

Merced Horseman's Association  
Board of Directors Meeting & General Meeting  
Thursday, December 8, 2011, Final Approved Thursday, January 12, 2012

**Call to Order:** by Vice President, Tony Aragon at approximately 6:46 pm

**Also in attendance:** Secretary: Carol Suggs; Treasurer: Bill Suggs; Directors: Michael Conley, Karen Kiil, Lisa Krogh and Jennifer McCulloch. Member in attendance: Dawn Rinehart. Absent: President: JA Thomas  
Directors: Karen Camp and Brett Weaver; Caretaker: Dennis Friesen.

**Adoption of Minutes of November 17, 2011.** Conley made the motion to approve the minutes as Presented, Kiil seconds, Motion accepted and Moved with Krogh abstaining. **Adoption of Minutes of December 3, 2011.** Additions to minutes offered up by Conley: Discussion of the by laws changes and financial condition of the club. Kiil made the motion to approve the minutes as amended, McCulloch seconds, Motion accepted and Moved with Krogh abstaining.

**Caretaker Report:** Friesen not here to report. Discussion of creating a check list. Caretakers agreement to be emailed to officers and board for review. Discussion of propane, possible leak? Turning off the hot water heater or turning it down in the winter. Although not lit, the club house heaters were all turned to the "on position" prior to the party.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Insurance Report:** Conley: nothing to report at this time.

**Financial Report:** B. Suggs went over the financial reports from November (see below) and went over the Christmas Party Deposit which is not reflected in the below numbers. McCulloch asked if \$150 sponsorship check came in, B. Suggs confirmed that it came after the November financials were done. B.Suggs stated that we had a deposit of \$1982 from the party ( \$680 in 2012 memberships, \$650 in auction, \$90 extra dinner ticket sales, \$562 on the bake auction). B.Suggs reminded the board that we have \$565 insurance payment due as well as the \$800 corp annual fee for 2011 and that we should pay that. He also reported that Thomas had negotiated the cattle contract with Shane to \$1300 and that is being paid. McCulloch made a motion that we direct the accountant to pay the corporation annual fee, Conley seconded. Motion accepted and Moved.

Checking Account: 10/31/11 Beginning Balance: \$4,363.81 Deposits: \$1,571.78 Checks Written: \$2,738.14 ending balance as of 11/30/11: \$3,197.45. As of 11/30/11: Savings Account: \$1,611.94 & Scholarship Fund: \$1,209.34. (note: 3 scholarship checks for \$100 each were written out of checking and funds are to be transferred from Scholarship Account to reimburse the checking account).

#### **Committee Chair Reports:**

**Membership:** Amos not here to report. C. Suggs stated that she would get with Amos about who the new membership chair is. \$10 refund check to be written to Dawn Rinehart as a partial reimbursement for payment of full dues for Randy Thomas as it was paid as a roll over to 2012. Membership discount discussed. Discount ok for those postmarked by 12/31/11, revisit at January meeting.

**Newsletter:** C.Suggs gave Conley a CD with the 2011 newsletters and some information to give to Kimberly Conley as she is the new newsletter chair. C.Suggs set up an email for her: [mhanewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:mhanewsletter@yahoo.com)

**Scholarship:** B.Suggs reported that at the party he handed off the checks for the recipients to Camp for disbursement.

**Holiday Party and Awards:** Discussion about the party and dinner, a lot of great comments, wonderful party, poets were really entertaining and a lot of people supported the club. One of the best parties we have had in a long time.

#### **Old Business**

**Solar Field:** Krogh stated that Beth Hoffman, rep for B. Electric will come to the January meeting to discuss the possibilities of our having a solar field at the facility. Basic info was that we might be able to expect 12 acres, 20 year lease, approximately \$1,000 per acre. Conley stated that he spoke with Thomas and definitely want to pursue solar companies and all were in agreement that we need to consider this as a viable option of income

for the club and be prepared to do letters of intent and move forward when we have information. At this time a letter of intent to the company that we discussed in November was not sent. Aragon spoke about fencing off the solar field to protect it and that should be part of the contract, Conley stated that some have video surveillance.

**Website.** C.Suggs reported that Jan Eldridge (webmaster) stated that the bill is \$157 +/- per year, which is about \$20 from last report. Bill will be due soon. Eldridge will continue but also is willing to let it go if another wants to take it over. Board asked questions regarding the site and C.Suggs stated that she would inquire and report back.

Elections Results. C.Suggs handed over a ballot that was attached to a membership app from the party to McCulloch. Camp was reached by phone, and McCulloch conferred that the results were as follows:

2012 1 year term:	J.A. Thomas	President
	Tony Aragon	Vice President
	Carol Suggs	Secretary
	Bill Suggs	CFO

2012 3 year term: Directors: Karen Kiil & Dawn Rinehart

Ballots and written statement from McCulloch and Camp will be presented at the January meeting for archiving in the annual binder.

It was noted that Conley & McCulloch have 2 years left and Camp & Krogh have 1 year left on their terms.

### Sharing and Open Discussion:

McCulloch inquired about the **NorCal Rodeo** representative. C.Suggs stated that she emailed Sean Sinclair yesterday inviting him to the January meeting. Discussion about asking Bill Banducci to be our MHA elision for that event as he has in the past. Discussion that chutes may need repair, Rinehart stated that Randy Thomas could assist with that. McCulloch also inquired if Thomas or someone could contact Tommy Lee about **ACTRA** ropings and see if we can get that going again. **Porta Potty** discussion about changing our contract for those that are having larger events, more than 20-30 people at an event and there will be an additional grounds fee to cover the porta potty charges. C.Suggs to also send facility rental agreement to the board and officers to review prior to January meeting. Aragon inquired about when the **calendar** is set, discussion that calendar is set in January and February for publication in March. Aragon stated that he would like us to have a goal that we try and have the **kitchen** open for all events. McCulloch stated that kitchen should have more snacky type quick stuff like hot pockets and popcorn, things that can be microwaved, as those are the types of things that are great for the Gymkhana events. Discussion about having those types of foods available for regular events and to step it up in the kitchen for larger events. Aragon stated that the burrito bar was a great success. **Pest Control**, still having issues, they come out monthly, need to speak to them and need to be more involved with this issue to get it under control. Kiil stated that we need to have more consistency in pricing in the kitchen. Discussion about **repair receipts** and if using gift card that receipts need to be turned into the treasurer by the next meeting. Krogh inquired about the **Savemart SHARE** program. B. Suggs stated that on the financial report a deposit was made from the SHARE program of \$72.92. Kiil stated that new board members need **keys**. Need to get keys back from old board members. Discussion about **parade participation** and something to look into for 2012, cost of flags, poles and boots and additional insurance costs. Great way to PR the club with little expense. C.Suggs stated that parade insurance for equestrian groups is typically about \$100 per event. Discussion of doing a contest for the youth about designing a parade flag for MHA. Article to be put in the newsletter. Rinehart stated that we need to have more publicity and a parade is a good way to get the word out, but that we also need to have regular articles and info appearing in local papers. Aragon would like to do an Officers and Directors board complete with photos to hang in the club house. Mention was made that the officers and directors should had been introduced at the party, remember for next year. McCulloch was contacted by **radio merced** for a short spot which she gave them info over the phone. McCulloch and Kiil to set up a separate meeting in February to discussed **Gymkhana and English Events for 2012**. Several people have expressed interest in English events.

There being no further business Aragon adjourned the meeting at approximate 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Suggs  
Secretary