



National Little Britches Rodeo Association  
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9/7/2024

**Full Board Meeting (Embassy Suites Oklahoma City, OK)**

**Attendance:** Jeremy Sharit, Scott, Kerbi, Em, Paul, Jimmy, Chanc, Kevin, Jeremy Sherman, Mark, Billy, Danny, Shawn, Stacy Wyatt (Youth Board) and Braxton (Youth Board).

**Employees in Attendance:** Annie Walter, Taylor Ardoin

**Not attending:** Jason, Jodi, Jay, Clinton, Spencer (Youth Board)

Jeremy called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. Minutes were read over and the January minutes were not included. Annie will resend all of them out to the board via email for approval. Mark made a motion to accept the minutes as types and Em 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor.

Nominations were opened to fill the Vice President position with the recent resignation of Chris Strickland. Chanc nominated Scott Eastep and Jimmy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Billy nominated Em and Kerbi 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Mark made a motion that nominations cease and Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor. Paper was handed out and all voted with the ballots. Em received 5 votes and Scott received 8. Scott will be the 2024-2025 NLBRA Vice President.

Annie gave an Executive Director report. The printing company has presented a potential new back number paper that we would like to try. Samples were given to the youth board and a few of the board members contestants. They will report back and if the paper is ok we will switch to from the current Tyvek paper to this new with the intentions of about a 60% savings. Jeremy created a map of the membership and has distributed it to all of the franchise to help with any potential marketing needs they may have. Membership numbers were discussed. We ended the 2024 season with a total of 3768 members, 47 active franchises, with contestants coming from 36 states. We had right at 1600 contestants at the 2024 finals. The new season has started off with 2571 members. There have been 2 new franchises added with contestants active from 38 states this season already. The financials were presented however a year end P & L is not ready as the fiscal year just ended as of August 31. Annie reported that the CD's being held at both UMB bank and Wells Fargo have both matured and also been reinvested. Because of the renewal time frame the UMB is currently at a 4.95% rate with a 7 mo. Maturity while the Wells Fargo is at 4.16 rate with a 7 mo. maturity. Annie noted that Sunbelt Rentals has had some discrepancies in their invoicing vs quotes so she has still not paid them for the finals. An employee has been with the NLBRA now for just over a year and Annie would like to give her a raise. The suggested salary would be a \$2.00 increase, Billy made the motion to accept the recommendation and Jimmy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all were in favor. Annie will adjust the next check to reflect the raise.

A formal complaint has been filed again the Indiana Franchise from Scott Eastep and Jordan Banta. In the complaint they state that the franchise is not using carded people and not listing the same name's for personnel as who is actually working. A lengthy discussion was had and it was decided that a letter will go out to the Indiana Franchise as a warning and no further action will be taken at

this time.

Ron Besson presented at 9:00 am. Ron had several recommendations to update the portfolio. He suggested that we sell (VWINX) (FNV) and invest in (SVFFX) and (PHYS). He also wanted it noted that the one of the U.S. Treasury notes will mature 11/29/2024 and he recommends purchasing a new Treasury Note that will mature 11/30/2029. Jimmy made a motion to accept the financial committee recommendation and Jeremy Sherman 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor. A new corporate resolution will need to be updated for the company due to the new Vice President. Ron Presented that as well (a copy will be included in the office) Mark made a motion to accept the new resolution letter and Kevin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor.

Kevin Shewmaker with Western Specialty Insurers was present. He gave an update on the insurance claims filed for the past year and also presented the NLBRA with a Sponsorship check that is their yearly donation to the NLBRA. There was discussion on franchise liability vs National Liability and Kevin clarified it. He is going to reach out to the franchise secretaries with a formal introduction and continue the discussion at that level.

Our golf cart contract is set to renew after the 2025 finals. Historically we will renew with the facility contract. Discussion was had on the contract presented. The board would like some changes made. It had stated that the terms for 2025 would be re negotiated and they would like it to be 2026-2029 only and leave 2025 alone. Also some verbiage corrected about a minimum sales requirement. Annie will send it back to Derek and re send via email once it has been corrected.

Annie presented that we have \$11,400 dollars in scholarships being requested. Jimmy made a motion to pay the scholarships, Kevin 2<sup>nd</sup> and all were in favor. Annie will send out the checks.

Mark made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential Executive Director candidates and requested that Annie remain in the room but Taylor and Youth Board will be asked to leave, Paul second and all were in favor. Em made a motion to come out of Executive Session and Chanc 2<sup>nd</sup> all were in favor.

Meeting was adjourned for Lunch.

1:30 PM Jeremy call meeting back to order and turned the time over to Taylor for a sponsorship update. Taylor presented that she has been in discussion with multiple potential new sponsors and also gave an update on a couple that we lost. Sponsorship contracts will begin renewing this fall and she will have another update in the January meeting.

Jimmy gave an update on the Judges Clinics. The original discussion was that all judges attend 1 judges' clinic every 2 years to recertify. He noted that there were 87 people at the finals judges clinics and they were very successful. Jimmy went to Alabama and also updated the board on that. Historically we have charged 100.00 for the clinics held at the franchise from all the people in attendance to aid in paying for Jimmy travel to the meetings. Jeremy did a cost analysis and suggested that we raise the associates membership \$10.00 to cover the travel. Additional discussion was had on topics like: do we need the clinics, should they be mandatory, can we do them online. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that National Executive Board members in a local area can approve judges and if we have an area that needs additional help the board will look at sending Jimmy or other board members to assist in fixing the problem. We will continue to do the judges clinics at finals although they will not be mandatory at this time but it may change at a later date.

The finals committee presented and would like to invite all personnel back with the exception of the judges. They will need to re-apply and we will select them. No pay increases will be given this year.

**Billy made a motion to invite Announcers, Timers, Secretaries, Bull Fighters, Pickup men, and photographer all back for the 2025 finals Em second the motion and all were in favor. Annie will begin the process of renewing all the contracts and have it completed in October. The judge's applications will be sent to all current judges and put on website and social media for others to apply.**

**The camping committee would like to invite Jackie back for the camping and stalling contract but would like to verify her dates of availability to ensure she can be there the whole time.**

**Stock Committee gave an update. They would like to invite McBride to bring all the horses. Jeff Smith to bring the team roping cattle, Jace Honey to bring the Bull Doggin steers, Jim Boy to bring the goats, Kueckelhan Rodeo to bring all calves and practice pen, Shumaker Bulls and Natie Johnson to bring the bulls. Em made a motion to accept the recommendation and Shawn 2<sup>nd</sup> all were in favor. Annie will reach out to them to work on finalizing those contracts.**

**Discussion was held on the OKC Planning. Jeremy gave an update on potential sponsor opportunities. Mid-winter meeting in 2026 will be held during a rodeo at the fairgrounds so we can see the layout and the facility when it is running. We will also plan to have the January 2025 meeting there as well.**

**Royalty committee. Jodi was not in attendance so Taylor gave an update on what the girls have been up to along with the plans for the next several months.**

**Awards committee: No update at this time.**

**Youth Board Committee: No update at this time.**

**Volunteer Committee: No update at this time.**

**Hope Counts Committee: Annie stated that there was 49,405.00 collected this previous season through the 1.00 donation from each entry. 7,000 was paid out to help contestants so Annie will transfer \$42,405 from the operating account into Hope Counts and from now on all payments will be made out of that account. Annie stated that the last time she and Jodi discussed the balance in the existing account it was \$11813.90. That amount will need to be transferred as well and Annie will make the introduction between Jodi and our UMB Banker to get this taken care of.**

**Check in Committee: No update at this time.**

**New Business:**

**Paul asked if there had been any further discussion or communications from the DQ during the 2024 NLBRA Finals. Annie reported there had not.**

**Jimmy had some questions about the \$25.00 non member fee and whether they should adjust points to only the national members. It was decided no changes will be made at this time.**

**Chanc had some concerns about the western style shoe and parents helping contestants in the arena. The rule was clarified that the western style shoe is only for arena help and personnel in the arena. Per page 45 of the rule book.**

**There was a saddle donated back to the NLBRA. Scott has the saddle and has received a quote from a saddle maker to have the saddle refinished. Paul made a motion to allow Scott to pursue this and**

**Kevin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor.**

**Kevin made a motion to adjourn and Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor.**

Annie Walter 1/18/2025

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