Ontario Association of Equine Practitioners (OAEP)
Executive Meeting Minutes
Ontario Veterinary College
June 16, 2015

Members in Attendance

- Jessica Peatling, Elizabeth Shiland, Julie Ballinger, Patrick Meyers, Stan Henderson, Luis Arroyo, Colleen Best, Alison Moore, Tanya Smith, RVT.

Secretary Jessica Peatling brings meeting to order

- Motion put forward to start Executive Meeting by Secretary Jessica Peatling
- Motion passed by Luis Arroyo, all in favour, meeting started

ACTION: Secretary Jessica Peatling starts by putting forth a motion to approve the minutes from the last executive meeting on April 15, 2015

- Secretary Jessica Peatling motions to approve minutes
- Treasurer Patrick Meyers seconds motion, all are in favour, motion passed.

WELFARE COMMITTEE UPDATE:

- Liz Shiland discusses another rescue first week of May where an interview was done with Global News. She expressed that this was a great way to bring public awareness. Equine Welfare Guidelines are currently at a stand-still with OMAFRA and the welfare subcommittee. What is next when guidelines are approved? To create a network for veterinarians and other rescues and facilitate communication for all veterinarians when a situation occurs.

OAEP NEWSLETTER

- Jessica Peatling brings up an OAEP newsletter, and offers the task of putting one together if everyone wants to submit updates (welfare, racing committee, treasury update, etc). A deadline of June 30, 2015 for updates is set. A goal is set to have the newsletter out by the first week of July to membership. Stan Henderson speaks on rhinitis, and suggests to include a rhinitis update in the e-newsletter. There is some discussion of whether the letter to the CFIA should be included in the newsletter.

EQUINE RHINITIS/EQUINE VACCINATIONS UPDATE

- Stan states that he sent to the CFIA (specifically to Dr. Gifford) supporting the licensure of an Equine Rhinitis vaccine in Canada. There has been no response to date from CFIA/Dr. Gifford. It is decided that we try again to re-establish contact with the CFIA. This task is given to Pat Meyers to proceed with. A copy of the Equine Rhinitis letter is also to be sent to Colleen Best (the acting OVMA representative).
- Jessica Peatling updates the group on a recent meeting of Woodbine veterinarians which was held by Adam Chambers. At the meeting Adam Chambers asked the veterinarians if they would be in support of a mandatory vaccination program for racehorses. The group was overwhelmingly in favour. Adam Chambers agrees to put together a statement in support of mandatory vaccinations in racehorses for presentation to HBPA. As per Adam, the support of the HBPA would facilitate passing of the mandatory vaccination rule in racehorses.

RACING COMMITTEE UPDATE

- Julie Ballinger updates the group on issues of the racing committee. The ORC hasn't gotten around to rule change requests, and they don't know when they will be getting to them. Also discussed is the recent innappropriate televised media reporting during a breakdown at the recent Plate Trial. Discussions have been had with the ORC to establish an information sheet to give to the media for televised events, which would include specific terms that should/should not be used in the event of a catastrophic event. Discussion is also started on whether we can have an on call list of veterinarians to contact during high profile televised Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG) and Fort Erie (FE) events. The OVMA apparently has a dedicated person for media relations/media training, which may be a valuable resource.

OVMA UPDATE

- Colleen Best gives an update on OVMA related issues. Colleen is to follow-up on whether the OVMA would have media training resources that could be utilized by on-call veterinarians (see Racing Committee Update above). Colleen also asks if the OAEP is still considering changes to the constitution, stating that the OVMA is willing to support and work though the changes with us. The idea is brought up to put together a group of people who would be interested in helping with changes. A group of past presidents is suggested. It is decided to table this issue until the next executive meeting, so that everyone has an opportunity to review the current constitution.
    - ACTION: "Proposed constitution changes" is to be placed on the agenda for next executive meeting, and executive members are to read the constitution prior to the meeting.
- Colleen inquires whether we are still proceeding with regular meeting of the CVO, OVMA, ORC, and OAEP. She requests us to clarify the goals of these meetings. A discussion is had about whether or not the ORC should be included in these joint meetings. Subjects that could be discussed include the proposed medication ban, the 5-day sick rule in racing, as all of these are in limbo with ORC. The OVMA is to set up a meeting between the three organizations (OVMA, OAEP, OHR).
- Colleen brings up to the executive that some track veterinarians do not feel they are represented by the OAEP or are being misrepresented. This has come to her attention anonymously.

CE COMMITTEE UPDATE

- CE Committee is currently made up of Luis Arroyo, Colleen Best, and Jessica Peatling. The results of a recent survey sent to the membership were discussed. The survey obtained 53 responses, and the topic of lameness was at the top of the interest list by members.
- Luis Arroyo reflects on the latest webinar that we had on deworming/parasite control. Significant positive feedback was had on it, and this webinar had the highest registration rate. The webinar was completed paid for by the OAEP (no sponsorship). The future CE agenda consists of:
    - **A)** A Practitioner Panel in august, on the subject of respiratory or vaccinations or any other ideas of interest. Venue is to be the OVC, which would permit minimal spending (if any) on venue, with snacks/tea/coffee provided. The subject matter is open for discussion, recognizing that decisions need to be made soon.
    - **B)** Webinar in September on the subject of ophthalmology with a $500 budget for costs to run the software. Merial has been approached for sponsorship.
    - **C)** Conference, lameness, diagnostics, upscale CE event with a $3000-$5000 budget. Possibly to be held in the last week of October, with independent sponsorship (still to be determined). A weekend event is suggested.
    - **D)** A third webinar on a lameness related subject (topic to be determined), with a $500 budget, and sponsorship secured by Zoetis.

- A motion is put forth by Stan Henderson to approve the dates and budgets set for CE items, motion is seconded by Luis Arroyo. All in favour, none opposed. Motion Passed.

2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- There is discussion of whether we should consider approaching the OVMA for combining the AGM with the OVMA conference. This would also satisfy the request at last years' AGM to combine future AGM's with CE events. No final decision is made and the subject is tabled for later consideration. The option to survey the membership for their preference is also discussed.
- Specific details of the 2016 AGM meeting are to be determined.
- Discussion is had about obtaining a big (well-known) speaker. Ev post also had approached us about a potential partnering opportunity with Sue Dyson, who she is bringing up early next year. Full details have not yet been obtained from Ev Post. She has been invited to the last two executive meetings to present the potential opportunity, but has been unable to make it. We are still awaiting a proposal from her.

TREASURY UPDATE

- Pat Meyers presents the treasury update. The account has officially been signed over from Jessica Peatling to Pat Meyers.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Tanya Smith is to send Allison Moore 2015 AGM minutes and attendance.
- Tanya presents on membership numbers. It is decided we should touch base on members who have not renewed.
- The topic of the OAEP Website is tabled until the next meeting.

ACTION: Next exec meeting is set for Thursday August 13, 2015. Location to be determined.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting by President Stan Henderson

- Jessica Peatling seconds, all are in favour, meeting adjourned