# Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association Board of Directors Meeting August 4, 2018 Winners Circle Church/Cafeteria Bossier City, LA 11:00 a.m.

# <u>Directors Present:</u> <u>Directors Absent:</u>

Jay Adcock Jim Montgomery
Brett Brinkman Michele Rodriguez
Charlotte Clavier

Carrol Castille

Jake Delhomme

Tom Early
Danny Guidry

Others Present:

Warren Harang III John Adams Michelle LaVoice Alex Bonin Neal McFadden Ed Fenasci

Val Murrell

Roger Heitzmann

Mike McHalffey

Linda McLellan

Linda McLellan
Bill May
James Segura
Kenneth Weaver
Fred Willis
John Willis
Mike Whitler

Warren Harang III requested that Roger Heitzmann call the roll. Not in attendance were Jim Montgomery and Michele Rodriguez.

Warren asked Jake Delhomme to lead us in prayer.

Warren asked for nominations for the position of President of the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association. Charlotte Clavier nominated Warren to serve as President. Tom Early seconded the motion. With no objections and no additional nominations, Warren Harang III was elected President for the 2018-2019 year.

Warren opened the floor for nominations to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Tom nominated Jake Delhomme. This nomination was seconded by Danny Guidry. Hearing no objections or any additional nominations, Jake Delhomme was elected to serve as 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice President for the 2018-2019 year.

Warren then requested nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Jake Delhomme made a motion to nominate Brett Brinkman as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Tom seconded the motion, and hearing no

objections and no additional nominations the motion carried and Brett was elected  $2^{nd}$  Vice President.

Warren requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held on June 11, 2018. Roger noted a mistake made in the minutes, pointing it out to the Board. Danny made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with the re-worded correction. This motion was seconded by Tom Early, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Warren introduced our newly elected Board Member, Carrol Castille, to the members of the board. Carrol thanked the Board and the members of the association, vowing to do his best for the organization. Roger then for the record asked the Board to thank Nathan Granger for his years of service to the organization.

The Board of Directors then presented their Conflict of Interest Polices to Roger Heitzmann of which he read aloud to the members and audience present:

Jake Delhomme: he owns 12.5 % of the stallions Calibrochoa and Redding Collier who are standing at Red River Farm with Jay Adcock. He buys supplies from board members Carrol Castille's Ranch Outlet as well as Stemmans Supply operated by Charlotte Stemmans Clavier. He also breeds and boards mares at members of the boards farms.

Warren Harang: He boards and breeds at Clear Creek Stud.

Brett Brinkman: owns and operates Brett Brinkman's Training Stable as well as Le Mesa Stallions. In this he provides services to members and board members of the LTBA who are in the racing and breeding industry.

Val Murrell: Owns and operates Clear Creek Stud. Val does business with most of the members of the board as well as many members of the association. These services include but are not limited to breeding, hauling, boarding, breaking, etc. His daughter Michelle LaVoice is the Farm Manager and is also a member of the board.

Michelle LaVoice: She is the Farm Manager of Clear Creek Stud, working for her father who also is a member of the board. She also owns and breeds thoroughbred mares.

Danny Guidry: Partner in the Law Firm of Guidry & Guidry, a Director of Home Bank, a partner in DocAtty Stables, a member in the LLC Brett Carrol & Friends Racing and an owner of a percentage of the stallion Court Vision. He buys equipment from Ranch Outlet, as well as Stemmans Supply. He is also a share holder in Equine Sales of Louisiana.

Neal McFadden: Stockholder in Equine Sales of Louisiana. He owns mares in partnership with Jay Adcock, as well as boarding these mares at Jay Adcock's Red River Farm. He is also a partner owning stallion shares with Jay Adcock, Jim Montgomery, and Jake Delhomme.

Carrol Castille: owns Ranch Outlet serving many of the horsemen as well as members of the board. Carrol also owns and operates Whispering Oaks Farm as well as Castille Racing handling the business of many members of the association as well as members of the board.

Charlotte Clavier: President of Stemmans Inc., as well as Vice President of Traders Rest Farm Inc. She has business dealings with most of the members of the association as well as most of the board of directors. She is Vice President of the Louisiana HBPA and the Treasurer of the

Racetrack Employee Assistance Program. She also oversees the HBPA Pension Program as well the Insurance Program.

Tom Early: Owns a share in the stallion Custom for Carlos who stands at Clear Creek Stud. He owns a share in the stallion Apriority, who stands at Elite. Tom has business dealings with Ranch Outlet, Stemmans Supply, Whispering Oaks Farm and Equine Sales of Louisiana.

Jay Adcock: Owns and operates Red River Farm with his wife Terry and son Brandon. He boards, breeds, and sells to many members of the association as well as members of the board. He is partners with board members Neal McFadden, Jim Montgomery and Jake Delhomme in mares as well as stallions. He is also a share holder in Equine sales of Louisiana.

Roger Heitzmann: His brother Eric trains a public stable. His brother Mike is the General Manager of Stone Bridge Farm in Lexington, KY. His brother David is the Director of Racing at Harrah's Louisiana Downs.

Linda McLelland: She occasionally does freelance photography and design work. Some of her clients have been members of the board past and present.

Loretta Romero: She and her husband own and operate Romero Farm that boards and rehabilitates thoroughbreds for members of the association. She is also Vice President of the Backstretch Benevolent Fund.

Beverly Mayard: She has no conflicts

Therese Arroyo: She is a director of Louisiana Horse Rescue as well a Director of the St. Rita Finance Board.

Michelle Salvino: Is a part time clocker with the Fair Grounds Race Course.

Rachel Gandy: She has no conflicts.

Warren continued with the meeting introducing attorney Mr. Alex Bonin. Mr. Bonin is an attorney who operates a Law-Firm in the city of New Orleans. He is familiar with horse racing as he is an avid fan of the sport. He is also the son of a Judge Paul Bonin, who operated as the Attorney for the Association for many years. The Executive Committee spoke about the replacing of Mr. Ross Brupbacher who requested to Warren that we find a replacement due to health issues. Warren asked the Board to approve him as our new attorney. Tom made the motion to hire Mr. Bonin as our new attorney. This motion was seconded by Charlotte Clavier, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### **By-Law: Val Murrell – Chairman**

Val requested that the report be moved to the end of the meeting and spoke about in Executive Session.

## Finance & Audit: Tom Early – Chairman

Tom asked if everyone had received their Financial Statements for the month ending June 30, 2018. Everyone acknowledged they had so we proceeded. Tom requested Roger Heitzmann hit on a few points as to where we stand through the first half of the year. Roger presented the

financials to the board. Charlotte commented on the new look of the main office at the Fair Grounds and how fresh it looks.

Roger then proceeded to explain the budget for the year. After presenting the budget he asked for three line items in the budget to be adjusted.

First, Roger requested that the budget for Bank and Credit Card fees be adjusted to reflect the amount of processing done on line. He requested it be adjusted from \$350 to \$1000. Tom made the motion to adjust the budget accordingly. The motion was seconded by Carrol Castille, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Secondly, Roger requested that the Budget reflect the monies needed for the improvements made to the Fair Grounds office as well as other expenses. He requested the budget reflect an amount of \$25000. Michelle LaVoice made the motion to increase the budget on maintenance and repairs to \$25000. The motion was seconded by Jake Delhomme, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Scholarships were the last item addressed. Due to timing we were going to show by the end of the year that we spent \$14000 on scholarship donations. Roger requested that the budget reflect this do to the timing as well as the co-op with the Fair Grounds. Tom Early made the motion to adjust the budget adding the \$4000 needed to be reflected. Warren Harang seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Discussion then took place about the scholarship program. The board appointed our new attorney Alex Bonin to look into a better way to award and distribute scholarship monies.

Tom Early made a motion to approve the financials and amendments as presented. This motion was seconded by Michelle Lavoice, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

## Government Affairs: Jake Delhomme - Chairman

Jake had no report for this meeting. Discussion took place on Sports Gamming. After the discussion Charlotte Clavier made a motion that the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association awards an Honorary Lifetime Membership to the Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Mike Strain, and House of Representatives' Member Major Thibaut for their tireless effort working on behalf of our industry. Tom Early seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

## **Grievance: Michele LaVoice – Chairperson**

Michelle requested that this be discussed in Executive Session.

## Inspection: Brett Brinkman - Chairman

Brett asked that we discuss in Executive Session in conjunction to the Grievance Committee.

## LTBA/HBPA Liaison Committee: Val Murrell – Chairman

Val yielded the floor to the Executive Director of the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protection Association (HBPA). Subjects such as summer racing in Louisiana, the numbers involved, legislative happenings on the HBPA side, were discussed by all, including members in attendance. No decisions were made, however more information was shared enabling us to work together in the future.

#### LTBA/LSRC: Jake Delhomme – Chairman

Jake informed the board that everything he wanted to speak about was already covered.

# Membership & Nominating Committee: Charlotte Clavier - Chairperson

Charlotte informed the board that the election went well. She welcomed Carroll Castille to the board as its newest member and thanked Nathan Granger for the time that he served. Warren congratulated the members of the board who were reelected to serve another term.

#### PAC Committee: Michele Rodriguez - Chairperson

Michele was not present for the meeting and there was no report for this meeting.

# Salary & Benefits: Tom Early - Chairman

Tom informed that he had nothing to report.

Warren asked that the guests attending please introduce themselves.

#### **New Business:**

Neal McFadden brought up a change that was made a couple of years ago in an effort to cut cost. We had eliminated the inspection of mares of members of the board on a regular basis as they are officers of the association and obligated to report any violation made that they were aware of. Failure to do so would mean a more substantial penalty for the board member then a regular member of the association who is not an officer of the association. After discussion Charlotte made a motion that the mares or stallions owned by members of the board be included in the percentage of mares that the inspector will keep tabs on. This motion was seconded by Val Murrell., which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Warren called for Executive Session. Michele LaVoice seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Jake Delhomme made a motion to end Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Carrol Castille, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

In Executive Session Val Murrell Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, spoke to the board of the declining numbers of Louisiana breds and asked what we can do to prevent it. Val feels that the restrictions placed on breeders by our by-laws need to be addressed. Val brought several ideas to the board which resulted in excited conversation. However it was obvious that some change may need to happen. The door was left open for further discussion on domicile requirements, percent of breeders' awards, requirements to breed, exit plans, sale mares, and mare registration.

Michele LaVoice the Chairperson of the Grievance Committee presented three Grievances to board. The first grievance was discussed was brought to the board by Richard Klein and Lora Pitre. After Michelle's presentation a motion was made by Tom Early to disallow the grievance. Mr. Klein would have to become a regular member of the association and register the mares in question at the regular registration price. Carol Castille seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

The grievance requested by Carl Moore was then presented. After discussion Brett Brinkman made a motion that the grievance is denied and the filly in question not be allowed to make up futurity payments. This motion was seconded by Jake Delhomme, which was voted on and passed unanimously

The third grievance involved Jon Dean and Jason Hall. Roger read a letter to the association from Mr. Dean and presented the documentation received by the association in association with the mare and foal. After discussion the board decided that the grievance be denied. Charlotte Clavier made a motion that the mare would have to register with the association with Jon Dean as the owner at the regular mare registration price and pay a fine of \$200 for leaving the program early. Neal McFadden seconded this motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

#### **Old Business:**

There was no old business to attend to.

# Date, Time, and Place of next Board of Directors Meeting

October 2, 2018 at Landry's Seafood House, Breaux Bridge LA at 12:00pm

Charlotte made a motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Jay Adcock, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger A. Heitzmann III