

**PEACEFUL VALLEY DONKEY RESCUE'S  
JULY 2020 TRUSTEE MEETING**

July 14, 2020  
COVID-19 Edition via Zoom

Meeting called to order by Mark Meyers at 8:00 pm

All members present: Mark Meyers, Amy Meyers, Michele Halfmann, Jack Yañez, Jacob Meyers, Joshua Meyers, Dr. John Roueche, Scott Jewett, Kevin Elliott, Vicki MacKenney and Debbie Foley

Mark presented the revised Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue (PVDR) Bylaws, communication by telegraph was removed and communication by any mode of digital means was added. Mark Meyers made the motion we accept these changes.

Discussion: There was no discussion

Debbie Foley seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

Therefore Zoom Video Conferencing was an acceptable means of holding the meeting.

The meeting minutes from the previous meeting was read and approved.

There was no outstanding old business.

**Purchases made since the last Trustee Meeting:**

A small John Deere tractor for the Lost Meadows Mule Refuge (LMMR)

A Rawhide Portable Corral for sanctuary and rescue projects

A Portable Tilt Chute from WW Manufacturing

Two 24' stock trailers to replace the 32' trailers removing the DOT requirement.

75 HP John Deere Tractor for Texas, Shipping old 75 HP Tractor to West.

Renovations continue on the three bedroom house. It will be set up with bunk beds for visiting students.

17 Security Camera System in Texas by Unifeye

These purchases were discussed, voted on and approved via WhatsApp at various times throughout 2020.

**Financials**

PVDR is sitting on too much cash in one bank. Due to COVID and uncertain financial times it is imperative that we get FDIC protection. Mark wants to move One Million Dollars into our Edward Jones brokerage account. This will bring our entire portfolio to just over One Million Two Hundred Thousand. He also wants to move Nine Hundred Thousand in Edward Jones and purchase a series of CDs with varying maturity dates, therefore allowing us access to funds at different times without penalty.

The mortgage on the ranch is still pending as the attorneys work through the process.

The two loans on the last two of our pickup trucks were paid off. This was to facilitate the transfer of the old trucks to Enterprise as we purchase their replacements through Enterprise Fleet Management.

Mark suggested that we make the Edward Jones investment account into an endowment for the future of PVDR. Discussion was made but was tabled until the next meeting.

Mark made the motion the Audit of 2019 be approved  
It was emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting for review  
Discussion: There was no discussion  
Jack seconded the motion  
Motion carried unanimously

### **Lost Meadows Mule Refuge**

80 acres is being donated to PVDR once it clears probate near Lawton, OK. Mark would like to eventually move LMMR's operations to this parcel.

Mark made the motion that we begin the process to make LMMR its own corporation with its own 501(c)(3) status.  
Kevin seconded the motion.  
There was no discussion  
Motion carried unanimously

### **Standard Operating Procedures**

PVDR's Standard Operating Procedures are up for re-approval. Mark asked everyone to review the current SOP and look for any revisions that should be made. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Drug Policy**

Because of our new transportation model, shipping donkeys shorter distances in fewer quantities from our Regional Offices, we are no longer under DOT regulations for our drivers.

Mark brought up the subject of smoking marijuana, how will this effect our drug policy? Marijuana is legal in several states that we operate in. We previously included marijuana in our banned substance due to the fact that our drivers could not use marijuana as they are under federal guidelines.

Dr. John suggested we make it the same as our alcohol policy, Joshua asked how do we test for this in a work environment?

Vicki suggested get information from a State that already has legal drug use policy and go from there. More research is needed on this topic. We will revisit at our next meeting.

### **International:**

International travel is banned. Everything in the Caribbean is on hold. We do have a viable plan for Grand Turks, to help them with their donkey population and control. Madison and Kyle

are willing to take on the International Director position. Scott does not like the politics involved on the Islands and does not feel Madison and Kyle can handle it, he feels they are too young and inexperienced.

The plan for Gran Turk is different from the problems that plagued St. Eustatius. The Turks and Caicos government is on board with Mark's plan. The plan is to castrate all adult males, leaving the foals intact. We relocate the donkeys to two natural wells and provide hay. This will eventually reprogram the donkeys behavior and lead to fewer conflicts with humans.

Bonaire Donkey Sanctuary is a nightmare, they may have to shut down. Due to the problems in Venezuela they cannot get hay. Marina has more donkeys than she can handle. They will eventually need our help.

The main office has received several calls regarding adoption interest in Canada. The difficulties of international transportation is daunting. No motion was made but the unanimous decision was made to not ship donkeys to Canada.

### **The future of PVDR**

Donkey Sanctuary United Kingdom has lost their way. Instead of honoring the memory and wishes of their founder, they are now pulling all of their field operations. We need to figure out how to keep this from happening to Peaceful Valley when the current Board and Founders are no longer involved. This was tabled until the next meeting to give everyone time to come up with ideas.

Mark feels we should hire a professional CEO to take over as Executive Director when he is ready to retire. Also, as we replace the current Executive Officers, their replacements will not have a vote on the Board, more in line with traditional charities.

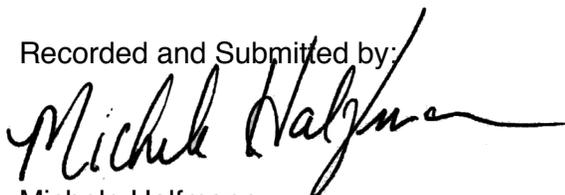
Mark also feels that the executive staff should have to work out of the San Angelo office this would be the Executive Director, Vice President(s), Chief Financial Officer and the Secretary. This will promote cohesion.

Mark closed the meeting by declaring "We are at the End of the Beginning". PVDR has seen massive growth over the past two decades, he now feels that we need to improve all internal operations to ensure that we remain the very best equine rescue in the world.

Next meeting to be held in December. Exact date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned 9pm

Recorded and Submitted by:



Michele Halfmann  
Corporate Secretary