IGRA MINUTES

IGRA Minutes: 4th Quarter Board of Directors Meeting
Date: November 16, 2023
Time: 0930am
Place: Reno, NV
Recorder: Gene Fraikes

President Brian Helander as Chair called the meeting to order at 931am. Roll Call/Members Present: Secretary Michael Norman conducted the roll call of Trustees and Officers present. Determination was made that a quorum was present to conduct business.

Business Proceedings

Order of business: Approval of minutes from July Board of Directors meeting.

- **Motion made by Chuck Browning to approve the minutes second by Michael Butts. Discussion was held. Tim Smith expressed that we should not be using anything to identify people in the Board of Directors minutes other than the legal name of the person. All was in agreement. President Brian Helander directed the Secretary Michael Normal to audit the previous minutes and amend them to reflect the legal name of those mentioned. Being no further discussion the motion passed.**

Order of business: Executive Reports

- **President Brian Helander deferred his report until later in the meeting. However, he did report that the Executive Board did meet in August 1, 2023 to review a request submitted for support from the Rodeo Crisis Fund. Brian reported that the request was denied because the stated reason was a medical issue and not a rodeo related injury, and therefore did not meet the requirements for support.**

- **Vice President Michael Butts deferred his report to be given on the convention floor.**

- **Secretary Michael Norman reported on his personal health issues and thanked everyone for the help and support in his process of recovery.**

- **Treasurer David Hill reported that the financials for October were not yet available due to missing invoices from 2023 WGRF. David advised that the September financials had been posted to the website. David reported that there was only one accounts receivable at this time. This was for $800.00 due from MIGRA. He advised this would need to be received prior to the start of convention for MIGRA to be seated.**

- **Trustees Chair Sammy Simpkins reported that the Trustees were behind on approving minutes for pre and post rodeo review minutes and requested they be sent out to allow the Trustees to vote to approve them.**

Order of business: Announcement from Roger Bergmann 2025 WGRF

- **Roger Bergmann reported that Hotel bids were being prepared for approval of the Board of Directors. He also stated that the committee was made aware that the group that manages the "Gay Day" events around the country was planning to be in Reno the same time as our WGRF in 2025. He advised that Gay Days were planning to support our finals rodeo.**

Order of business: Presidents report

- **Brian Helander reported that this past year has been challenging but fun. He thanked everyone for their support. Brian believes we have tried new things at rodeos and congratulated everyone of doing so successfully. Brian also commented on some of the new things attempted and the different partners he has seen. He encouraged this sort of thing to continue. Brian reported on some of the challenges we would face in the upcoming year, including website issues, infrastructure issues, as well as convention technical issues. Beginning to explore how we can begin to expand our diversity, and inclusion stance both internally within the organization but also through outreach to groups such as the Non-binary community. Comments were made concerning the need to start looking at how outsiders see us and begin to improve that perception.**

Order of business: Standing committee reports

- **At this time the chair referred all standing committee reports to the convention floor.**

Order of business: Executive Director report.

- **Tommy Channel reported that he would begin the process of requesting quotes for 2024 general liability policy. In order to do this he will need the 2024 calendar completed with both rodeos as well as rodeo schools to include in policy. Tommy also requested that anyone who knows of insurance companies that insure rodeos to pass that information on to him.**
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Order of business: Royalty and Grand Marshal buckles issue.

- **Motion was made by Mark Christensen and seconded by Chuck Browning to repair or place these buckles at a cost not to exceed $500.00. After discussion the motion passed.**

OLD BUSINESS

Order of business: Convention 2024 – Grand Rapids MI.

- **Hotel contract was presented for approval. Since MIGRA was hosting the convention and not IGRA no action was needed on the contract.**

The chair recessed the meeting at 1015am for a short break.
The chair reconvened the meeting at 1030am.

At this time the Chair appointed Ron Trusley as Parliamentarian for the remainder of the meeting.

A question was raised concerning how convention 2024 ended up being set up in Grand Rapids to determine whether it is actually a MIGRA or IGRA function. The chair advised we would defer this issue to be handled at the post convention Board of Directors meeting.

Order of business: Approval of 2024 rodeos and rodeo school applications

- **Motion was made by Michael Normal to approve all applications. Motion was then withdrawn. Motion was made by David Hill to approve the MGRA rodeo and rodeo school application and seconded by Tim Smith. Motion passed.**
- **Motion was made by Chuck Browning to approve CRGRA rodeo application and was seconded. Motion passed.**
- **Motion was made by Michael Norman and seconded by Michael Butts to approve CGRA 2024 rodeo, noting variance for having tractor in the arena during speed events. Motion passed.**
- **Motion was made by Mark Christensen seconded by Michael Butts to approve NMGRA rodeo application. Motion passed**
- **Motion was made by Tim Smith and seconded to approve the NSGRA rodeo application. Discussion was held concerning the rodeo dates not on the application. Dates were provided by Trustee Chris Tobin and application updated. Treasurer David Hill confirmed that the required funds had been received. Motion passed.**
- **Motion was made by David Hill and seconded by Michael Norman to approve rodeo application for NGRA rodeo noting the application has a variance for a 90 minute registration period. Motion passed.**
- **Motion was made by David Hill and seconded by Tim Smith to approve rodeo application for GSGRA Best Buck in the Bay rodeo. Motion passed.**
- **At this time President Brian Helander requested Michael Lentz to resurrect the document showing dates of future rodeos for planning purposes. Michael Lentz agreed to do so.**

Order of business: WGRF 2025 Hotel proposal

- **Motion made by Chuck Browning and second by Jack Morgan to approve the Hotel contract.**
- **Discussion was held with concern voiced concerning the number of rooms in the block as well as the cost of the rooms. Prices were higher than those we got for convention for the same venue.**
- **Motion failed**

Meeting was recessed by the chair at 1126am for lunch
Meeting was reconvened at 1233pm

Order of business: 2024 University in Las Vegas

- **Brian Helander explained the details of the contract with the Sin City Classic event being held that weekend. Brian explained that he had already signed the contract due to time constraints and was asking for ratification of that signing.**
- **Motion was made by Chuck Browning and seconded by Rick Jones to ratify the signing of the contract. There was no discussion.**
- **Motion passed**

Order of business: Selection of dates for 2024 in person meetings

- **Through discussion the following recommendation was made.**
    - **1st Quarter BOD meeting to be held 1/12/24 at 930am local time at University in Las Vegas NV.**
    - **2nd Quarter BOD meeting to be held 4/12/24 at TGRA rodeo in Denton Texas at 930am local time.**
    - **3rd Quarter BOD meeting to be held 7/26/24 at NSGRA rodeo in Minneapolis MN at 930am local time.**
    - **4th Quarter BOD meeting to be held at Convention 2024 in Grand Rapids MI date to be determined.**
- **Motion was made by Chuck Browning and second by Rick Jones to approval these dates. Motion passed**

Order of business: Dates for Virtual BOD Meetings

- **Through discussion the following recommendation was made**
    - **May 29, 2024 at 530pm PST/730pm CT**
    - **September 25, 2024 at 530pm PST/730pm CT**

Order of business: WGRF Committee Update

- **Information to be given during committee meeting with any action items handled at the post convention BOD meeting.**

Order of business: 2025/2026 University report on proposals

- **Chuck Browning reported about possible venues for the event in Tempe Az. And recommended the information be forwarded to the University Committee for review.**

Order of business: UGRA Rodeo Application

- **Guy Puglisi made a motion to sanction the rodeo based on the application presented by UGRA and second by Rick Jones.**
- **Motion Passed**

At this time the BOD had a guest from the Reno Sparks Convention Bureau who spoke briefly with a welcome and express how glad they were to have us there.

OLD BUSINESS

Order of business: User fee for registration system

- **Discussion held to attempt to craft the proposal for the convention floor concerning how we would handle this fee.**
- **Options presented were to charge each registering contestant a flat fee at the time of registration regardless of number of events entered and the possibility of raising the entry fee per event, per day by $3.00 to cover the costs of using the system.**
- **Discussion was held and concern was voiced on both issues. After much discussion the Chair placed the issue on hold to talk about the registration system in general.**

Order of business: Rodeo Registration System

- **Brain gave an overview of where the registration system is at this time. This included the issue of not having complete control of the system due to not having the interface to set up rodeos as needed. This currently needs to be done by the vendor for each rodeo.**
- **Brain explained that we needed to decide if we wanted to go back and develop the front end functionality to set up our own rodeos now, or proceed with the development of the system.**
- **There was discussion concerning why we didn't have this? What it would cost and then the total spent to date on the system in general. There was concern voiced that we may be moving too fast and spending too much money on the system.**

- **Mark Christensen made a motion to table the decision concerning the registration system until the 1/12/24 meeting and second by Rick Jones.**
- **Discussion was held and there was a request that all aspects of the system develop be made available for review at that time. Motion Passed.**

Order of business: 2025 WGRF facility contract

- **Motion was made by Guy Puglisi to approve the contract and second by Tim Smith.**
- **After much discussion concerning the aspects of the contract Brian Helander requested that all questions and concerns be sent to himself and Roger Bergmann via email.**
- **Guy Puglisi withdrew his motion to approve.**

Order of business: Entry Fees

- **Since it was going to require a proposal at convention to raise the entry fees to cover the credit card and other IT expenses, Guy Puglisi asked for input on whether the board felt we should do this before he put together the proposal. The consensus of the board was primarily negative at doing this at this time. No other action was taken.**

Order of business: ILGRA seating as new member association

- **Michael Norman reported all requirements had been met at this time.**
- **Ron Trusley reported on the process of seating new member associations and determined that the issue will go through the membership committee and then brought to the convention floor.**

Order of business: Association announcements

- **Announcements made concerning each associations upcoming activities.**

Order of business: Adornment

- **There being no further business at this time the meeting was ajorned by the chair at 258pm**