



The first board meeting of the 2025 rodeo season was held at Brady Shrum Elementary School in Salem, Indiana scheduled for 2pm. Attendance included SIJRA officers and board members: Jon Pankey (President) Kyle Reiter (Vice President) Emily Gibson (Treasurer) Amanda Flock (Rodeo Secretary) Liz Losson (Association Secretary) Jay Rieckers (Board Member) Tonya McLoed (Board Member) Travis Wesner (Board Member) Cody Manning (Board Member) Megan Witten (Board Member) The meeting was called to order at 2:15pm by Jon Pankey. The prayer was held by Liz Losson. Introductions were made and led by Tonya McLoed. Rule books and agendas were handed out by Jon Pankey. Jon would like meeting minutes to be available on the website and he encourages our membership to review the meeting minutes.

1. Treasurers Report made by Emily Gibson:

Emily reviewed the information she was given from the past treasurer. There were several questions on the accounts but those are expected to be answered upon Emily meeting with our past treasurer next week. There are still some outstanding expenses on the awards banquet that will be turned in by the 2024 awards committee. Amanda provided everyone with copies of the proposed budgets and current account balances. We did go over the awards budget of \$30k by \$1,100. Dena Hasler has a great breakdown of awards and will be invited to a future meeting to review that with our board. The previous treasurer will not relinquish login information until the first minutes are released. Our personal names will not be used on SI account information, grant applications, etc. going forward. Jay suggested an outgoing audit with officers in the future.

2. Old Business:

- a) Banquet: Everyone thought the banquet went well.
- b) Tribute Equine Nutrition: Amanda discussed the proof of purchase tabs on the Tribute bags and there was \$1,350 on that account and she has more that will bring it to about \$1,400 by the start of the season. We will just need to submit a request for different things we may need- rough stock supplies, etc. no limitation on what we can use it for. Kyle asked if we could advertise for the Kalmbach/Tribute proof of purchase tabs. We agreed that we could do that. Tonya talked about how Kalmbach donated the \$8-9k for the arena panels in the beginning of the current location and they had been very supportive in the past.
- c) Panels/Grant: Jon discussed the grant that the previous association secretary had applied for in support of the association. Dill Wittymore and Jon discussed designs and safety for the use of the panels. We have a receipt from Dill Wittymore for panels. This was done so that we would not lose the grant money available but an agreement on the setting up of the panels had not been met yet. The previous association secretary would like the panels in place as the federal grant was in her name. We plan to utilize the panels that Dill will have made and have them in place on one of the workdays in March. We may begin with 60 ft of panels at the end of the alley. This idea was intended for foot traffic behind the alley. Amanda discussed that she noticed less traffic behind the alley with the move of the dummy event arena to the opposite side of the entry booth. Amanda and Kyle said that We can apply for this grant each year for \$2k and is due in March. Jon said that Colt wants to talk to us about bucking chute use. Cody suggested bull riding helmets and rough stock supplies and equipment for use of the next grant. Emily asked if we could inspect the helmets that we currently have. Cody would like to purchase several mouth pieces and give one to each kid. Amanda said the need was expressed last year for the rough stock events. We will specify the safety needs for the wasp spray, and other supplies that are needed upon inventory of existing equipment that is staged at the rodeo arena storage room and entry booth. Cody and Amanda will take inventory of the resources and report back before the March deadline for grant application.

3. New Business:

- a) Virtual Voting: Kyle discussed an app for virtual meetings and voting requirements for virtual use of a zoom meeting. This rule will be written at a future meeting. The voting will require your face to be seen in the virtual video. The zoom call will be open and board member or



officer will be participating in the discussion throughout the entirety of the meeting to be able to vote. Emily said some meetings can have attendance required. Lack of attendance can be addressed. Jay said we still want your vote even if you were not able to attend due to car trouble, sickness, etc. Emily made a motion to meet via zoom for meetings, Jay seconded the motion. Cody opposed this motion.

- b) Bank Signatures: Kyle said he would like to have several open conversations amongst the board. Jon asked if Kyle and Emily could meet at the bank on Tuesday or Wednesday to get approved on association accounts. Minutes will be needed and signatures on the minutes to go into the bank. Jon asked if we have a bank preference. Amanda is also on the bank account and Kyles name is on it too. The minimum of 3 people and two signatures need to be two officers. Amanda stated that they chose First Savings Bank in Salem because it was close to the arena. Amanda and the previous treasurer signed checks. Jay made a motion that Kyle Amanda and Emily be on the bank account and Cody seconded it. This needs to be printed and signed. Amanda said the association has already paid for the checks from First Savings Bank, so we agreed to keep the accounts at First Savings Bank.
- c) Drops: Jon led this discussion. Drops and calendar go hand in hand. He would like an open discussion about drops. If we do not have drops, the calendar may need to be adjusted. Jon gave each member two minutes to discuss. Cody went first. Cody is against the drops and does not think it's right, but he would be for them if you enter a rodeo and don't draw out and still pay your fees. He said he is good with one drop. Jon said our current rule states that you will get a refund if you draw out in time, but you can get a refund or have rolled fees if you have a doctor's note or vet note. Jay said once the stock contractor is paid, there is no refund. Tonya said the contractor needs a run sheet; the fee must be paid. Jay said if you are going to have a two-day rodeo you need to offer two drops. Amanda and Jon said it is an average of your top 5 rodeos. Drops is a hot topic because it offers a kid that attended all 7 rodeos may still lead by a kid that only came to 5. Tonya said at the end of the season after the last rodeo, the spreadsheet reads 1st 10 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 pts, etc. it takes the top 5 values, from across the 7 rodeos. Tonya said if you have at least two drops it makes it easier for families to put SIJRA into their schedule. Then we will have more kids because we are saying all kids are important to us. The two drops allow some families to save money and miss a rodeo or practice more at a rodeo, and try new bits, etc. Amanda is not for drops. She said the kids that are going to win are most consistent and are going to win. Kyle said he has a kid that is good at rodeo and will qualify for other events. He sees the potential for his kid needing a drop for forgiveness, SI is their home, but to see his kid (for example) get better they will take him to events he qualifies for so he can compete with other competition. It used to be 5 rodeos, no drops, they had about 40 kids, then they had 5 rodeos plus a clinic rodeo- one drop available and the membership grew so fast and moved to new grounds then 7 rodeos no drops for several years. This history of the association was stated by Tonya. Drops will draw more people and money into the association. Jon states that he does not think we will lose any kids by offering two drops, and he would love to recreate SIJRA for these kids that the previous SIJRA kids have told Jon that they loved. Megan is in favor of two drops and is glad to know that they have grace on potential of missing a rodeo due to injury, etc. Jay and Travis are both for two drops. The drop motion was made by Kyle and seconded by Liz. Cody and Amanda opposed. Motion was carried.
- d) Rodeo Dates/ Workday/ Spring Member Meeting: Rodeo 1: May 3 Rodeo 2: June 7 Rodeo 3: July 26 (Night Rodeo, counts as one rodeo and goes into Sunday) Rodeo 4: August 23 Rodeo 5: September 13 Rodeo 6 & 7: October 11 & 12. Jay made a motion to confirm July 26 rodeo and rodeo dates, and Cody seconded it. All approved. Ideas for rodeo themes will be discussed with the 2025 Rodeo Queen at a future meeting. The July 26 night rodeo will offer a



special dedication to Cindy Peterson. Tonya will chair the Cindy Peterson night rodeo. Workdays will be March 1<sup>st</sup> & March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The resetting of the pens will be March 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. This will be a light workday to take inventory of needs. Colt Becht has an idea of utilizing bucking chute area more effectively. March 22<sup>nd</sup> is a workday that Dr. Amy Peoples of Southern Indiana Equine is planning to meet with our membership to discuss osteoarthritis in our equine athletes and provide solutions. Lunch will be provided and location TBD. Amanda is going to check with West Washington Schools regarding a classroom and Emily was going to check with Salem schools if needed. Kyle mentioned maybe Dechra Pharmaceuticals association donation. We will be in contact with Dr. Amy on that. This event will be public and current and new members are encouraged to attend. More details to come. Megan suggested having the 678 members and those that graduated from SIJRA and HS available again for the intro to SIJRA and member meeting, to have kids teaching kids. That will be at the member meeting. April 5 will be the member meeting. Liz and Megan will discuss welcome ideas before April 5 member meeting 4pm. Jay will be picking the association tractor and drag up to replace drag teeth and maintenance tractor.

- e) Bids: Stock, EMT, Porta Pots, Concessions, licensing, water/health inspection- Colt Becht has submitted a bid for stock contractor. He had previously requested no expo runs on stock at the last minute. Prearranged expo runs are accepted, and we will be encouraging expo runs this year if the stock expo runs are made in advance. Barrel and pole expo runs are encouraged during your pre-entry process but can be added day of the rodeo. Concession contractor, we do not pay them, and they give us 10% of their total till each day is what Amanda said. Wade Sonner oversaw our concessions last year and Liz will be checking his availability for this year. We pay for our judges', timers, announcers and event directors' lunches. Concessions subtract that from 10%. Mike Hasler will have amusement license information. Jon will get with Amanda and Mike on that. Jon will ask the previous secretary about insurance, and water treatment mixture. Jon said Porta Pots and EMT's are already set up for us and will need to be given rodeo dates. AJ Losson submitted a groundskeeping bid for \$425 that includes mowing the week before scheduled events, spraying of grounds as needed and general clean-up. He had been groundskeeping for the association prior to this year. Bids will be posted as open soon.
- f) PO Box, Entry System, Facebook & Sponsorships: Amanda said the previous treasurer has a key to the PO Box, Amanda does not know any other information. Amanda said most sponsorships came to her house and she dropped off to the previous treasurer. We discussed removing the PO Box and having sponsorship information encouraged to be turned in at the office of rodeo weekends. Otherwise mailed to Association Secretary. Tonya mentioned they used to have the 678 kids go to the county 4h clubs and promote SIJRA as an association they can be involved in at a younger age than 4h age. Cody asked about sponsoring the Washington County Fair Rodeo and having a banner or booth to promote SIJRA. Sponsorship had previously been traded in for other services like printing and tractor use, versus each kid's \$100 membership payment. Those services will not be accepted as forms of membership payment going forward. Tonya has expressed interest in a new entry system and will bring information regarding that to our next board meeting. Our Association Facebook page and website were created years ago. Amanda is digging into see if she can retrieve an email and password for our Facebook account from past secretaries in hopes of securing a system for our current board to manage and remove previous board members from the current social media platform. Our website will also be updated by Amanda and Liz. Tonya discussed a tri-fold brochure for sponsorship opportunities. She will try to find information on the one they used to use, and Liz wants to work on one for SIJRA members to give to companies and businesses they know.



- g) Rodeo Personnel Spreadsheet by Tonya: Tonya was asked by Jon to compile what it takes to run a rodeo by staff. As board members, they would take two events that they like, they would find volunteers. Each family had to have a volunteer signup for the event that they support. They need to have someone at the in gate and out gate. Amanda said she did use the reminder app because a previous board member suggested it and she said it didn't work for her. She said they do have a volunteer sign-up in place and members would back out on their signup sheet commitment. We have a list of events and people needed. Our insurance coverage needs to be checked to see if volunteers that are not members can volunteer at the rodeos. Jon is going to check the insurance clause with our previous secretary. We discussed Volunteer drawings at the end of each rodeo. Rules on holding the goat and doing these events are in place and must be explained to those board members that oversee events so they can explain the rules to their volunteers. Tonya offered to be the Event Director, to track members that attended the member meeting and to contact those that did not attend to get them signed up where it works for them. Amanda said there is a special clause for volunteers and the insurance needed for them.

The next meeting is Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Brady Shrum Elementary School in Salem at 3pm. The focus for the next meeting will be the rule book and rules, new member packets with photo release forms and any big changes to rules will be noted in the packets. The Tri Fold sponsor brochure will also be reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm by Jon Pankey.

Minutes recorded by Liz Losson.