## Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association Board of Directors Meeting August 20, 2021 Equine Sales Company Opelousas, LA 1:30 P.M.

#### **Directors Absent:**

# **Others** Present

Therese Arroyo Alex Bonin John Duvieilh Paul Frank Phillip Frank Roger Heitzmann Tommy Hewett Jim Montgomery Linda McLellan Michele Rodriguez Phillip Stelly Ken Venable

Warren Harang III called the meeting to order. Warren asked Roger Heitzmann to call the roll of members of the Board. A quorum was present. The meeting was ready to proceed with business.

Jake Delhomme led us in prayer.

Warren asked the Board what was their pleasure to the minutes of the July 8, 2021 meeting. Tom Early made a motion to accept the minutes with a correction of a typo spotted by Val Murrell. Val also asked if the minutes could be more detailed. Michele LaVoice seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously. Roger Heitzmann informed the Board that adjustments to the minutes can be made with a notice to the office before the meeting then presented as such.

Roger informed that the Jazz Fest at the Fair Grounds has been cancelled. With that cancellation the races on Louisiana Champions Day will go back to their original format. However, members of the Board expressed interest that we make the Filly and Mare Turf return to the Ladies Distaff which was run on the dirt surface. Roger gave the Board all the facts that he had concerning this matter. Discussion took place on this subject. Brett Brinkman made a motion to move the ladies race back to the dirt. This motion was seconded by Carrol Castille and was voted on by a roll call vote. The result returned was 9 for, 2 against. Jake Delhomme and David Tillson were the members against with Charlotte Clavier not in attendance at this time.

#### **Directors Present:**

Jay Adcock Brett Brinkman Carrol Castille Charlotte Clavier Jake Delhomme Tom Early Danny Guidry Warren Harang III Keith Hernandez Michele LaVoice Val Murrell David Tillson Warren made note that Carrol Castille and Michele Rodriguez arrived just prior to the Agenda item being addressed.

Tom Early gave a report about the BSCOL Sale. Tom spoke of the numbers as well of supplemental numbers he expects, the repository, as well as workers. Warren thanked him for the report.

The next item on the agenda was donations to REAP and BBF. Roger informed the Board that it was taken care of already. There was no objection from the Board.

The following item was the subject of the Louisiana Bred Tap Dance Star. Roger explained to the Board that this was a Louisiana Bred thoroughbred that competed in a race at Colonial Downs over the hurdles. The question arose as to whether or not we would pay breeders awards. Roger informed the board that many years ago we did pay these awards based on the fact that it was a thoroughbred race. We paid these awards as if it was just a race, not a stake, and they were paid out of the Out-Of-State Breeders Awards. The board agreed to continue this practice.

Warren at this time asked that we move out of sequence and on to the Membership Committee Report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

### Membership Committee: No Chair at this Time

Roger presented the report from the Membership Committee as it currently does not have a chairperson. The Membership Committee has had two meetings since the last Board Meeting. In the first meeting they agreed that a person voting on behalf of an LLC or Partnership must be 50% owner of the company in order to vote for that company. The committee voted unanimously that the office staff be allowed to process memberships and other paperwork in the same manner we have in the past. The committee unanimously agreed to continue to let companies be members of the LTBA with the approval of the board, with by-law changes that the committee will be suggesting to the by-law committee. The request is that on next year's form the signing person states the percent of ownership of the company he/she has, and that person must be at least a 50% owner in order to vote. Actively engaged is very important to the membership committee and the committee is searching for a way to determine actively engaged easier that how we currently do it.

In a second meeting the Membership Committee approved the minutes of the previous meeting. The committee reaffirmed that businesses or partnerships with tax ID's be considered members of the organization. The committee could not see that persons who took the time to get the tax ID's and forms to protect themselves as well as protecting their families and seek financial advantages, be denied the ability to operate this way in order to be a member of the association. The committee fully believes that people are assets to the association, and everything the LTBA does should be to welcome them and not to try to push them away. The committee stresses to the By-Law Committee that they change the by-law to that the voting member of these companies be at least 50% owners of these companies in order to vote. The committee feels that the person voting shall be one and the same as the company. For example Set-Hut is Jake Delhomme, and Jake Delhomme is Set-Hut. Red River Farm is Jay Adcock and Jay Adcock is Red River Farm. The committee unanimously voted that TOBA winners and Honorary Lifetime members did not have the right to vote given to them by previous boards. It was determined that they were not actively engaged in breeding, therefore their voting right should and will be removed. The committee went over the membership list and determined who shall have the right to vote in this upcoming

election. The committee determined who should and who shouldn't have the right to vote. In the end the committee was in complete agreement of all the conclusions made. The committee unanimously approved the list of members and the list of voting members being presented to the board today. The committee feels that they did their due diligence in compiling these lists for members of the association ending June 30, 2021. The committee unanimously feels that the board should move forward with the election in 2021 using the list provided. The members instructed staff that members not approved will not be sent a ballot and they would not be notified of any removals.

Alex Bonin suggested that we first put to the Board the question as to whether or not we accept the recommendations of the Membership Committee. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Membership Committee. Tom Early seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously by a roll call vote of both the members of the board as well as their special guests, James Montgomery and Michele Rodriguez.

Next, the board was asked if they approve the membership list as presented by the Membership Committee. Michelle LaVoice made the motion to accept the membership list as presented. Brett Brinkman seconded the motion, which went to a roll call vote. All members of the board as well as their invited special guests voted unanimously to approve the membership list.

Next, the Board entertained the voting list which was sent to the board from the Membership Committee. Charlotte Clavier raised a question as to two members on the list. The first question was that Mr. Don Hargroder was listed twice with two different farms. One farm has his secretary listed as the voter. The other was that the membership of Brittlyn currently has a secretary voting as well. It was put to the board in a roll call vote to remove the two votes in question, leaving the principal owners as the only ones with voting rights. Also it was brought to the attention of the board that Tin Roof Racing has the owner who recently died listed as the voter. The request is that he be removed and replaced with his wife. Charlotte made the motion to accept the three changes to the voting list mentioned and approve the voting list. This motion was seconded by Michelle LaVoice which was followed by a roll call vote. All members of the board and their special guests voted to accept the changes as well as accept the voting list.

#### By-Law: Val Murrell: No Chair at This Time

Roger had no report for this meeting

## Finance & Audit: Tom Early: Chairman

Tom turned the floor over to Therese Arroyo for a presentation. Therese presented the IRS 990 to the members of the Board. After addressing the Board she asked for questions. Hearing none she moved forward to the Financials ending 06/30/21. She explained the numbers as well as what was real as opposed to timing issues. Hearing no questions, she presented the budget to actual as of 06/30/21. After hearing no questions she gave a brief explanation on the new computer system and where it stands at this time. She asked for approval of the financials. Carrol Castille made a motion to accept the financials as presented. This motion was seconded by Val Murrell, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

#### **Election Committee: No Chair at This Time**

Roger reported on an Election Committee meeting held on 7/26/21. The committee addressed the date that the membership year would conclude for voting purposes. The committee decided June 30, 2021 would end the membership roll year for the right to vote. The membership year would be the 2020/2021 voting on this election. They discussed how many elections and who would be the candidates for that election. After discussion they determined there would be one election,

with the persons whose term ended in 2021 to be the candidates on the board who will have to seek reelection. This was voted on and passed unanimously by the committee.

The members of the committee then looked to who would conduct the election. Discussion took place. A question was raised as to whether or not the business who has conducted our elections in the past had any family connections in Louisiana. After confirmation that MK Elections had no connections to any of our members, it was determined that MK Elections once again conduct our election. This was voted on and passed unanimously.

The Election Committee asks that the Board vote to approve the Membership Year End, the year of the election to be used, and the company selected to conduct the election. Tom Early made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Election Committee as stated. This motion was seconded by Val, which was voted on by a roll call vote. It was approved unanimously.

The committee concluded that as soon as we can confirm the membership and voting list, we should have our election as quickly as possible.

Charlotte made a motion to approve the election schedule. Tom Early seconded this motion, which was voted on by a roll call vote. All were in favor of accepting the election schedule.

Alex made a note that we attach the schedule to the minutes.

Nominations were then taken from the members of the board as well as the Election Committee.

Nominations at this time are:

Jay Adcock	Michele LaVoice	Roy Zuppardo
Carrol Castille	Jim Montgomery	
Jake Delhomme	William Reed	
Tommy Hewitt	Michele Rodriguez	

Charlotte made a motion to accept these nominations as suggested. This motion was seconded by Jay Adcock, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

#### **Government Affairs: Jake Delhomme – Chairman**

Roger notified the board of conversations he has had with members of the Racing Commission and of the Legislature concerning talks on the new types of horse racing games. He has been told that as soon as some T's are crossed and some I's doted, we will be learning more. He was told to sit tight for now. Much discussion took place on the tracks, who is cooperating and who is not cooperating with the moving forward of recently passed laws.

#### Grievance Committee: Michelle LaVoice – Chairperson

Michelle had no report for this meeting.

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

Discussion took place on the HBPA and their pressing of the tracks to improve themselves moving forward. Purses in the future as well as the availability of stall space available were discussed. Covid restrictions were also discussed.

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

No report for this meeting that hasn't already been discussed.

## Inspection Committee: Brett Brinkman – Chairman

There was no report for this meeting

**Pac Committee: Keith Hernandez – Chairman** There is no report for this meeting.

**Salary and Benefits: Tom Early – Chairman** Tom had no report for this meeting.

**New Business:** Nothing to report

**Old Business:** Nothing to report

Discussion took place on the amount of mares using the new rules.

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

Jake made a motion to exit Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Michele LaVoice, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Tom made a motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Michele LaVoice, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

## Date, Time, Place, of the Next Board of Directors Meeting:

October 15, 2021, 1:30 at the Ranch Outlet Location

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger A. Heitzmann III

August 11, 2021

# **BY FAX or E-MAIL**

 To: Election Committee
Val Murrell, Tom Early, Keith Hernandez, Charlotte Clavier, Warren Harang (President)
From: Roger A. Heitzmann III
Re: Election Schedule

## Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association Board of Directors Election Outline 2021 Tentative Schedule

August 20, 2021 - Nominations due from Election Committee and Board

August 30, 2021 – Send letter to membership announcing nominees and asking for nominees from the membership

September 20, 2021 – Nominees due from membership with resume and picture

September 21, 2021- Members of the Election Committee will verify that the members running for a position on the board have the right to do so

October 15, 2021 – Mail ballots and resumes no later than this date

November 15, 2021 – Count Ballots