

Board minutes:

MHRI board meeting Mon. January 19th 2009 Owatonna Happy Chef, called to order 7:15 p.m.

Members present: Ron Banks, Greg Budach, Vern Devine, Scott Banitt, Rod Pinske, Don Schimek, Brian Anfinson, Dave Pagel

Absent: Jeff Ryan, & Ted Nowatzki

Guests: Ulf Johansen, & Lee Besnon

Don Schimek moved to approve the agenda, second by Vern Devine & carried

Secretaries report by Greg Budach with Brian Anfinson moving to accept & second by Dave Pagel & carried.

Treasurer's report by Greg Budach, Don Schimek moved to accept & second by Brian Anfinson & carried.

Brief discussion on Hall of Fame...

Vern & Ulf visited with Running Aces to try & find a permanent home for the Hall of Fame plaque. It looks like they will work to accommodate our needs.

Running Aces announced that Rod Newhart will be the new director of racing in 2009.

They are also interviewing for a new announcer & should have that position filled soon.

They also plan to add 15 to 20 stalls for 2009.

Ulf mentioned that he & Vern attended the racing commission hearing & meeting regarding 2009 dates. He stated that Vern did an eloquent job in speaking to the commission. Vern mentioned the negativity from the HBPA and false info that they presented. He was able to refute what they had said.

Discussion: Start racing 2 year old on July 1st as well as think about the type of conditions we'd like to see. Midwest challenge? Vern & Ron updated the board on the Iowa & Wisconsin annual meetings. They received 2 less days at Prairie Meadows for 2009. There seems to be some conflict continuing over colt stakes locations. Number of fair dates will remain the same in 2009.

Wisconsin news: Vern mention that Del Insko was born in Amboy Mn. The DeLong family was inducted into the Wi. Hall of Fame. Crafty Sailor was also inducted.

Horseperson of the year was Del Insko.

The Wisconsin group expressed good interest in Running Aces meet.

Greg will check into sulky insurance from Van Gundy.

Next Board meeting set for Mon. February 16th 2009- 7:00 p.m. at Owatonna Happy Chef.

Don Schimek moved to adjourn, 2nd by Dave Pagel.