sheila Schelske made a motion that the regular state board set a date to meet regularly (every month) and that they make this a priority for the next year to get this thing off the ground. We need all inputs from everyone on the board. Dean Johnson seconded. Carried.

Chair: Dakota Karber

Horse convention meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. CDT via Zoom; however, these meetings will not replace or count as the banquet meeting, and the banquet committee will continue to meet separately.

D) Adjourn meeting

Heather Sutton makes a motion to put this meeting into recess until after the annual membership meeting. Sheila Prins seconded. Carried.

E) Election of Officers

Dee Haugen has graciously agreed to take over the youth association as the new youth advisor.

- a. President:
 - i. Janet Hansen made a motion and nominated Bob Carr as President for the second year in a row. Kristen Gonsoir seconded that motion. Carried.
- b. Vice President:
 - i. Doris Lauing nominated Amanda Dikoff as Vice President and voted to move nominations to cease. Kristen Gonsoir seconded. Carried.