

*USBCHA Board of Directors' Meeting
November 16, 2022
7 p.m. CST*

I. Call to order & Welcome of New Directors

II. Present:

Directors: Amanda Milliken, Bob Washer, Cy Peterson, Fred Temple, Jan Stebbins, Lori Cunningham, Marianna Schreeder, Mich Ferraro, Mike Neary, Milton Scott, Russell McCord, Scott Glen, Stephanie Goracke, Steve Rhidenour, Sue Schoen, Tracy Hinton, Wyatt Fleming
Officers: Linda DeJong

III. Approval of Minutes Sept 23,2022

a. ANNUAL MEETING

- i. **MOTION: STEVE**
- ii. **TRACY**

1. PASSED

IV. 2023 WORLD TRIAL:

- a. 1 young handler nomination: being deferred to Pearse**

V. New Business

Hailey Fogt nominated for young handler- question do we accept her.

President supposed to approve but deferring to BOD

Have funds from previous years- \$25,182

Team members have until Aug 1 to submit airline reservation to get money

Discussed how to divide funds;

Motion: Divide funds between young handler and qualified teams-by number of dogs approved to go to finals with Hailey as young handler- Mich Ferraro

Second Cy Peterson

Passed unanimously

B. Grievance- Staley/Whitney Attachment 2

Committee consisted of :Lori,Sue, Steph, Bob, Russell

The committee had completed interviewing witnesses and facts surrounding the grievance and made their recommendation to the BOD.

BOD Discussion:

A question was raised , as to whether Whitney ever offered to reimburse Staley for injuries- Answer was that there had not been.

Also discussed was whether the proposed sanctions were equivalent to the severity of the incident and how to be clear exactly what were the facts justifying the consequence. The recommendation of sanctions for this incident was based on specific issues around how the incident was managed before and after the attack. HA not going to try to come up with specific rules around the management of guard dogs as there are too many variations in situations.

For this specific situation, what weighed most heavily was that there had been previous concerns with lack of care in managing guard dogs during trials, that the dogs had been released in an area handlers had to travel to get from camping to the trial field, handlers has specific directions to use that area and due care had not been taken to ensure the area was clear of handlers and dogs before the guard dogs were released.

It was acknowledged that guard dogs are necessary in flock management and incidents can occur when a trial is held on places having such dogs. It was repeated several times that the concern was not so much that the dogs did their job but the responsibility of the trial host to take proper measures to ensure the safety of handlers and all dogs. Further weight was given to the fact that there had been previous incidents and the host had not taken any steps to ensure guard dogs were properly secured for following trials.

Motion: Stephanie

That the USBCHA BOD sustain a grievance filed by Denise Staley against Leslie Whitney for her actions contributing to a serious dog attack incident which occurred at a USBCHA sanctioned trial at Kerales Farm in October 2022. Leslie Whitney membership to be suspended through December 31, 2023. Further, in the event USBCHA sanctioning is requested for future events at Kerales Farm, the HA will require an enhanced trial sanctioning application process for at least 2 events after the expiration of the suspension period.

Second: Marianna

Passed unanimously with Lori recused herself to avoid any appearance of bias.

C. Meeker raised a question how to deal with individual who did not sign a required liability waiver before or after competing. BOD determined that USBCHA would not weigh in unless a grievance was filed and it was up to the Meeker committee to determine how to deal with the situation

Motion to Adjourn: Bob

Second: Amanda

Meeting adjourned