

1. Call to order - 5:03pm/8:03pm
2. Roll call - Bob Heltibridle, Janice Heltibridle, Chris Amaral, Steve Anderson, Barb Mathews, Greg Fellers, Sara Boelt, Steve Shaw, Rhonda Venable, Chris Shoemaker, Lani Newcomb. Absent: Mary Tiscornia, Carrie Baris
3. Approval of minutes from September 23, 2025. Motion to accept minutes: Lani. Second: Rhonda. Motion passed.
4. Insurance update re Janet Rojas: Chris A asked her to include the name of the race and state in upcoming reports, should be simple and will see in forthcoming reports.
5. Junior essay contest update: Sara says program is ready to go, it's just a matter now of getting people to submit essays. Information is on the website, the deadline is 3/15/26. Information on the veterinary scholarship is also up on the website.
6. All agreed that Courtney did another phenomenal job on the most recent newsletter. Best ever! It is a superior promotional tool for the Association.
7. We had tabled the discussion regarding a bonus for early membership renewal. Since the renewals are due 12/1/25 it is too late to do anything at this point, and in fact we agreed at the last meeting to not offer a discount.
8. Discussion of race stipend continuation to AERC ride managers, should we continue? As we have the money, the general consensus is we should continue. We could also use the Godfrey Sullivan money to support ride managers if needed. The amount is still \$200 if the race is held and has been done before, plus an additional \$100 for new races. Janice made a motion to continue as before. Second: Rhonda, passed.
9. Question, could we hold the next WCRT in the east, or is there a requirement that we alternate coasts? We have a lot of people interested in hosting in the east. Steve Shaw has contacted Coolest and Georgetown about possibly hosting the WCRT in 2026, no response. We could still have the West Coast championship in 2026. Chris A has talked to the Pacific Crest ride manager who said there were too many complications to proceed. Chris A will keep working in the West. Discussion of the presentation from the Pennsylvania location which was very well done. Concern is they have not hosted a R&T or endurance ride before, though they have held a Man vs Horse competition and have held clinics. Chris A wants to promote the AERC connection, Chris S said another perk of the OD hosting the WCRT is getting endurance riders to participate in the Equathon, which is a big hit. We proposed long term support of the Pennsylvania location and encourage them to host the ECRTC in

2027. We also will encourage Lauren the ride manager to attend the next board meeting.

10. Steve Anderson joined the meeting at 8:12, reviewed Treasurer's Report. Steve Shaw joined at 8:13, Lani made motion to approve treasurer's report. Second: Greg, passed. Chris A will also remind Janet Rojas to send just one statement each month.

11. Bob asked if anyone had gotten the results from Hat Creek, Chris A is still working on this, has names but no times. Will hold up the stipend until we get results, as the stipend program requires.

Meeting adjourned 5:40pm/8:40 pm

Next meeting 11/18/25 5/8 pm