

IDITAROD TRAIL COMMITTEE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 06, 2017

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by President Andy Baker

2.0 ROLL CALL

Members present were Andy Baker, Mike Jonrowe, Aaron Burmeister, Wade Marris, John Handeland (telephonic)

Members absent –Rick Swenson, Stan Foo (E), Mike Owens (E), Danny Seybert (E)

Others Present: Stan Hooley, CEO; Chas St. George COO; Mark Nordman, Race Director/Marshall; Don Patterson, Director of Finance, Tegan Hanlon (ADN)

A quorum was established

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff King – Recommended that team size be reduced to fourteen. That is my recommendation.

Mitch Seavey –Race has evolved. Teams will continue to move faster, with excellent dog care and nutrition combined with more training. Recommend ITC begins to target different demographics, promote the positives of the race, target market a younger demographic.

Bert Bomhoff –I would caution the Board not to make changes that reflect faster times, but to keep the traditional values of the race. ITC financial problems aren't about the economy, they're about how this race has changed.

Nic Petite – I have a question about our IOFC elected official serving on the board at this time. We don't know what kind of power this position has on this board.

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mike Jonrowe made the motion to Move 11.2 (Donlin Gold) and 10.1 (Rule 39 Drug Testing) after adoption of minutes. Aaron Burmeister seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5.0 Adoption of June 14 and June 24, 2017 Minutes

Mike Jonrowe made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment, Wade Marris seconded. The amendment was to the June 24 meeting. Mike Jonrowe was noted as absent when he should have been noted as excused. Motion passed unanimously.

11.2. IHTA / Donlin Gold Update -

Kurt Parkin – Description of a new proposed route (Northern Route) for the Donlin Gold gas pipeline that is intended to mitigate most of the overlaps that might arise with both the Iditarod race trail and the Iditarod Historic Trail.

10.1 Rule 39 (Drug Testing Policy)

Mike Jonrowe Makes a motion to adopt Rule 39 as amended, Aaron Burmeister Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. President's Report – No report submitted

7. CEO Report – (Stan Hooley)

- 60 teams entered in the race, thus far. We project 72 teams will run in 2018 (same # as last year).
- Moving on to the financial forecast, we are calling for revenues of \$3.4M (a decrease of \$168K over FY 17). We expect expenses of \$2.6M (a decrease of \$330,000 over FY 17).
- We anticipate net revenues of \$150K. The plan is to put \$125K into reserves to pay down the Wells Fargo line of credit.
- We are very early in operating cycle. Even in December and February it is difficult to determine where we are going to be. Outstanding debt is at \$280K. We will pay that amount down to \$0 as revenues come in.

7.1. Chief Operating Officer – (Chas St. George) You have my report in your packet.

- Nightline's field producer came up to Alaska last week. They interviewed Patrick Beall, Stu Nelson and Wade Marrs for their expose on "Sled Dogs" the film. We are hoping to counter balance animal rights activists with balanced information about animal care. We still don't have an air date for the expose

7.2. Race Director/Marshall – (Mark Nordman)

- Zack Steer returns on November 15. We continue to work with BLM on the permitting. IAF insurances cost will remain the same because of our safety record.
- **Qualifying Review Board** informed one entrant that he was disqualified for not meeting the criteria to race in 2018. One other has been informed that he needs to meet criteria with deadlines in order to run in 2018.
- **IHTA** – has an annual meeting on 29-30 Nov. IHTA will be providing funding for trail work this fall. We also have \$25K from the MSB for trail work in Puntilla.

7.3. Chief Veterinarian – (Stu Nelson) In my report, I have provided you with a breakdown of the veterinarians that will be participating in the 2018 Iditarod.

- We have contracted services from two pathologists for the 2018 Iditarod.

Drop Dog Program –

- This last year we had issues that needed attention, and we have addressed those issues to include personnel communications, protocols, and re-implementing database access of all dropped dog transport status.

7.4. Finance Report – Don Patterson’s report is included in the board packet

7.5. Education Director – Diane Johnson’s report is included in the board packet.

8.1. Rules Committee –

- Approved the qualifiers for 2018 Iditarod.
- Wade Marrs will reach out to the non-responding races and request verification whether or not they intend to apply for qualification status.

8.2. Qualifying Review Board – (Please see 7.2-Race Director Report).

8.3. Honorary Musher Committee –

- The committee selected Joee Redington as the 2018 Honorary Musher.
- The Herbie Nayukpuk Award selectee is Howard Lincoln.

9. IOFC Report – (Wade Marrs)

- Announced to the IOFC that the ITC Board would like to meet with them after the race is over in April.
- Proposed a meet and greet with the mushers before the Anchorage banquet to hopefully eliminate some of the time issues.
- Would like to be able to contact the mushers to let them know how they can register for the musher portal.

11.1. Northrim Proposal for Trail Award in White Mountain – Board directed staff to move forward on working with Northrim to activate the award opportunity.

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.