

**Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 31, 2015
Evangeline Downs
Opelousas, Louisiana
3:00 P.M.**

Directors Present:

Brett Brinkman
Charlotte Clavier
Jake Delhomme
Jeff Delhomme
Bobby Duhon
Thomas B. Early
Michelle LaVoice
Neal McFadden
Jim Montgomery
Val Murrell
Michele Rodriguez

Directors Absent:

Jay Adcock
Keith Myers

Others Present:

Therese Arroyo
Ross Brupbacher
Julie Calzone
Roger Heitzmann III
Mary McFadden
Allen Peltier
Loretta Romero
Mike Whitler

Tom Early called the meeting to order and asked Loretta Romero to call the roll. A quorum was present and the meeting was ready to proceed with business.

Jake Delhomme led us in prayer.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 7, 2015 meeting. Val Murrell seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Roger explained the Thoroughbred Charities of America award of merit. Their request is that the LTBA participate by selecting an individual, organization or group that provides a better life for thoroughbreds after their racing career. This person or persons will be recognized at our next annual meeting. Val Murrell made a motion to select Louisiana Horse Rescue and have the president of the group accept the award at our annual meeting. Michelle LaVoice seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Each year the Board of Directors selects someone to be recognized by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders of America as the outstanding owner/breeder from the State of Louisiana. After the ballots were counted it was announced Charlie Smith was selected as the TOBA recipient.

The board voted on the overall "Horse of the Year" and the winner will be announced at our annual meeting.

Committee Reports:

By-Law: Val Murrell – Chairman

Val asked Ross Brupbacher to read the drafted amendment for Section 2 Part B.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to accept the by-law changes as read by our attorney. Bobby Duhon seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Val asked for the stallion eligibility to be made clearer in our by-laws. He would like to see some wording which considers pensioned stallions and whether or not they are still eligible. He requested that Attorney Ross Brupbacher to rewrite this section for clarification. The board decided they will readdress this at the next meeting.

Tom Early asked the minutes to reflect Michele Rodriguez as a late arrival.

Finance & Audit: Charlotte Clavier – Chairperson

Charlotte reported on the debts owed to the LTBA through Louisiana Horse and the time trying to collect outstanding bills. Bobby Duhon made a motion to write these debts off as uncollectable. Brett Brinkman seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Charlotte explained we will have financial statements at our next meeting.

Roger Heitzmann informed the board as to the number of Louisiana bred races being run at our tracks as well as the number of open races being won by Louisiana Breds. Board Members were informed that with the number of races increasing it has a direct effect in the amount of breeders' awards being paid and that is shown on the bottom line. He suggested that the board come up with ideas for the future. If any member of the board has an idea, please forward it to the staff and they will work the numbers for you.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to have an executive retreat at 10:00 a.m. before our annual board meeting to discuss the financials. Michelle LaVoice seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Events: Michele Rodriguez – Chairperson

Michele asked Roger to give her report. Roger stated the annual meeting will be held June 7, 2015 at Evangeline Downs in Mojo's lounge from 4:00 until 6:00. Trophies for non racers will be presented during the time we are in Mojo's with the remaining being presented between the races in the winner's circle.

Government Affairs: Jake Delhomme – Chairman

Jake reminded the board that the luncheon we sponsor for the Acadiana Caucus will be held on April 21, 2015 in Baton Rouge. Jake talked with Harry Benoit and there were no bills to be concerned about, the deadline for filing bills is April 1st.

Grievance: Jim Montgomery – Chairman

Jim had no report for this meeting.

Inspection: Jeff Delhomme – Chairman

Jeff had no report for this meeting.

Membership & Nominating – Jim Montgomery – Chairman

Jim reviewed the membership list. He provided a list of members in question to be reviewed for approval. The board entered into discussion on the lists. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to approve the members in question. Jake Delhomme seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Nominations from the board were as follows:

Haley Granger by Charlotte Clavier

Danny Guidry by Jake Delhomme

Lee Lange by Michele Rodriguez

Board members seeking re-election were as follows:

Jay Adcock

Jake Delhomme

Michelle LaVoice

Neal McFadden

Mr. Keith Myers will not be seeking re-election for the board due to his business commitments.

2015 – 2016 Membership Forms were presented by Roger to the board, and after discussion it was approved.

Salary & Benefits: Charlotte Clavier – Chairperson

Charlotte had no report for this meeting.

Technology: Michelle LaVoice – Chairperson

Michele reported the on-line computer forms were being worked on to simplify the procedure.

New Business:

Michele Rodriguez asked the board whether or not they could expel a member of the association if they were convicted of a felony, abuse, and cruelty of animals.

Michele was asked to bring a letter of request to the next board meeting. As well as a by-law revision that would incorporate such things as animal cruelty.

Old Business:

Nothing to report at this meeting.

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

June 6, 2015 at Evangeline Downs. The executive retreat will be held at 10:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. with the regular board meeting following. Annual awards will be held in Mojo's at 4:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Heitzmann III