

# New Mexico Horse Council Board of Directors Meeting

## December 7, 2009



The meeting was held at President Rusty Cook's house, 3607 Sunstar Loop SW, Albuquerque. **Directors present:** Rusty Cook, Val Cole, John Collins, Winona Kennedy, Elsie Shollenbarger. **Directors absent:** Jeff Bader, Kristin Darnell-Kreger, David Kreger-Darnell, Maura Lewiecki, Phil Reppert, Eldon Reyer, Harry Touloumis, Lori Walton. **Guests present:** Jackie Bouker, Martin Cook, Lisa Welter. The Cooks served posole and other snacks.

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:05.
2. **Approval of the December 7 Agenda.** Kennedy moved, Collins seconded that the December 7 agenda be approved as electronically distributed. *Motion carried.*
3. **Approval of November draft meeting minutes.** Collins moved, Kennedy seconded that the November 2, 2009 NMHC Board of directors draft meeting minutes be approved as distributed. *Motion carried.*
4. **Treasurer's Report (Cole).** In November, the Board was presented with a 2009 January through October summary. This report is a monthly update.

<b>Checking Account Balance November 2, 2009</b>	<b>\$8634.42</b>
Check # 2329, Qwest	-62.92
Check # 2330, Website Jan-Dec	-300.00
Check # 2331, AHC 2010 Dues	-350.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$712.92</b>
Deposit: Liability Signs	+872.00
Extra Booth passes	+22.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>+\$894.00</b>

**Checking Account Balance December 7, 2009** **\$8815.50**

Checks on hand to deposit: Taos Tack & Pet Supply (signs) 208.00, Dixon Apples (sign) 21.00, 2010 dues 20.00. Bills: none.

NMHC Rescue Party Savings Account Balance 11/30/09 (bank statement)	\$7395.81
NMHC Foundation Account Balance 11/30/09 (bank statement)	\$3821.91

Membership update: two dues checks for individual memberships for 2010 have been received, Jason Turner and Jackie Bouker. Two directors, David Kreger and Kristin Darnell, were married early in October. It was noted that due to the economy and other factors, two of our former commercial members, Amigos Tack Shop and Action Trailer Depot, have gone out of business. Kennedy moved, Collins seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted. *Motion carried.*

5. **Old Business. Trails:** Maura Lewiecki is out of town. (1) Jackie Bouker reported that the Sandia Ranger District has proposed improvements to the Dead Man picnic ground area, including space for horse trailer parking and an eventual trail to be built connecting to Gambel Oak Trail. Also, Oak Flats will remain a picnic area without trailhead traffic. Comments are due Dec. 21. There is apparently ARRA money available for signage and maps. (2) The Village of Los Ranchos will be holding a zoning meeting December 8 regarding a homeowner's wish to move an equestrian easement between the Griegos Lateral and the riverside drain. The design of gates and possible hazards will be discussed. (3) Collins reported on the South Valley Incorporation vote which is approaching. (4) Bouker and Cole briefly discussed the Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee reply to the Albuquerque Bicycle Coalition following their presentation on motorized bicycles on non-motorized multiple use trails. GARTC voted to oppose this.

**NMHC Foundation.** (Cook). Nancy Searles (who has been invited to all NMHC Board meetings to give progress reports on the Foundation) sent an email saying the Foundation had awarded four \$500 scholarships in 2009. (Earlier, Searles had said that there was a "second qualified candidate".) Scholarships were awarded to: **Kaylin R. Beeman** of Carlsbad High School, **Emily Mackay** of Maxwell High School in Eagle Nest, **Desirae Dawn Evans** of Tucumcari High School, and **Amanda Lee McComb** of Roy High School, Springer. Discussion followed about the process of selecting the winners and the status of the Foundation treasury. Cole said she was able to reinstate P.O. Box 10513, Albuquerque 87184, in the Foundation's name and had both keys to the box. She strongly suggested that this PO box be maintained as the Foundation's address. She has also asked the Bank of America to resume mailing bank statements. Collins moved, Kennedy seconded that the NMHC Board audit the NMHC Foundation's bank account. *Motion carried.*

Cook said that Laura Burton was on the Foundation Board but had been unable to attend the meeting when scholarship decisions were made. Perhaps she can step up now that she has received her master's degree, which had been taking up her time. Cook will also look at the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation to see if the NMHC officers can appoint Foundation directors.





**Plans for Annual Meeting** (Collins). John Collins has investigated dozens of possible meeting places, and has suggested the Ropers Restaurant at Wyoming and Central in Albuquerque as the best value for the money. We would be the only people there for an Italian Buffet, and the cost would be \$15 per person. The date will be January 23, 2010. Kennedy moved, Shollenbarger seconded that Collins be authorized to make arrangements and a commitment for the annual meeting and dinner. **Motion carried.**

**Nominating Committee Report.** No report. NMHC Bylaws mandate a fifteen member Board, with staggered three year terms, five directors being elected each year. Collins suggested NMHC contact its member clubs for possible nominees to the Board of Directors. Expiration dates for current Board members:

**2009:** Rusty Cook, Kristin Darnell, Winona Kennedy, Lori Walton.

**2010:** David Kreger, Maura Lewiecki, Phil Reppert, Harry Touloumis.

**2011:** Eldon Reyer, Val Cole, Jeff Bader, John Collins, Elsie Shollenbarger.

Harry Touloumis has said he must resign from the Board; Lori Walton has also indicated she will not run for re-election; Jeff Bader has said his new job responsibilities will take him out of town and prevent him from attending most meetings. Dick Hensleigh and Dianne Fay were suggested as possible Board members.

**Other Old Business: none.**

6. **New Business. Annual Awards: Horse person? or Lifetime Achievement?** Cole asked if (with the late notice) the award should perhaps not be given in 2009? As to the actual award, Collins has dealt with plaques from Recognition Plus and they do an excellent job for around \$75 depending on how much text is involved – and the NMHC logo would also have to be put on the award. After discussion, the consensus was that the submission deadline be extended to Dec. 31 and the issues (which award is given) and the actual selection be done over the phone or by email. Kennedy moved, Cole seconded that Collins arrange for the award plaque from Recognitions Plus. **Motion carried.** Certificates of Appreciation: Charlie Poore and Quickstalls should receive one for all his help with the State Fair booth. Other nominations should be communicated to Val Cole ASAP.

**State Horse Councils Advisory Committee.** Val Cole attended the semi-annual meeting of the SHCAC in Harrisburg, PA, November 6-8, hosted by the **Pennsylvania Equine Council**. A **Friday afternoon** visit to a beautiful training center had a takeaway message that one must always be aware of pending harmful regulations, and never ever let horses be classified as pets or companion animals. The tour was followed by a visit to a custom trailer manufacturing plant and a traditional Pennsylvania Dutch dinner. **Saturday**, the PEC and the University of Pennsylvania presented a daylong program on Environmentally Sound Horse Keeping. **Sunday** was the business meeting. Ten Councils were represented (GA, NM, MI, NC, MD, UT, KY, NJ, WI and PA). Intensive discussion resulted in a plan for new directions to take in relationships with the American Horse Council and in growing the SHCAC. A new position of Financial Liaison was created and the following officers were elected to two year terms: **Chair:** Buster Black (GA); **Vice Chair:** Madelyn Millard (KY); **Secretary:** Val Cole (NM); **Financial Liaison:** Glen Eaton (MN) **Parliamentarian:** Lee Sackett (WI). The next meeting is in conjunction with the June American Horse Council National Issues Forum, and the 2010 Fall meeting will be hosted by the **Michigan Horse Council** at the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development in East Lansing on November 5-7, 2010. A more complete report of the 2009 meeting is available from Cole.

**Other new business.** Cook reported on a meeting with Cole and Dr. Jason Turner of New Mexico State University. The purpose was to explore collaborations that will build the New Mexico horse industry. Other livestock groups have cooperated to gain power and a voice. All agreed to keep channels open, and to consider a horse fair-type event at a location other than Expo NM – perhaps the new facility at Clovis, for instance.

7. **Announcements. Next meeting** will be the annual general membership meeting January 23. The next Board meeting will be held Feb. 1 at Cole's house and will include the election of 2010 officers.

**Recent memos** and materials from the American Horse Council were listed, including the *2009 Unwanted Horses Survey* final report and the Unwanted Horse Council *Best Practices Handbook (How your Organization can help Unwanted Horses)*. Also, the AHC has drafted the *National Welfare Code of Practice*. Other memos speak of AHC efforts to document trail closures, passage of targeted tax legislation extending conservation easements, and a coming GAO study on horse welfare in the US in relation to the closure of horse slaughter plants.

**Other announcements:** Rusty Cook will attend both the Arabian Horse Association and the US Dressage Federation conventions as a delegate.

8. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 8:00.

