

**Texas Hunter and Jumper Association
Board of Directors Annual Meeting Agenda
Saturday, January 6th, 2024 @ 10am
Via Zoom and In Person at Gillies**

Call to order by President – Vicki Hunton

1. Roll call by the Secretary – Brittany Sekanic
 - a. The highlighted below were present in meeting.

Suzanne Warmack
Colleen Brombach
Ariana Pettigrew
Robert Yaffe
Lynn Walsh

Susan McMorris
Katja Kallenberger
Bob Brawley
Seat 10
Katie Cox

Kim Cox
Kim Brunson
Vicki Hunton
Brittany Sekanic
Seat 15

Seat 16
Patty Roberts

2. Reading of the meeting minutes or election to waive reading
 - a. Waived
 - b. -motion Kim Cox
 - c. -second Katja
 - d. All in favor

3. Report of the Treasurer – Ariana Pettigrew

- a. Checking--\$45,150.96
- b. Savings--\$77,706.50
- c. Ed. Fund--\$26,924.48
- d. CD

- o And....as for the CD we'd approved setting up at the last meeting. I presented various banks to the finance committee but only Lindsay responded. Our choice was BMO (bank of Montreal) based on a high interest yield and reliability. However, the paperwork process was long and tedious (3 dozen documents), and it took them over 3 months to review it. They ultimately refused us because I'd missed the section where they requested references from any signer's (i.e. me and Vicki) personal banks; and also they insisted on 2 photo ids (and Vicki only had one).
- o I've spoken with Suzanne (on the Finance Committee) and Kim Cox (I thought she was on the committee instead of Bob); and our recommendation is to table opening a CD for the time being. We don't know how much the lawsuit might ultimately cost us, we won't lose that much in interest and if we closed a CD early, we'd actually have to pay a penalty, so it's probably better to keep the funds liquid.

- Also, please note that I have transferred \$45,000 from savings to checking over the past few weeks to cover banquet expenses. Some of those, such as the ribbons, have already been paid.
- Why a Canadian bank?
 1. Very reputable
 2. Back to prosperity?
 - a. Prosperity are now statewide
 3. Checking account was with Jacksboro(sp?)
 4. Currently our accounts are with university federal union
 - a. No monthly fees
 - b. Better interest rate for savings
 - c. Cannot do business investments which is why we need a CD
 - d. Signors are Vicki and Ari
 - e. Daily limit on debit card of \$7,500
 - f. Robert monitors all online sales
 - i. Next week there will be a deposit of \$10,000 and the following month of \$10,000 due to banquet and memberships
 5. We will table CD until after Lawsuit
 - a. Ally- an option? 4% interest on savings accounts

- Scholarship money
 1. We don't have a lot of people apply for the educational fund
 2. At one point we had a \$3 scholarship fee and money is sitting there
 3. Used some of this money for Matt Cyphert's kid who had the accident

- e. Lawsuit money
 - \$10,000 for retainer fee
 - Need at least \$20,000 to \$30,000 for lawsuit
- f. Banquet costs
 - Banquet ribbons - \$10,000
 - Prizes - \$8,000

4. Report of the President - Vicki Hunton

- a. Lawsuit - Kim Cox
 - Report from Dale
 1. USHJA Trial
 - a. Discussion with their Lawyer
 2. Hire a Lawyer
 3. 6 defendents – USHJA, USEF, THJA, Jessica Law, JNL Stables, Dylan Harries
 - a. Only ones to not respond Jessica Law and Dylan Harries
 4. JNL Stables is represented by Billy Shepherd
 - a. Turned in first discovery request
 - b. Dale had a meeting with USHJA Attorney

- i. Texas has a limited number of questions you can ask
- ii. California attorney was shocked
- iii. Teaming up on what questions so that we can get the most questions out there
- iv. JNL is most at risk then second USEF the third USHJA and THJA at bottom of list
- v. A lot of stuff will come forth during discovery
- vi. They have to prove we have breached the law to protect minors
 - 1. THJA's bylaws do not say anything about protecting minors
 - 2. Reading by Kim Cox the mission statement in bylaws
- vii. Docket Control Order on screen
 - 1. Probably no defendants brought into this case before June
 - 2. Discovery end date is September 16th
 - 3. all requests turned in by August 16th
 - 4. There has been no evidence turned into discovery that says we have breached. At that point we ask to be out of the lawsuit.
 - 5. We were in hopes that we would be thrown out but that did not happen.
 - 6. They got feel of what the Plaintiffs legal arguments are for pressing forward with the case; the judge said that the allegations could be proved thus the case is moving forward.
 - 7. Each defendant is limited to 14 questions in Texas. THJA sits back and waits to the end so we can ask questions that have not been asked yet.
 - 8. There are other cases open in California. They have more freedom with their questions.
- c. Going forward we need an attorney who specializes in fighting this type of case to go in court.
 - i. Keep Dale as a second lawyer on the case so he can report back to us and will save the club money.
 - ii. Lawyer has been the most helpful and giving of his time is Sandy Dowe
 - 1. \$10,00 retainer
 - 2. \$365 associate's fee
 - 3. His hourly is \$550
 - 4. Tessa Downey's father's recommendation
 - 5. Motion by Vicki to hire Sandy Dowe
 - a. Seconded Kim Brunson,
 - b. All in Favor
 - c. None opposed
 - d. No abstained

6. Kim will follow up on paperwork to hire
7. Motion by Vicki to hire Dale as second Lawyer
 - a. Seconded Kim Brunson,
 - b. All in Favor
 - c. None opposed
 - d. No abstained

8. Kim Cox will follow up on paperwork to hire the lawyers

- iii. There could be a second case coming up with Christian Heineking
 1. No paperwork or writing that can keep people from suing you.
 2. This trial will set precedent for a pattern on how to respond to these in the future.
 3. We have asked Dale to reach out to USHJA and USEF to tell us what other suits are happening in Texas.
- iv. Insurance- to have a writer to handle this?
 1. May not want one to have money available for this type of case.
 2. Second lawsuit to CHUBB for not representing us.
- v. Do we have a duty to give them our members educational seminars?
 1. Opens a can of worms and hold us reliable.
 2. Just an association that all we do is collect points and give awards thru banquet, give sponsorships and scholarships
 - a. Rewrite our language more to this point?
 - b. Check the website wording and bylaws wording.
 - c. Make your mission statement very blunt and take away anything with wording to safety.
- vi. We were served first unfortunately. Brittany is the one who is the registered secretary of state for THJA and would receive future lawsuits. We have been dissolved 3 times in the state of Texas for not having the proper paperwork in place. Paperwork is now in the google drive that has instructions to setting this up and making changes.

5. Report of the Rule Book Committee – Kim Brunson (Kim Brunson; Colleen Brombach, Ellen Eakin & Bob Brawley)

- a. Re-writing of mission statement to help avoid future lawsuits. See the above notes.
- b. Member Questions – Kim Brunson

- I want to show in long stirrup (18"-24") this year, however I'll technically be in my 3rd year of showing. The rule book says you have to be in the first 2 years to get a year end award. Just wanted to know if I could still be eligible before I tried to get a refund for my THJA membership.

Thanks! Susan Runnergirl.gilstrap@gmail.com

- Absolutely no refunds per THJA by-laws.
- Vicki motions to remove the 2 year rule for long stirrup for 2024 and onward.
 1. Kim seconded
 2. All in favor.
- Kim Brunson needs to fill out rule change form and send it to Robert Yaffe.
- Update Horse Show managers of this rule

6. Report of the Prize List Review Committee - Vicki Hunton (Vicki Hunton; Gayle O'Rear-Emeritus)

a. Draft an email to Horse Show Managers

- Prize list a week before the horseshow is a problem
 1. They need to send it in when they send to USEF or before
 2. Value to horse show managers to follow THJA rules
 - a. We review Prizelist before USEF and help find mistakes
 - b. We publish Prizelists
 3. Who should be approving the horse show dates
 - a. Show standards committee
 - b. USEF approves dates
 - c. Treasurer has been approving the shows as THJA
 - i. This is tentative approval
 - ii. We need to update the application for THJA approval to say TENTATIVE APPROVAL until prize list is received by 60 days before the start of the show.
 - iii. After receipt and approval of prize list there will be social media coverage.

7. Report of the Exhibitor Show Standards Committee - Lynn Walsh (Lynn Walsh; Colleen Brombach)

a. Nothing to report.

8. Report of the Finance Committee – Lindsey Black (Chair Vacant – was Lindsey Black; Ariana Pettigrew, Suzanne Warmack, Bob Brawley)

- a. Chair should be First VP – Kim Cox
- b. We hire someone to do our book keeping. They review once a month.
 - CPA is fired- not timely to tell us so then there is a chase down. Not great customer service.
- c. We would like to switch to Quickbooks Online

- d. CPA is \$700-\$800 to file taxes
 - e. Motion that Ari is going to research switching from quickbooks manual to quickbooks online when she is ready to change it.
 - o Bob seconds
 - o All in Favor
 - f. Finance committee has to remain because it is outlined in bylaws.
9. Report of the Sponsorship and Education Committee – Patty Roberts (Patty Roberts; Kim Brunson, Kim Cox & Suzanne Warmack)
- a. Patty is usually good at sending out notifications. We usually get requests for scholarships in the summer.
 - b. Patrick asked for THJA to donate \$10,000 money for a welcome party.
 - o Was not granted. Then asked for \$6,000 and was not granted.
 - o We did pay for medal finals ribbons for 2023 which cost about \$3,000
 - o We have 95% of the ribbons for 2024 medal finals
 - o We have some quarter sheets – at least 6 of them
 - o No date embroidery on future prizes
10. Report of the Nominating Committee – Katja Kallenberger (Katja Kallenberger; Suzanne Warmack)
- a. Resigning Members
 - o Matt Cyphert
 - o Lindsey Black
 - 1. Hate to see her dropping off the board
 - 2. Feel like she is integral to the organization
 - o Ellen Eakin
 - b. Nominees for 2024 vacancies
 - o Michelle Campbell-Greene is an avid equestrian and business owner. She currently competes in the lower hunter divisions and is committed to welcoming and creating a positive space for all equestrians. When not at the barn, she balances teaching with her two equestrian businesses, Show Fee Sticker Co and ManeStage Media. She has also served on the North Texas Hunter Jumper Club Board for the past three years.
 - o Valorie Garza

I am originally from San Antonio, Texas. I've been around horses my entire life. At a very young age I worked on a full 500-acre ranch with my grandfather. Once I was a little older competed in barrel racing, roping and trail competitions. I first started in the Hunter Jumper industry over twenty-five years ago. My career started as jump crew for Robert Barton at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center. I soon after met and worked with Patrick Rodes and Dave Morse at the Las Colinas Equestrian Center. I traveled for years working horse shows from west coast to east coast. I really enjoyed the people I had the opportunity in meeting and the horses are amazing! The early part of my career was spent running a gate and announcing hunter, jumper and reining shows across the country. In the later part of my career, I technical coordinated hunter and jumper horse shows for a handful of managers across the states. I was able to work alongside many great managers in the industry. I spent four years of my career Facility Managing & Show Managing for the Great Southwest Equestrian Center in Katy, Texas.

My greatest accomplishment, while at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center, was managing the Pin Oak Charity Horse Show in 2021. My proudest moment throughout my career was the first year managing the Woman in Business Spectacular. A show created and operated solely by woman.

I put my career on pause in late 2021 to 2023. In that time, I got married in March 2023 and focused on personal life. In September of 2023, I accepted a position with the Texas Rose Horse Park as Facility/ Show Manager and have been working here to date.

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- Brook Brombach

I am writing to express my interest in joining as a board member of the Texas Hunter Jumper Association. With over 10 years of experience in the horse industry, I may have different ideas and viewpoints that could be helpful to keep this organization flourishing and becoming the best version of itself. Having the opportunity to travel all over the nation to horse shows has helped me to learn how different organizations have been run that could potentially help this organization.

I am currently a Junior at Texas A&M University and am studying Sports Management while also balancing being a student-athlete on the D1 Texas A&M Equestrian team. Being on the team has helped me to learn more about reaching goals with the work of teamwork. Being on the equestrian team has helped to supplement my learning in my Sports Management major. This major has helped open my eyes to a lot of other sports and the ways that they have helped their organizations grow and evolve to our constant growth of sports. Many organizations around the world have created many solutions that the sports industry is facing, whether it's new technology, arguments of cheating, or as simple as making these sports more accessible to the average consumer. I would love to be able to use what I have learned so far to help this organization grow positively and create the spark that I remember it having when I was a junior. Growing up, I always looked forward to the THJA Banquets no matter what ribbon I received. I want to help get this spark back that I know THJA is capable of having for our future equestrian athletes.

With this all being said, I believe I would be a beneficial addition to the Texas Hunter Jumper Association. I am confident that I can help bring up new ideas or help to get tasks done that could benefit this organization. Please feel free to reach me by phone at (512-749-9326) or email me at (brooke.brombach@gmail.com). I appreciate your time and consideration and look forward to hearing from you.

1.

- Sophie Ruben

1. No write up

- c. Granting Emeritus

- Matt Cyphert and Lynn Walsh

1. Matt has been on the board for at least 10 years

- a. Been president twice and served on the board for over 20 years
- b. Would like to be an Emeritus but has not requested it.
- c. Table Emeritus until Lawsuit has been settled.

- Deceased Emeritus removed from website after 5 years of being deceased

1. Kim Cox will send to Robert to update website

11. Report of the THJA Annual Awards Banquet Committee - Vicki Hunton (Vicki Hunton; Kristen Woolery)

- a. Free Tickets to Board Members who help setup?
- b. Kristen Woolery

- 2023 Challenges

- 1. Need emails and evites to send banquet invites to have a better idea of banquet attendees

- a. Early bird pricing

- 2. Better Committee

- a. Need appointed help positions

- i. Ribbons

- ii. Prizes

- iii. Tickets

- iv. Day of setup

- v. Event space coordinator

- vi. Raffle/ Silent Auctions

- vii. Gift Certificates

- b. Real Budget

- i. Voted on a \$50,000 budget plus ticket sales

- ii. Need a spreadsheet

- 1. Ribbons - \$10,000

- 2. Prizes - \$11,000

- 3. Venue Space - \$29,000 total

- a. Service - \$7,000

- b. Food – \$25 per plate

- c. Silverware - \$10

- d. Appetizer - \$

- e. Games – Everything Sponsored

- i. 1100 blackjack

- ii. 1200 photobooth

- iii. 1000 dj

- iv. 2000 cocktail

- v. Mechanical bull 1500

- vi. Will mc -

- f. Cocktail Hour –

- 4. Basket Raffles –

- 5. Silent Auctions –

- 6. Program Costs –

- 7. Table Decor –

- 8. Gift certificates -

- c. Brittany will take Chair position for the banquet

- i. Kristen will be on the committee

- ii. Ari

- d. Vicki motions free tickets for board members

- i. Seconded by Brittany

- ii. All in favor
- iii. None abstained
- e. Banquet budget to be voted on in April
- c. 2024 Banquet Committee Chair – Brittany Sekanic

12. Report of the USEF and USHJA Committee - Lynn Walsh

13. Report of the Web Site Committee - Robert Yaffe

- a. USEF Rule changes that dictate changes to THJA program:
 - o Best Young Horse points have changed
 - o Small Junior Hunter is now up to 16.1
 - o Modified has been changed to Low
 - o Medal Finals do not span years; point accumulation stops in September and does not start until new show year.
 - o Jumper division name changes.
- b. Suzanne motions to update rulebook and website
 - o Seconded KimCox
 - o All in Favor
- c. Needs to be sent to Rulebook Chairperson
 - o Chairperson to reach out with Ellen

14. Report of the Social Media Committee - Suzanne Warmack (Suzanne Warmack; Melissa Osborne)

- a. Email system for correspondence
 - o Mailchimp
 - o Charge by the emails
- b. Finding emails
- c. Need a reliable email system
- d. Michelle Campbell-Greene could be a great person here to help on the committee.
- e. THJA has an Instagram
 - o @texashunterjumperassociation

15. Report of the Membership Committee - Vicki Hunton

- a. Total Members –
- b. Membership up 10%
- c. Membership incentives are needed
 - o Car stickers – prizes at horse show
 - o Online Store

16. New Business:

- a. Term Expiration Dates
- b. Past 2023 Board
 - o Officers
 - 1. President - Vicki Hunton
 - 2. 1st Vice President – Kim Cox
 - 3. 2nd Vice President – Colleen Brombach

4. Treasurer – Ariana Pettigrew
5. Secretary – Brittany Sekanic
- Executive Committee (8 people)
 1. Bob Brawley
 2. Vicki Hunton
 3. Kim Cox
 4. Colleen Brombach
 5. Brittany Sekanic
 6. Ariana Pettigrew
 7. Patty Roberts
 8. Ellen Eakin – needs replaced
- Director Seat (Central)
 1. Seat 1 - Suzanne Warmack
 2. Seat 2 - Colleen Brombach
 3. Seat 6 - Susan McMorris
- Director Seat (Southern)
 1. Seat 4 - Robert Yaffe
 2. Seat 5 - Lynn Walsh
 3. Seat 9 - Katie Cox
- Director Seat (Northern)
 1. Seat 3 - Ariana Pettigrew
 2. Seat 7 - Katja Kallenberger
 3. Seat 8 - Bob Brawley
- At Large
 1. Seat 10 – Matt Cyphert (resigned)
 2. Seat 11 – Kim Cox
 3. Seat 12 – Kim Brunson
 4. Seat 13 – Vicki Hunton
 5. Seat 14 – Brittany Sekanic
 6. Seat 15 - Lindsey Black (resigned)
 7. Seat 16 – Ellen Eakin (resigned)
 8. Seat 17 – Patty Roberts

c. Voting for 2024:

- President – 2 year term
- 1st Vice President -
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Executive Committee (8 people)
- Director Seat 10 (At Large)
- Director Seat 15 (At Large)
- Director Seat 16 (At Large)
- At Large - 3 years

- Voting:
- Kim motions Chair 10 and Chair 15 to be filled by Val and Michelle.
 1. Seconded Vicki
 2. All in Favor
- Kim motions to vote between Brooke and Sophie for Chair 16
 1. 8 for Brooke
 2. 2 for Sophie
 3. Brooke will be Chair 16
- Staying on the board
 1. Motion by Kim Cox to reinstate the following board members
 - a. Ari Pattigrew
 - b. Katja Kallenburger
 - c. Kim Brunson
 - d. Vicki Hunton
 - e. Patty Roberts
 - f. Suzzane Warmmack
 - g. Robert Yaffe
 2. Seconded by Vicki
 3. All in Favor
- Brittany makes a motion to instate Kim Cox as acting President for 2024 due to Vicki's life circumstances and the Dylan Harries Lawsuit with all powers and privileges except banking privileges because of banking paperwork problems.
 1. Katja seconds it
 2. All in favor
- Life THJA memberships to Board officers that have held position for 10 years
- Kim Cox Motions to add Suzzanne to Executive committee
 1. Seconded Vicki

d. Committees

- Rulebook Committees for 2024
 1. Chair – Katie Cox
 2. Bob Brawley

3. Colleen Brombach
 4. Susan McMorris
- Prizelist Committee
 1. Chair – Vicki
 2. Colleen Brombach
 3. Katie Cox
 4. Val Garza
 5. Lynn Walsh
 6. Vicki Motions to combine Prizelist Committee, Show Standards committee and Awards Committees
 - a. Katja Seconds
 - b. All in favor
 7. Combine wording for committee responsibilities
 - Finance Committee
 1. Chair – Kim Cox
 2. Bob Brawley
 3. Ari
 4. Suzanne Warmack
 - Sponsorship Education Committee
 1. Chair - Patty
 2. Kim Cox
 3. Kim Brunson
 4. Suzanne Warmack
 - Nominating Committee
 1. Chair – Katja (North)
 2. Suzanne (Central)
 3. Katie (South)
 4. Susan McMorris
 - Banquet Committee
 1. Chair - Brittany Sekanic
 2. Michelle Campbell-Greene
 3. Kristen Woolery
 4. Vicki Hunton

5. Brooke Brombach

6. Ari Pettigrew

○ Website Committee

1. Chair – Robert Yaffe

○ Social Media

1. Chair – Suzzane

2. Melissa

3. Michelle Campbell-Greene

○ Membership

1. Chair- Vicki

2. Brooke Brombach

3. Kim Brunson

e. THJA Magazine

○ Nothing to report: Working on switching publisher. Will report back when there is something to share.

f. Banquet Date January 11th

g. Next Meeting Wednesday April 3rd, 2024 at Great Southwest Equestrian Center at 6pm with dinner provided.

17. Meeting adjourned at 1:48.

THJA Secretary Name and Signature:

Brittany Sekanic – January 6, 2024