

IDITAROD TRAIL COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
February 20, 2015

Present:

Board Members ~ Stan Foo, Mike Jonrowe, Andy Baker, Mike Owens

Telephone ~ Aaron Burmeister, John Handeland

Absent: Board Members, Rick Swenson, Paul Gebhardt, Danny Seybert

Staff ~ Stan Hooley, Mark Nordman, Stu Nelson, Don Patterson, Willie Karidis

Guests ~ Barbara Simpson Kraft, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Attorney,  
Joe Redington Sr is on the trail

Majority of Board present, Quorum reached.

Andy Baker calls meeting to order

**Adoption of Minutes: December 5, 2014 & February 10, 2015, Stan Foo motions to approve, second by Mike Owens. Passes unanimously**

CEO report, Stan Hooley:

Facts about the 2015 race, 78 mushers, 23 of top 30 entered again, 6 race champions.

\$1.25 million still to be earned this year. Based upon historical data and current projections we forecast to meet budget at the end of the fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

-Current debt:

1. \$250K loan to Iditarod Trail Race Foundation, used to collateralize line of credit from Wells Fargo established in May of 2013. Forecasted FYE balance \$250K. Wells Fargo balance on the line of credit is \$0 collateralized by ITRF May 2013.
2. \$100K line of credit established August 2007. Forecasted FYE balance \$100K  
In order to access line of credit it must be at zero for 60 days .

Raffle ticket sales are 600 ahead of last year. Due to TV advertising, primarily Alaskans are buying. Without \$75K from AK Dispatch we are doing better with TV advertising than we ever did before. DenaliMedia (TV) and Ohana Media (radio) have been driving traffic to raffle tickets.

Fairbanks Race Restart will incur increased race expenses. Forecasted net increase of \$20K. Some of those expenses could go down with Northern Air Cargo's in kind sponsorship. Pen Air will help us move people. Perhaps Alaska Airlines can help move people as well as, yet to be determined.

Doing our best to facilitate logistics in Fairbanks. Working with the community to funnel responsibilities with the appropriate parties in Fairbanks. There are a fair number of volunteers going up to Fairbanks with eager new volunteers from

Fairbanks ready to help. Restart is being organized from Arizona by Darrell Davis. Going to be a great event, just more work.

Baker: What can we do to honor George Attla?

Hooley: Huslia, is half way point. GCI Dorothy Page half way award will be presented there.

Nordman: Poster signed by all the mushers will be given to Attla's family.

Burmeister: Just being in Huslia honors George. He ran the Iditarod in '74.

Race Report, Mark Nordman:

Food drops are done through Airland. Finalizing logistics on the trail. Nice amount of snow, trail was good, some rough spots on the Tanana. Airland is moving snowmachines, trail and Insider up to Fairbanks.

Regarding the Ceremonial start in Anchorage, we've had it worse, we should be fine. Two new judges, Jim Davis and Andy Angsman this year.

We will have a race judge in front of the pack this year along with Mark.

Really pleased with decision to move to Fairbanks and how trail is shaping up.

Veterinarian Report, Stu Nelson:

Research project is being undertaken with Mike Davis as the mentor. We have sent it out to the mushers. The study will look at blood draw comparisons. We will try to determine how participation in races prior to the Iditarod influences blood results. Blood draws will be taken for our pre race screenings and then we will see what influence this may have on the blood results that I interpret. We will also look at performance during the Iditarod versus pre race blood results showed to see if there is a pattern which we can identify.

Historically Bering Sea has allowed us to use their facility for drop dogs. That space is not available this year. We do however have a heated trailer in the Millennium which can be used for drop dogs. First time this is available to us. This will work great.

Shaktoolik for vaccination clinic. We are checking on Huslia to see if this can be done in Huslia and if there is a need. Lot more coverage of shots being done now then before. What about Nome? Going to be difficult to do this during the race. Perhaps during the offseason.

Will have 48 Veterinarians this year are scheduled. Issue is that Vets block time for the race but they aren't available throughout the entire race. By the end of the race I will be lucky to have half that number.

Regarding drop dog logistics. All dogs in Manly and Tanana unless it is a critical care dog will go to Anchorage. All other checkpoints will go to Anchorage.

This years race will have fewer checkpoints but because of greater distances between checkpoints we may have additional veterinary demands in those checkpoints.

Board Development Committee:

At least 75 days prior (April 14, 2015) to the start of the Annual Members meeting the President will designate a Nominating Committee of the Board. (Established December 5, 2014, Aaron Burmeister (Chair), Danny Seybert, Wilson Hughes, Denise Michels). At least 60 days prior to the annual meeting (April 29, 2015) the Nominating Committee shall designate at least one and not more than two nominees for each seat being elected whether the person is nominated for a member elected seat or a Board elected seat.

Baker: We will have to have a Nominating committee Meeting before the next board meeting to figure this out. Will need to have the names submitted by the April 24<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

IOFC (Iditarod Official Finishers Club), Aaron Burmeister:

Burmeister, taking phone calls and emails from mushers quite often. Belt buckles (100) have been ordered for the next 4 years. Burmeister is keeping the belt buckles at his personal residence. Mushers have been calling me and congratulating the ITC on the decision to move the race to Fairbanks.

Bylaw Discussion, Barbara Simpson Kraft, Attorney for Davis Wright Tremaine LLP:

The Board of Directors reviewed the bylaws showing changes prepared by legal counsel, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP (indicated as 1/29/15 version in meeting materials). Additional changes to various sections (including but not limited to 5.1, 5.9, 8.3 and 11.1) were suggested during discussion. In addition, the characterization of each seated director's seat as Board or Member elected was agreed upon as follows:

- (i) the three seats previously known as "C", "I", and "P" (all of which were "at-large" seats) are the member-elected seats;
- (ii) letter characterizations of seats were replaced with numeric designations, with 1-6 being board-elected seats and 7-9 being member-elected seats;
- (iii) the IOFC Seat was designated as seat 6; and
- (iv) each currently seated director's term remains unchanged.

**A motion was made by Stan Foo and seconded by Mike Jonrowe to adopt the bylaws with the changes discussed during today's meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

Rules Committee Recommendation, Mark Nordman:

**Requesting that the Nome Counsel Race be considered added as a qualifying race. A motion was made by Mike Owens and seconded by Aaron Burmeister. The motion passed unanimously.**

Director Comments:

Jonrowe, appreciated Bylaw discussion.

Owens, looking forward to 2015 race and the impact of communities

Foo, appreciate input and meeting

Burmeister, thank you for participation

Hooley, element of excitement building for the race, no doubt a challenge but we are looking forward to it all

Meeting adjourned