

# **Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)**

## **Board of Directors' Meeting**

*January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

*Via Zoom*

President Doug Pearce called the meeting to order at 2:00pm

**Directors Present:** President Doug Pearce, Vice President Ashley Lee, Jann Parker, Kelly Fraser, Mike Hoffman, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke, John Delmonte and Cindy Fraser

**Directors Excused:**

**Others Present:** Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller

### **OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

President Doug Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting, Secretary Valee Miller called for the Roll Call.

President Doug Pearce asked for approval for the 11.6.24 Directors Meeting Minutes

Michelle Van Dyke made a motion to approve the 11.6.24 Directors Meeting Minutes, seconded by John Delmonte, Motion Passed.

### **Standing Monthly Meeting**

- There was discussion by the board of the continuance of the monthly board meetings held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. The board unanimously agreed to this and, there was a decision if there was no discussion there would be no meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Tentative Show Schedule**

- President Doug Pearce stated at this time there will be no MCHA Cutting in Dillon, Montana due to the lack of venue.
  - Vice President Ashley Lee stated there is a possibility of having a MCHA Cutting in Vaughn, Montana the last weekend in June
  - Andi James continues to be the contact for the Big Piney, Wyoming show. She plans on keeping the schedule close to the same as 2024. Planning on 2 Weekend Shows & 4 LAE Shows. Andi James would like to hire Judges & make all travel arrangements.
    - There was a board discussion about increasing the daily rate of Judges from the previous \$500 to the going rate of 2025.

- The NILE board has reached out to the MCHA board of directors to have an MCHA approved show with their show in October, this will be based on cattle availability.
- MCHA Approved Shows
  - 2 Shows @ Miller's Horse Palace Billings, Montana Clayton Miller, Producer
  - 2 Shows @ Deer Lodge, Montana MCHA Produced
  - NCHA Days Show, Sheridan, Wyoming Triangle T Produced
  - Utah Show, still deciding on which one
    - Michelle Van Dyke brought up discussion of having 2 shows approved on the west side of the state, and 2 shows in Wyoming for the east side of the state.
    - There was board discussion about having Miller's Horse Palace produce a show in October to be the MCHA Year End show instead of having it in the middle of September with their show.
  - Michelle Van Dyke made a motion that all in state shows be MCHA approved as well as two out of state shows. Kelly Fraser to second, motion passed.

### **2025 Approved Classes**

- President Doug Pearce lead discussion on keeping all the same approved classes from 2024.
- Cindy Fraser made the motion to approve all classes from 2024, Mike Hoffman to second this. Motion passed.

### **Year End Awards**

- There was board discussion of attending 2 or 3 in state shows to qualify for year end awards. Discussion led to the agreement 3 in state shows would need to be attended to qualify for year end awards. Cindy Fraser made a motion for this, Michelle Van Dyke to second, motion was passed.

### **MCHA Approval Fees**

- As per rule 10
  - 10. MCHA approval fees are \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class LESS MCHA memberships collected. If total memberships collected by a producer are less than \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class, the show producer is responsible for paying the deficiency. If total memberships collected by a producer are greater than \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class, the show producer is not required to pay an approval fee. Reciprocal show approval agreements or other arrangements deemed to be in the financial interest of MCHA may also be approved by the Board of Directors. Any approval fees owed shall be sent to the MCHA Secretary-Treasurer along with the results of the show

within ten (10) days of the close of the show. The show secretary is responsible for submitting approval and results to the NCHA

- Kelly Fraser made a motion to void Rule 10 and require no approval fees for non MCHA shows. Cindy Fraser to second.  
Motion Passed

### **Operating Budget Items**

- 2024 P&L
  - Finalizing the 2024 P&L. Reaching out to past board members Peri Suenram & John Seymour as to what is still outstanding for Hat Certificates & Custom Chaps to close out the 2024 year.
- 2025 Budget
  - Michelle Van Dyke brought up discussion of lowering the Year End Awards budget from \$20,000 to \$15,000. There was a board discussion in which the board agreed with their contacts they could easily make this happen in 2025.

### **Committee Assignments**

- Show Committee
  - Ashley Lee, Mike Hoffman, Kelly Fraser
- Year End Awards
  - Jann Parker, Cindy Fraser, Ashley Lee
- Year End Banquet
  - Cindy Fraser, Michelle Van Dyke
- Sponsorship
  - John Delmonte leading everyone on the board
- Nominating Committee
  - Cody Lee, Kelly Fraser
- Rules Committee
  - Board

### **Checking Account**

- There was a board discussion of moving from Wells Fargo to a local Montana Bank, Stockman Bank of Montana. Valee Miller, Treasurer, stated that Wells Fargo has made several errors in which she feels it would be easier to have a local contact.
  - Kelly Fraser made a motion to change from Wells Fargo to Stockman Bank, Jann Parker to second. Motion Passed
  - Jann Parker made a motion to move \$100,000 to a Stockman Bank CD once the board was informed of options and interest rates, Michelle Van Dyke to second. Motion passed.

### **Other**

- Elections

- There was discussion between Kelly Fraser and President Doug Pearce on the elections and concerns for changes with future elections.
  - Possibility of giving every membership an identity number, which in turn would allow only one vote per number.
  - Discussion with Big Sky Internet about future changes to make the election voting more accurate
- Website
  - There was a board discussion about updating the website for 2025. Discussion with Valee Miller about changes they would like to see with the Schedule, Sponsors, Meeting Minutes, Past Results.
- Credit Card Fee
  - Valee Miller brought attention to the board about upping the credit card percentage fee for 2025. The vendors have upped their charge fee for 2025 so we now need to be charging more to cover this.

Michelle Van Dyke made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:46 p.m., Mike Hoffman Seconded the Motion. Meeting was adjourned by President Doug Pearce.