



**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2024  
3:00 P.M. EST**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Tom O’Mara, Judy Werner, Judy Sloan, Max Amaya, Tom Brennan, Ellie Brimmer, Allison Brock, Will Faudree, Ling Fu Wylie, Lisa Gorretta, Deborah Johnson, Mary Knowlton, Beezie Madden, Joe Mattingley, Melissa Moore, Diane Pitts, and Philip Richter

**Board Members Absent:** Jacob Arnold, Jon Kreitz, Lauren Nicholson, and Chester Weber

**USEF Senior Team Present:** Bill Moroney, Kelly Bolton, Mike Delahanty, Hallye Griffin, Sonja Keating, Vicki Lowell, David O’Connor, Justin Provost, Debbie Saliling, and Stephen Schumacher

**1. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

Mr. O’Mara called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. EST. Following a call of the roll, Ms. Adams noted that a quorum was present.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Ms. Sloan moved, and Mr. Brennan seconded the motion to adopt the agenda. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. President’s Opening Remarks**

Mr. O’Mara stated that a lot of planning is in progress for all the events coming up this year. Positive feedback has been received on the Annual meeting. The workshops, general session, and awards dinners recordings were released last week to the membership. Mr. O’Mara stated that he has been traveling a lot in the last month and will provide a quarterly report to the Board on his activities and feedback. Last, Mr. O’Mara noted that the CEO report and the Presidential Modification Report were included in the materials.

**4. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

Ms. Keating requested that Directors declare conflicts with any item on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

**5. Approval of Annual Meeting Board Minutes**

**5.1 First Board Meeting – January 14, 2024**

Ms. Pitts moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the first Board meeting at the USEF Annual Meeting held on January 14, 2024. Following discussion and a vote the minutes were approved, with Mr. Brennan, Mr. Faudree, and Ms. Madden abstaining as they were not yet members at this meeting.

## **5.2 Second Board Meeting – January 14, 2024**

Ms. Sloan moved, and Ms. Pitts seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the second Board meeting at the USEF Annual Meeting held on January 14, 2024. After discussion and vote the minutes were approved unanimously.

## **6. Treasurer Report and Review of Financials**

Ms. Sloan reported that the first two months of the fiscal year look positive. She assured the Board that we will take a close look month by month in the early start of the year as we lead up to summer and fall event expenditures mainly including the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris.

Mr. Delahanty reported on the first month of the 2024 fiscal year. The strong revenue trend from horse services and fees continues with membership on target with an estimate of increased membership dues in the first quarter. The impact of our portfolio was exceptionally good in December 2023 with a plan to be budget neutral in 2024.

Mr. O'Mara noted that the USET Foundation has agreed to provide the Federation with \$4MM in 2024. Their gala fundraiser last month was the most successful ever.

## **7. Consideration of Sport Requests**

### **7.1 Approval of 2024 Dressage Working Groups**

Ms. Sloan moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded approval of the population of the 2024 Dressage Licensed Officials, Rules, Calendar, and Selections Working Groups. Following discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **7.2 Approval of 2024 Eventing Pathway Working Group**

Ms. Knowlton moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded approval of the population of the 2024 Eventing Pathway Working Group. Ms. Pitts noted that she is going to recommend further review of the process for the appointment of Working Groups under the current Decision-Making Matrix. After discussion and a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **7.3 Ratification of 2024 NAYC Dressage Qualifying Period Extension**

Ms. Brimmer moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded approval of the Dressage qualifying period extension for the 2024 North American Youth Championships. Ms. Griffin noted that the extension is 1 week to allow for twelve qualifying opportunities across the country. Following discussion and a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **7.4 Approval of 2024 Olympic Games Jumping Selection Procedures**

Ms. Brock moved, and Ms. Pitts seconded approval of the Jumping selection procedures for the 2024 Olympic Games. After discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Old Business**

Mr. Mattingley highlighted the changes to the Endurance plan with an update to the approach Mr. Moroney noted in his CEO report. He is supportive of the new focus on the high-performance aspect of the disciplines which was confirmed by the Endurance Sport Committee at their last meeting. The 5-Part plan will remain on hold until the sport is ready to move forward with it.

## **9. New Business**

There was no new business.

**10. Executive Session**

At 3:38 p.m. Mr. O'Mara requested that staff, except Mr. Moroney, Ms. Keating, Mr. O'Connor, and Ms. Griffin leave the meeting for an Executive session of the Board.

The following items were discussed in the Executive Session.

**10.1 General Counsel Report**

Ms. Keating provided a litigation report and a report on recent allegations of horse abuse.

Ms. Pitts declared a conflict, as an FEI Tribunal member, and left the call prior to the discussion on allegations of horse abuse at 3:55 p.m.

Following discussion of this topic, Ms. Pitts returned to the call at 4:25 p.m.

**11. Adjourn**

At the conclusion of the Executive Session the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m. EST.

Signed and submitted:



Karen Adams  
Recording Secretary