

**WDCTA State Board of Directors Meeting**  
Hopeful Farm 4595 Mahoney Rd, McFarland WI (In the Town of Dunn)  
Minutes  
January 2, 2010

Meeting called to order by interim President Victoria Jenema at 11:15 a.m.

Attendees: Stephanie Severn, SW; Angela Genin, SW; Sue Genin, SW; Chet Thomas, SW; Donna Thomas, SW; Caryn Vesperman, SW; Mary Hanneman, SW; Martha Flury, KM; Pamela Doolittle, SW; and via teleconference Victoria Jenema, UP and Karin Steffens, UP (guest).

**Emergency Bylaws:** To enable the board of directors to conduct business at today's reorganizational meeting, Martha Flury moved that in accordance with State Statute 180.207, we make an emergency bylaw change to Article VI Section 1 to allow three Chapter Presidents, a Chapter Representative and State Board Treasurer to elect or appoint the Board of Directors for 2010. A friendly amendment made by Pam to change "Board of Directors" to "State Board President" was accepted by Martha Flury. Motion seconded by Pam Doolittle; motion carried unanimously.

*Meeting note:* The Chapter Representative for the Southwest Chapter was elected in October along with the slate of other 2010 SW Chapter officers. According to the bylaws, a Chapter Representative's term is for one year. The three Member-at-Large positions on the 2010 board will be appointed by the State Board President.

**Election of State Board President:** Donna Thomas moved that the Board elect Pam Doolittle as State Board President. Second by Chet Thomas; motion carried unanimously. Newly elected President, Pam Doolittle presided over the remainder of the meeting.

**Rescind Grievance Decision:** Pam Doolittle moved to rescind the grievance decision made by the Board in June 2009. Second by Angela Genin.

Discussion: Pam Doolittle summarized the series of events during 2009 that led to the grievances.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Roster of 2010 Officers:** Martha Flury moved to accept the following slate of State Board Officers for 2010: President - Pamela Doolittle; Vice President - Martha Flury; Secretary - Sue Genin; Historian - Ann Zaharias; Treasurer - Angela Genin; Membership - Mary Hanneman; Website Coordinator - Stephanie Severn; Member-at-Large - Chet Thomas; Member-at-Large - Stephanie Severn; Member-at-Large - Erin Whalen; Video Librarian - Donna Thomas; Newsletter Editor - Caryn Vesperman. Second by Victoria Jenema. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Angela Genin reported that she has not yet received the Treasurer materials from the former Treasurer, Stephanie Morgan. She has received a check in the amount

of \$8,512.76 which, according to the accompanying letter from Stephanie Morgan, is the total portion of the state treasury owed to WDCTA following a ballot where members voted to have their "share" of the state treasury stay with WDCTA or go to NEWDA. The letter from Stephanie also indicated that she would close the M&I bank account once all checks have cleared. Members of the board voiced their disapproval that Stephanie Morgan will be closing bank accounts that belong to WDCTA. WDCTA board members should be making the decision about the banking relationship and the best way to preserve banking records.

**Secretary's Report:** It was determined that the 2009 Board could not approve the Dec minutes outside of an official meeting, via email. Stephanie Severn moved to accept the minutes from the December 10, 2009, Board meeting with revisions. Seconded by Angela Genin. The revised Dec minutes approved by the 2010 Board will be published; the minutes submitted by the previous Board will be retained as documentation of their actions, including the details of methodology used by the 2009 Board to divide the state treasury.

Motion passed unanimously.

Donna Thomas moved that a subcommittee consisting of the President and Treasurer review the treasury documents, once they are received from Stephanie Morgan, and prepare a final financial accounting of the treasury split to share with the current Board via email. Seconded by Sue Genin.

Discussion: There was discussion about the need to compare the current Board's report on the treasury split with the previous Board's accounting of the treasury split.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Membership:** Donna Thomas reported that 51 have renewed including one business member. This seems to be in line with previous years renewal cycles. Donna indicated that she sent a personal check to the USDF to ensure that early renewing members would receive their USDF Yearbook, due to the fact that our Treasurer did not yet have access to state treasury funds. Sue moved that WDCTA reimburse Donna \$773 as soon as possible. Seconded by Chet. Motion carried unanimously.

**Communication Plan:** Caryn Vesperman shared highlights of a membership marketing letter she has drafted, designed to feature the new and enhanced benefits of joining WDCTA. Caryn also described her vision for a monthly electronic newsletter in color, an enhanced advertising program for our business members and a more robust web site.

*Action Item: Caryn Vesperman, Stephanie Severn and Martha Flury will come up with revised advertising rates to share with the Board.*

*Action Item: Caryn Vesperman will send membership marketing letter and sample eQuarter to Board members for review.*

Discussion: There was discussion about whether meetings minutes are required to be in our newsletter per our bylaws. We would like to put minutes on the web site only and keep the newsletter for articles, photos and advertising.

Stephanie Severn talked about plans for completely redesigning the website with new navigation for the site. She shared some ideas of how the site might look. Erin Whalen will continue as the Web Master and has many ideas for a new look. Erin also can set up emails for the State Board members using our wdcta.org URL that will go right into each Board member's personal email inbox. This will be much more convenient for Board members to keep current with their WDCTA emails.

The WDCTA FaceBook page and how it is currently being used was discussed.

Victoria Jenema moved that the WDCTA FaceBook page be open to be viewed by anyone; however only WDCTA members be allowed to post messages, effective February 1, 2010. Seconded by Stephanie Severn. Motion carried unanimously.

**Annual Meeting:** Angela Genin moved that WDCTA have its own 2009 Annual Meeting, separate from the February 27 meeting being advertised by NEWDA. Seconded by Donna Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

Martha Flury presented ideas for a venue and speakers for the WDCTA Annual Meeting.

Donna Thomas moved that we form a committee to organize our 2009 Annual Meeting, chaired by Martha Flury and funded by the State Board treasury. Any profits from the event would be designated as seed money for any chapter that lost its treasury to NEWDA and would like to reorganize and remain with WDCTA. Second by Sue Genin. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion: The preferred date for our annual meeting is February 20. Martha will confirm the date with Evergreen Country Club in Elkhorn; Caryn and Stephanie will confirm with speakers.

**Insurance:** Mary Hanneman provided a report on her research to find Director's & Officers insurance and General Liability insurance for WDCTA and its chapters. It has been difficult to get good comparisons without knowing exactly what our current coverage entails, what our structure is going to look like, and how many members we'll have.

Sue Genin moved that we spend up to \$1500 and move forward with D&O insurance to cover the state board and chapter officers as soon as possible. Seconded by Stephanie Severn. Motion carried unanimously.

*Action Item: Pam Doolittle will send Articles of Incorporation to Board of Directors via email.*

**Remaining Board Positions:** Pam Doolittle will appointment remaining Board positions for 2010.

**Other Old Business:**

**Articles & Bylaws:** A committee was formed consisting of Pam Doolittle, Karin Steffens, Martha Flury, and Donna Thomas to review and provide recommendations for improvements.

**Historian Archives:** Donna Thomas will pick up from Brynn Hansen.

**Action item:** Updates for USDF Website - Pam Doolittle will handle.

**2009 Instructor/Stable listing issues:** Donna reported that one member listing in 2009 was omitted from both the Stable and Instructor listings. The member was then treated poorly by the 2009 Board when requesting the problem be fixed. Donna Thomas moved that we provide a complimentary 2010 membership, complimentary Stable and Instructor listings for 2009 and a letter of apology to this member. Seconded by Chet Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

**Midwest Horse Fair:** Martha Flury reported on prices for booths and advertising options. The Baroque Horse Organization may be willing to allow WDCTA to put our Resource Guide on their table. With the Janet Foy clinic also happening that weekend, it will be difficult to get enough volunteers to have our own booth. We need to verify whether this will be the 40th anniversary of WDCTA. Our Articles of Incorporation show a 1975 date.

Chet Thomas moved that we purchase a quarter page ad in the 2010 Midwest Horse Fair program. Seconded by Sue Genin. Motion carried unanimously.

**Mileage reimbursement:** WDCTA will continue the practice of reimbursing mileage and phone costs for Board meetings.

**Next State Board Meeting:** Will be held at the Annual Meeting.

Stephanie Severn moved to adjourn. Sue Genin seconded. Motion carried. Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Hanneman  
Interim Secretary