

RMDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2023

Zoom Meeting

Meeting @ 6:30 PM

Attendance: Sally O’Dwyer, Patricia Weed, Joan Clay, Karen Harkin, Beth Geier, Sharon Soos, MaryJo Hoepner, Heather Petersen, Judi DeVore, Shannon Lemons, Jessica Reigel, Sarah Murphy, Gwen Ka’awaloa, Katie Knight, Kristen Allen, Ginka Kubelka, Stan Adamson

Proxies: Rebecca Ciota to Sally O’Dwyer;

Call to Order-President

Sally O’Dwyer

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by Sally O’Dwyer

Secretary - Approval of Minutes -

Heather Petersen

March 2023 minutes – Heather Petersen was missing from the minutes, Sharon Soos moved that we approve the minutes as corrected, 2nd by Katie Knight. The motion passed unanimously.

Results of the electronic voting regarding appointment of the new Central Office Manager – The board voted to approve Sarah Murphy as the new Central Office Manager via email.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Soos

Operating Funds as of March 31, 2023

RMDS Checking Account \$ 40,186.45

PayPal Account (as of 2/15/2023) \$ 2,251.25

Restricted Funds as of December 31, 2022

Scholarship Fund

RMDS Scholarship \$ 3,891.29

Barbara H McElnea Scholarship \$ 8,500.00

Total \$ 54,829.00

Operating Funds as of April 12, 2023

RMDS Checking Account \$ 43,237.12

PayPal Account \$ 506.06

Outstanding Checks \$ 3,034.44

Pending Deposits \$????

Subtotal \$ 40,707.74

Judges “L” Program \$ 14,789.00

Subtotal Operating Funds \$ 25,918.74

Restricted Funds as of April 12, 2023

Scholarship Account

RMDS Scholarship \$ 3,891.29

Barbara H McElnea \$ 8,500.00

Payable 250.00

Pending Deposit

Subtotal \$ 12,141.29

Total \$ 38,060.03

Some notes – discussed the Magazine expenses. We also have a new RMDS Treasurer laptop. \$1096, does include the Microsoft office, the onetime purchase.

President Report

Sally O'Dwyer

By now you should have received in the mail your copy of the amazing Omnibus. I am sure you will agree that it is a first-class publication. Thanks again to Natalie Fee Mendik and Nicole Bizzarro for producing such a quality magazine that represents our organization so well. If for some reason you did not receive your copy, please reach out to the Central Office.

April begins our show season so check the Calendar. There are also several ride-a-tests scheduled so you can practice your show skills before you enter the competition arena. Ride-a-test clinics help you identify your strengths and weaknesses so you can be your best at your next show. We already have a number of volunteer opportunities available this month. Check it out at <https://www.rmids.org/volunteer-opportunities-links-to-sign-ups>

Please welcome RMDS member Sarah Murphy as our new Central Office Manager. The Board interviewed several candidates and voted by majority to approve Sarah for this position. The process was lengthy, and the Executive Team appreciates everyone's patience—this is a critical role for our organization, and we needed to have the input of the entire Board. Thanks to all those who applied for this position. We deeply appreciate your desire to serve this organization. Learn more about Sarah in this issue of the Ecentaur. Beth will train and mentor Sarah as she learns the ropes. Beth will still be part of RMDS!

We continue to seek a volunteer to fill our Marketing Chair position on the Board. This individual will support our Championship Chair in advertising and sponsorships for Championships. If you have a few hours a week and want to get involved, this is the perfect opportunity. Please let me know if you are interested!

The third session of the L program is completed! RMDS is very grateful to Gwen Ka'awaloa and MaryJo Hoepner, who worked so hard to host this amazing educational opportunity. Thanks to S Judge Debbie Rodriguez, this session's presenter, for offering her knowledge and expertise. Thanks also to the fabulous demo riders for coming out and riding in front of the many participants. Our Region is better for this training—we will have new judges, and riders who have a much better understanding of what the judges are looking for.

Vice President Report

Dorothy Kapaun

If your committee needs any help, Dorothy is here to help!

Central Office

Beth Geier/Sarah Murphy

We are currently transitioning to our new Central Office Manager. The computer has been transferred to Sarah. It did lose its hard drive, it has been replaced now and need to get some other things fixed on it. Working to get the physical storage unit moved.

Next Executive Board Meetings (2nd Thursday each month) –

2023 S EVENTS:

- **Team Competition** June?
- **Summer Intensive** June 7-9
- **Sport Horse** Sept 21
- **Championships** Sept 22-24

Executive Board Meetings:

Reports: March 9, May 11, July 13, Sept 14, Oct 12 (budget)

No reports: April 13, June 8, Aug 10,

BOG Nov 18

Permanent Committee Reports Continued:

Adult Amateur

Katie Knight

Heather Petersen moved to approve the clinic at Nighthawk in October since they can guarantee stabling and we would look at hosting a clinic at Windswept in 2024 when they had their stabling options confirmed. 2nd by Joan Clay. Motion passed unanimously.

Awards

Nothing to report.

Shannon Lemons**Communications**

Member roster – in the past we’ve sent this out to the membership and there are now some concerns regarding this. The largest concern is the listing of youth information now with SafeSport. Discussion on not contacting minors one on one and always including a parent if possible or another adult if not. It was decided not to send out the roster at this point in time.

Rebecca Ciota

Website – It’s rolling along, let Sarah or Heather know of any updates. Heather is working with Code Geek to get the Central Office contact information updated.

Education

Part 1 is done and we received very good feedback from the participants. Looking at doing a freestyle clinic this summer if possible. Dolly Hannon is now an L program faculty and we’ll work with her on doing the freestyle session.

MaryJo Hoepner

If we do part 2, it will be fall/winter – looking at Arizona, Texas and several venues.

Junior/Young Riders

Still really looking for more volunteers for the Summer Intensive.

Lauren Still**Marketing**

Introduction of Kristen Allen and Jessica Reigel who are interested in co-chairing marketing. Stan Adamson moved to appoint them as co-chairs, 2nd by Katie Knight. Motion passed unanimously.

Vacant**Professionals**

Nothing to report currently. Helped with the L program at Tomora, all was good.

Joan Clay**Scholarship**

A few recipients have reached out with status updates and one recipient had a horse pass away and it researching options.

Karen Harkin**Shows – Championships**

Working on a sponsorship packets, we have 2024 USDF Region 5 Championships.

Nadia Westra**Volunteer**

Some upcoming shows are needing volunteers. Would like to do some spotlight articles as well on volunteers for the E-Centaur.

Judi DeVore/Eleanor DeVore**Appointed Committee Reports:****1. Western Dressage**

No report this month.

Simone Windeler

2. Nominating Committee – Chapter Presidents

We have new marketing co-chairs!

Stan Adamson

3. BOG - November 18, 2023

Staying at the same facility.

Heather Petersen

4. Banquet –

January 2024, facility all set.

Beth Geier/Sarah Murphy

Region 5 Report

Heather Petersen

Winter is soon behind us and I'm thankful spring is here. The busy months of summer are ahead of us, lots of time with family, friends and our horses. The World Cup is April and we're excited to see some of the top horses and riders in the world! I hope you were able to join in the fun and the amazing shopping they always have on offer...

The deadline for Participating Member Delegate nominations is **April 15**. Our region will have 5 PM delegates for the 2023 USDF Convention in Omaha, Nebraska November 29 - December 2. You can check the status of our delegate nominees by going to the link below. Please check your status to make sure your acceptance is there if you would like to be a PM delegate candidate. If you are not listed and you would like to be a PM delegate, please contact Dorothy Kapaun at dorothykapaun@yahoo.com. Please do not commit to be a delegate unless you know you can attend. There is some financial assistance from our Region for those PM delegates who do attend the convention. We really need the representation to help give your Region a voice.

<http://www.usdf.org/about/about-usdf/governance/nominating/accepted.asp>

As of May 9, our potential candidates for the 2023 FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships August 9-14 in Traverse City, Michigan will be finalized, but the first of the early application deadlines has now passed, though there is still an opportunity to apply! As I write this, we have 8 riders who have declared (4 Juniors and 4 Young Riders). If you would like to contribute or help with their fundraising efforts, please contact Joan Clay, our Region 5 Jr/YR FEI coordinator at jnclay@comcast.net or 970-420-0877. This competition is a reasonable distance for us to travel by trailer, which makes things much more feasible, but we still need your help in order to be able to. If you're a rider, PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR DECLARATIONS!

A couple of lovely educational events are being offered soon by some of our GMOS:

- **Terry Ciotti Gallo - Developing a Musical Freestyle**
Presented by Santa Fe Dressage Association
April 29th & 30th, 2023
Hosted by Terra Nova Equestrian Center
- **Through the Levels - an Extraordinary Dressage Clinic with Debbie McDonald**
Presented by Tucson Dressage Club
May 20th & 21st, 2023
Hosted at Pima County Fairgrounds in Tucson, AZ

Old Business:

- No old business.

New Business:

- Welcome to Sarah!!
- Sally would like to add Beth Geier as an ad-hoc advisor to the RMDS Board. **Sharon Soos moved to appoint Beth Geier as an ad-hoc advisor to the board, 2nd by Judi DeVore. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Suspension of the USDF schooling show program, Heather discussed a bit of what was going on.
- Gwen offered to do by Zoom her barn first aide session. Everybody thinks that's a great idea! We'll work on getting it scheduled. Do it in the Fall/Winter time frame.

Boulder valley has a ride-a-test April 29th with Gwen. Auditing opportunities are available.

Next Meeting is May 11th.

7:47 pm Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Heather Petersen