

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

January 2nd, 2021
Via Zoom

President Will Nuttall called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Directors Present: President Will Nuttall, Vice President Cindy Garoutte, Nancy LaCounte, Kelsey Fraser, Wylie Fraser, Kathy Foote, and Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Represented by Proxy: Roy Oliver and Alison Anderson (both through Kelsey Fraser)

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the November 23rd, 2020 Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MCHA License Plate

President Will Nuttall asked Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser to update the Board on the status of the License Plate. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser said that the plate design, which was chosen by the Board, had been sent to the Department of Corrections for production and would be ready for release at the end of January. She told the Board that Lee Wirthlin wants to do a release campaign at that time. Lee had not yet spoken to the State regarding how the funds generated from the sale of the plate may be used (such as for awards), but she will be working on clarification as soon as the plate launch is finished.

NCHA Circuit Program

President Will Nuttall told the Board that he had been in contact with NCHA to express his concern over the current regions that constitute the Circuits. He said that he was concerned the current Circuits cover too vast of an area. There had been discussion about splitting the state of Montana, so western Montana may join the Redwood Circuit. The Board felt that splitting the state would ultimately be detrimental to cutting in Montana. Kelly Fraser told the Board that she understood NCHA will allow shows to get dual Circuit approval from adjoining Circuits and that should help with some of the concerns. The main point the Board wanted to address is not limiting attendance at Montana shows. Will Nuttall is concerned with shows in surrounding states putting on shows over the top of Montana shows. Cindy Garoutte said that as of right now, there are no shows scheduled over the top of one and other. It was decided by the Board that this discussion should continue at a later date and as new developments in the Program arise.

Election By Laws

Kathy Foote said that the committee had drafted the proposed By Law changes and Tanya Dvarishkis is in the process of reviewing it. They should have a draft by the end of the month to distribute to the Board.

MCHA Audit

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser told the Board she had spoken more in depth with the MCHA's accounting firm Fagan & Cook, and they would not be able to do the audit as requested. They had originally thought they would be able to run an internal audit/review of the MCHA books but after more thought, they felt they would be opening themselves up to an issue of liability. They explained that to do an actual audit, an accounting firm must be certified to do so. Once an audit has been completed by a firm, the findings must then be sent to two additional firms for review. An audit would cost no less than \$14,000.00 to complete. The accountant feels that for a company as small as MCHA, it would be ridiculous to have a formal audit. A formal audit is mostly used by companies that receive large sums of government grants (\$1 Million), school districts, colleges, or Tribes. Their suggestion is to have the bank reconciliations done by them each month; this process would catch any discrepancies in the books. The cost would be under \$100 per month. They noted as of right now, when they do the taxes the entire QuickBooks file is sent to them not simply a printout of expenses and income. As they do the taxes, they in essence, are doing an internal review of the books currently. Wylie Fraser made the motion to have the MCHA accounting firm do the end of month bank reconciliations. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and passed on a voice vote.

Savings or Interest Account

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they were still interested in moving money from the checking account to some form of interest-bearing account. The Board felt at this time, not knowing how 2021 would progress, it would be best to table this for a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

2021 Show Schedule

Vice President Cindy Garoutte had previously provided the Board with the shows and dates that were under consideration for approval. She noted that there may be a possible addition of a Wyoming show, Saratoga, but she was waiting to hear on that date. She also noted that there is currently discussion on several additional shows such as: Lewistown, Great Falls and Corvallis. Kelsey Fraser also noted that Rob Fraser is working on possible shows in Glasgow, Miles City and Baker.

There was discussion by the Board for approval of Nampa, ID and Rapid City, SD. The Board felt that it should support as many area shows as possible, so both shows should be on the schedule and approved. Wylie Fraser made the motion to approve both Nampa, ID and Rapid City, SD. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and carried on a voice vote.

Based on the past reciprocal approval of the Big Piney show and one Utah show, the board decided on the April 21-24 Ogden UT show. Because the October Utah show is after the 2021 MCHA Year End, that show was not considered for approval.

Vice President Cindy Garoutte said that she had been in contact with Andi James regarding the Big Piney show. The James family would be interested in becoming the show management with compensation. President Will Nuttall thought that they should be paid the same as a show judge at \$500 per day as well as pre- and post-show days at \$125-\$150 per day. Wylie made the motion for the James family to be the Big Piney show management. Motion was seconded by Kelsey Fraser and passed on a voice vote. There was discussion by the Board of having two judges at the show along with two show pens. The second barn at the fairgrounds was discussed as a loping area and possibly for a practice pen to be added. Kelly Fraser said that as she understood from Andi James, as long as the second arena was available there was a possibility for MCHA to use it for those purposes. Will Nuttall felt that if Big Piney was to grow this may be the year for that push. Cindy Garoutte will follow up with Andi James regarding the Boards decision and possible ideas.

The Board felt that because of the success of past years shows, it would be important this year to offer fresh cattle in ALL classes whenever possible. The Board will be cognizant of the financial implications with additional cattle cost, but they felt it is most important to give back to those just starting in the sport of cutting.

The following shows were unanimously approved by the MCHA Board of Directors:

January 18-20: Rapid City, SD (Black Hills Stock Show)

March 24-28: Nampa, Idaho

April 16-18: Laurel, MT

April 21-24: Ogden, UT

April 30-May 2: Gillette, WY

May 26-30: Livingston, MT (MCHA Produced)

June 10-13: Dillon, MT (MCHA Produced)

June 19-26: Western Nationals Denver, CO (NCHA show listed for information only)

August 11-15: Big Piney, WY (MCHA Produced)

September TBD: Livingston, MT (MCHA Produced)

September 17-19: Laurel, MT

October 1-3: Circuit Finals – Gillette, WY

Never Won A Buckle Class (NWAB)

President Will Nuttall asked the Board for some input as to offering the NWAB class at shows. The Board discussed the pros of offering the class and encouraging new participation in cutting. It was decided that the show producer will decide if the NWAB Class will be held at a show and MCHA will provide the buckles. Nancy LaCounte will order 6 additional buckles with no year engraved.

2021 Approved Classes

President Will Nuttall asked the Board if they felt there was a need to change the list of approved classes for the 2021 show year. The Board felt there was no need to change the class list for 2021. Our MCHA 2021 Approved Classes will be as follows:

Open

Non-Pro

\$50,000 Amateur

\$25,000 Novice Horse

\$25,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro

Junior Youth

Senior Youth

\$35,000 Non-Pro

\$15,000 Amateur

\$5,000 Novice Horse

\$5,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro

\$2,000 Limit Rider

****Open Derby**

****Non-Pro Derby**

****Open Classic**

****Non-Pro Classic**

****It will be up to the show producer whether to offer these classes. All other approved classes must be offered in order for a show to receive MCHA approval.**

****1,500 Novice Horse may be offered by the show producer; however, it is not an approved MCHA class and will not be eligible for year-end awards.**

****The Board discussed the possibility of a 2-handed or Rancher class to be offered. They decided that if a show producer feels there would be interest it would be up to them to offer the class/classes.**

2021 Year End Awards

Minimum Participation

President Will Nuttall opened the floor to discussion regarding having a minimum show attendance rule in order to be eligible for year-end awards. Kelsey Fraser noted that some people attending the awards banquet were disappointed that year-end awards were leaving the state. She felt that it may be important to the Non-Pro and Amateur riders to indeed implement a minimum participation rule. The Board noted that this is not as important to the Open riders as it will be to the Non-Pro/Amateurs. Kelsey Fraser made the motion that in order to qualify for year-end awards in the Non-Pro Classes, Amateur Classes, \$2000 Limit Rider and Youth; you must attend 50% of the MCHA approved shows. Open rider classes and all LAE classes will be excluded from the rule. Motion was seconded by Wylie Fraser and carried on a voice vote. Kelly Fraser will keep the standings and Cindy Garoutte will audit.

Membership Deadline

President Will Nuttall said he felt that in order for your earnings to count you would need to purchase your MCHA membership on that show date. He did not feel that a retroactive membership was warranted. The Board agreed.

Re-Run Cattle Shootout

President Will Nuttall said the 2020 Re-Run Cattle Shootout was very encouraging to membership and should be continued. The Board agreed that the \$2000 saddle voucher was a hit and should be done again for 2021. Will Nuttall said that since the Board agreed that fresh cattle will be offered at MCHA shows, as allowed, he would like to see the Re-Run Shoot-out renamed the “Jack Pot Cattle Class Shoot-Out”. The Board agreed that this name change would have a more positive context.

Placing to Give Awards To

The Board was in agreement that giving Year-End Awards to three places would be in the best interest of MCHA for 2021, as was done in 2020.

Special Awards

President Will Nuttall asked the Board if there needed to be any changes to the Special Awards offered, the Board felt that the awards should stand.

The Special Awards for 2021 will be as follows:

- MCHA Open Horse of the Year – Top 3 horses in each Open class excluding LAE classes, to be voted on by the membership.
- MCHA Non-Pro / Amateur Horse of the Year – Top 3 horses in each Non-Pro or Amateur class excluding LAE classes, to be voted on by the membership.

- Adult Rookie of the Year (Voted on by the Board of Directors). Eligible candidates include adult MCHA members in good standing, having \$0 NCHA lifetime earnings at the beginning of the show year.
- Kim Asay/Most Inspirational (Voted on by the Board of Directors). The award goes to someone thought to be a fierce competitor, showing great sportsmanship both in and out of the arena, while continuing to place a high value on family, friends, and faith.

MCHA Approval Fees

President Will Nuttall noted to the Board that approval fees have become a thing of the past. He said right now it is more important to encourage cutting instead of exchanging money between affiliates. Kelly Fraser noted that in 2020 MCHA only received approval fees from one show and it was only at \$2 per run (approved by 2020 Board) as opposed to the \$4 currently required by MCHA. Will Nuttall said he does not want to see MCHA hurt a show producer by requiring approval fees be paid. He said instead we should be thanking producers. The motion was made by Nancy LaCounte to eliminate the \$4/run approval fee for 2021 shows. Seconded by Wylie Fraser; motion carried 7-approved 2-opposed.

2021 Operating Budget

Secretary/Treasure Kelly Fraser had provided to the Board several financial documents including the 2020 final P & L as well as a proposed 2021 budget. She asked the Board if they had any questions on the finances, none were asked.

The Board agreed to continue offering sponsors of \$400 or higher a free MCHA membership.

The Board agreed to continue the \$2000 saddle voucher for the class champions drawing at the awards banquet.

The Board agreed that the Jack Pot Cattle Class Shoot-Out would have no charges to the participants in 2021, as was in 2020. Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they would consider rolling over GFK Trailer Sales Shoot-Out sponsorship for 2021. She said that because of the turmoil of 2020 they did not receive the recognition that was promised, they also were sponsoring the fresh cattle for the Shoot-Out and we did not have a full set of fresh cattle available. The Board agreed it would be a show of good will to carryover their sponsorship for 2021.

The Board agreed that the Awards budget would remain at \$15,000.00 for 2021. Those individuals receiving awards that are not in attendance during the banquet will be responsible for postage or pickup. Nancy LaCounte noted that there are 2-Headstalls, 2-Blankets and 2-Cowhide Bags left over from the 2020 awards. It was decided by the Board to use those as circuit awards or hard luck awards at shows throughout the year.

Annual Review of Secretary/Treasurer Compensation – Closed Session

Following discussion by the Board, it was decided that the 2021 Compensation for the MCHA Secretary/Treasurer position would be increased to \$885/month with a year-end bonus dependent upon a successful show year and to be decided by the Board.

2021 Committee Assignments

President Will Nuttall told the Board that each Committee Chairperson Appointee would be responsible for creating their own Committee Board. He chose the following Committee Chairs:

Show Committee: Cindy Garoutte (per Constitution, Vice President is Chairman)

Year End Awards: Nancy LaCounte

Year End Banquet: Alison Anderson

Sponsorship: Kelsey Fraser

Nominating: Roy Oliver

Rules Committee: Shall be the entire MCHA BOD

President Will Nuttall said he would like to see a “Task Force” put together for all MCHA shows. He noted that in all possible situations MCHA would utilize local members to help with shows. The Task Force would be responsible for major decisions regarding shows such as dates for shows to be held and cattle procurement. Motion was made by Wylie Fraser that Will Nuttall would create a Task Force and be Chairperson of said Task Force. Will Nuttall would be responsible for asking individuals to be on the Task Force. Seconded by Nancy LaCounte and carried on a voice vote.

Encouragement of New Membership

President Will Nuttall said he would like to see a clinic held, free of charge, to those interested in the sport of cutting. He said one possible option would be for several trainers to get together to put on a clinic at a designated location. The Board discussed possibly having a clinic for High School cutters and Youth cutters. Kathy Foote offered to host a clinic at her barn. Kelly Fraser noted that Clayton Miller would offer his arena free of charge, there may only be a cattle fee to those interested in attending.

Signatory on MCHA Wells Fargo Checking Account

Kathy Foote said she would be in Arizona this month and would get together with Will Nuttall to add him to the checking account and remove herself.

Angela Bauer Scholarship

Kathy Foote said that Jessica Lee had indeed agreed to take over the Angela Bauer Scholarship account. The Board would like to have a scholarship cutting at the Livingston and Big Piney shows and is open to having other summer shows offer it as well.

Clarification of Memberships

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser told the Board that the membership application may need to be re-worded to clarify what constitutes a family membership. She said in 2020 there were issues with children over the age of 18 on a membership with their parents. The Board agreed that a family membership would not include children over the age of 18. Those individuals over 18 would be required to have their own individual membership. Kelly Fraser will change the membership application so that it is clearly noted, as well as noting that a family membership is only entitled to one vote and a youth membership has no vote. Kelsey Fraser said she would like to see a new membership survey go out to better reflect the current MCHA demographic. President Will Nuttall said Kelsey Fraser would oversee putting out a survey to the membership similar to the one sent out in 2016.

Other New Business

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they liked the Zoom format, which they did. She suggested that going forward they use Zoom and cancel the current CenturyLink account. This will save money for the association going forward. The Board agreed.

President Will Nuttall adjourn the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

February 1st, 2021

Via Zoom

President Will Nuttall called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Directors Present: President Will Nuttall, Vice President Cindy Garoutte, Nancy LaCounte, Kelsey Fraser, Wylie Fraser, Kathy Foote, Michelle Van Dyke, Roy Oliver, and Alison Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the January 2nd Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Dillon MT Cutting

President Will Nuttall said that the show planning is moving along. They have decided to do 3 weekend shows over 4 days and 2 LAE shows over 4 days.

Crazy Mountain Cutting

President Will Nuttall told the Board that Jan & Niko contacted Kathy Foote about a possible show two weeks prior to the scheduled May 26-30 Crazy Mountain Cutting at Heart K Arena. Kathy Foote said that they proposed a show May 13-16 and had said we can leave the cutting pen set up and would be ready to roll over into the May 26-30 show. Kathy had looked into area shows and did not see a conflict with the new May dates. The Board agreed that these dates would work. They felt that 3 shows over 4 days would be a good format to continue with. Kathy Foote said that there are plenty of cattle available for both shows.

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they were aware of the Boise Valley show that was scheduled May 28-30. Will Nuttall volunteered to contact Cathy Carpenter and see if there is a possibility of them moving their show.

NEW BUSINESS:

Great Falls Show

President Will Nuttall said he had been in contact with Todd Banner regarding a possible show in Great Falls. Todd only had cattle available the first weekend in May this year, which Will did not think could work for this year's schedule. He instead wanted to put a possible July 15-18 date on the schedule for now to hopefully work toward.

Corvallis Show

President Will Nuttall told the Board he wanted to see a show in Corvallis at the Sapphire arena, which has new owners and is now called the 5C Arena. He told the Board that there is a strong possibility that Western Nations may not happen this year. Will felt the Board should consider the dates for a Corvallis show on what would be the first weekend of Western Nationals, June 24-27. He would like to see the dates put on our show calendar same as Great Falls.

The Board decided to put the Great Falls and Corvallis show dates on our calendar and mark them as pending.

Big Piney Show

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser told the Board that she had received a request from Andi James to have a written proposal from MCHA to the James Family detailing what the payment to them will be as show managers and to list what is expected of them. Kelly told the Board that Andi would also like to add days to the show and wants to make sure that is what everyone agrees with. Kelsey Fraser said that if Andi is show manager, she should have the authority to make the decisions that are best for the show. Kelly said she would draft a contract to send to Will and Cindy for review and after they approve it will be sent to the rest of the Board. Kelly said that Andi is also having trouble getting portable stalls for the show. The supplier that they worked with last year was out of Canada, and at this time they are not sure they can get stalls across the border.

President Will Nuttall told the Board that he would appreciate any Board member who has ideas or wishes about possible shows to please bring it to everyone's attention. He would like to see more shows in the works.

President Will Nuttall adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 3rd, 2021

Via Zoom

President Will Nuttall called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Directors Present: President Will Nuttall, Vice President Cindy Garoutte, Nancy LaCounte, Kelsey Fraser, Wylie Fraser, Kathy Foote, Michelle Van Dyke, Roy Oliver, and Alison Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the February 1st Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MCHA Membership Poll

This has been tabled for discussion until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Corvallis Show

President Will Nuttall thanked the Board members for calling in to discuss possible dates for the Corvallis show. He presented to the Board the idea of having two shows over 10 days in Corvallis at the 5C Arena with a two-day break in between. Kelsey Fraser noted that this would make it more appealing for haulers as it could make it worth their while to come to Montana for a long duration. Cindy Garoutte clarified that the dates would encompass June 20th to July 2nd. Kelly Fraser pointed out it may be important to show over the weekend of June 25-27 to attract those individuals that may not be able to come to a show during the week. Will stated he would like to be done before the July 4th weekend as that is an important family vacation for most people. Michelle Van Dyke expressed concern that the proposed length of the show dates are too long to be a profitable venture. Roy Oliver and Ali Anderson feel that this could be a great show option. They both felt strongly that it is important to make this show fun with the possibility of clinics or family friendly BBQ. After discussion Will felt that it may be best for the association to have 5 shows over 6 days or 4 shows over 5 days. Ali Anderson made the motion for MCHA to produce a show at the 5C Arena in Corvallis, the details of the exact dates are yet to be determined. Roy Oliver seconded; motion carried on a voice vote. Will clarified the individuals who make up the "Task Force"; Will Nuttall, Roy Oliver, Wylie Fraser, Ali Anderson, Kelsey Fraser, and Cindy Garoutte. These individuals will be responsible for pulling the details of the show together. Roy Oliver and Wylie Fraser will be responsible for contacting possible cattle suppliers.

Will asked if there had been any discussion with 5C Arena regarding sand. The Board felt that it will be necessary to haul in sand for both the show pen and loping pen. Cindy said that there are currently 10 RV hookups and 35 to 50 stalls. Cindy has been working on portable stalls and currently has 80 scheduled to be delivered. She is continuing to work on additional portables. Kathy Foote expressed concern of having a show that large and not having more stalls available to participants. Will said there is always the possibility of stalling around the Bitterroot Valley as had been done in the past.

Kelly Fraser asked the Board if MCHA would still consider the July dates in Great Falls. Will said at this time he does not feel MCHA would have the ability to pull a show together there. Those dates will be taken off the current show schedule. Kelly also asked about the fall Crazy Mountain Show dates and if that was something MCHA was going to pursue. Will said at this time there are several LAE's on the books for September which does not leave MCHA room to produce a show. He said this topic could be revisited sometime after Corvallis.

Will brought up the possibility of approving the Bonina Cutting in Eltopia, WA May 21-23 and the Boise Valley Cutting Horse Assoc. show in Star ID May 28-30. He understood some individuals may be concerned with how this could affect year end awards but on the other hand maybe it will encourage people to get out and go cut. Will also feels this would be good show of support for surrounding affiliates since Montana has received support in the past by heavy Washington, Oregon, and Idaho participants at MCHA produced shows. Roy Oliver made the motion to approve both shows. Motion was seconded by Ali Anderson and passed on a voice vote.

President Will Nuttall adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 14th, 2021

Via Zoom

President Will Nuttall called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Directors Present: President Will Nuttall, Vice President Cindy Garoutte, Nancy LaCounte, Kelsey Fraser, Wylie Fraser, Kathy Foote, and Alison Anderson

Directors Represented by Proxy: Michelle Van Dyke (Kathy Foote)

Directors Absent: Roy Oliver

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the March 3rd Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None was discussed as this was a special meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

MCHA Secretary/Treasurer Position

President Will Nuttall noted that the resignation letter from Kelly Fraser as the current Secretary/Treasurer had been distributed to the Board and everyone had had a chance to read it. Will told the Board that he felt it was feasible for the Association to increase the salary of the Secretary/Treasurer to \$1200/month plus a possible bonus at the end of the year. He noted that Kelly had said April 30th would be her last day in the position but would help with the transition to the new Secretary/Treasurer. Will told the Board he discussed with Kelly that MCHA would pay her half of the salary for 3 months as she trained the new hire. He said Kelly had graciously agreed to that.

President Will Nuttall opened the floor to discussion on the salary raise for the position. Kathy Foote asked the Board if they had all received the email Michelle Van Dyke had sent, they all had received and read the email. Kathy Foote expressed that she agreed with Michelle in that giving an almost 30% raise in the salary is exorbitant, especially for someone just going into the position. Kathy and Michelle both feel that what the salary is set at now is good and that looking at a year-end bonus would still be appropriate as was discussed at the January planning meeting.

Nancy LaCounte said she felt the MCHA Secretary/Treasurer does a lot and should be compensated accordingly. She said if those in the position are not paid well, they get burnt out fast and then MCHA has the issue of turnover. Ali Anderson agreed, saying she appreciates those who take on the position. Cindy Garoutte said there is more to the position than most

people understand, and it is an underappreciated part of MCHA. Nancy LaCounte made the motion for the Secretary/Treasurer position to be paid \$1000/month; Kelly Fraser shall be paid \$500/month for 3 months for training purposes; at the end of the year the Board will consider a year end bonus to the individual that has assumed the Secretary/Treasurer position. Seconded by Ali Anderson; motion passed 6 to 2.

Nancy LaCounte asked Kelly Fraser if she would be willing to write up a job description that could be presented to possible candidates interested in the position, Kelly will write up a description for distribution. Ali Anderson made the motion that the position shall be advertised on the website, Facebook and sent out in an email to the general membership. She further moved that the application process will be open until April 1st, 2021; and in the two weeks following, screening and interviews will be held; the hire will be done by April 15th. Seconded by Kathy Foote, motion carried unanimously. Will appointed Kelsey Fraser, Kathy Foote, and Ali Anderson to screen candidates.

Wheatland, WY Show

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they wanted to have an official vote to add Wheatland to the MCHA schedule of shows. All Board members were in favor of the show.

President Will Nuttall adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

April 29th, 2021
Big Timber, MT

President Will Nuttall called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Directors Present: President Will Nuttall, Vice President Cindy Garoutte, Kelsey Fraser, Roy Oliver, Wylie Fraser, Kathy Foote, Michelle Van Dyke, Nancy Lacounte and Alison Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelsie Harbert

The minutes of the April 14th Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

Moved and seconded to approve treasurers report and prior meeting minutes. Roy Oliver, Alison Anderson.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None was discussed as this was a special meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The floor was opened to new business. Michelle Van Dyke asked to go over the profit and loss reports for the shows at Dillon and Livingston. Board reviewed financials from both shows. Kelsey Fraser asked regarding projected goals for Dillon's financials, if this was what was expected for show totals. Michelle requested we send Audrey O'keefe a gift card and thank you for travel accommodations and compensation for judges transportation. Will suggested we send more than requested and send \$300.00. Kathy said she doesn't think Audrey expects that much in return. Motion was made by Kelsey \$200 dollars and a thank you card be sent. Seconded by Nancy. Will asked if there was any unforeseen expense that wasn't known about during Dillon show. Kelsey asked about the show environment, cattle, and attendance. Cindy replied with the needs of reconfiguring the show pen, show schedule change, making the show an overall better experience. Will asked if there were any final questions regarding the show.

Discussion began regarding Livingston Heart K show. Kathy noted sand was a bit of a high expense and suggested using it in practice pen for future use. It was discussed to send Matt Sarrazin and family a check for \$200.00 for the practice pen panel use, hauling and set up. Kelsey asked about the back fence costs that Roy (crew) and Will had put up and tore down at Livingston. Thank you to everyone that put time and effort into these shows. Kathy said the schedule was great and gave kudos to Will for preparing it. Cindy asked what the vendor fee was regarded. Kathy explained that Heart K requested those vendor fees outside of rental agreement for facility use. Kelsey motioned to approve and Alison seconded expenses discussed to be final.

President Will Nuttall began conversation regarding upcoming Big Piney show. He stated show manager Andi James is good-to-go and has everything lined out. She has been hard at work to have no gray areas--- hay ordered, shavings truck coming in, all basis covered. Kathy is sending all MCHA show supplies (flag, wrap, etc.) with Roy to Big Piney. Michelle voiced concerns regarding the schedule. Will explained keeping sets manageable (days shorter) during that show, especially adding the 3 year old classes was hard to do. Show secretary and manager had redone the schedule multiple times. Will thought it was too late to change, as everyone has put forth effort into this schedule. Kathy voiced her concern about the hospitality in the area and taking care of everyone late after shows. MCHA Secretary, Kelsie explained that Andi has asked the concessions and the food truck to stay open late. Will voiced his frustration that the aged event was only two go rounds (except 3 yr olds), and wants to move forward in future years with an open first schedule than non-pro, including 3 goes. Better scheduling for the trainers, working type and non pros to come in on the weekend. Alison has worked on circuit awards working on something fun to add to shows, keeping competitors to the end. Cindy said she had a saddle pad donated by Van and Kathy Greenwell, wants suggestions how to donate it back/what to use it for. Andi James also has fun loper awards to give away during length of show. It was suggested to send another blast about the silent auction, and to have the option to contact a board member to send silent items with to show. Another email blast, another fb blast will be done by Alison and Kelsie.

Kelsey asked about the back panel fence that Roy and Will spent with time and donated large amount of money. It was asked by Kelsey to reimburse the cost and MCHA buy it from Roy. \$2019.00 is the total cost of reimbursement. It was stated that the back fence made a huge difference in Livingston and will continue to at future shows. Will asked it be designated to the association, not a specific show expense. Will asked that the put-up and break-down be done by volunteer basis. Cindy added that we attempt to get more volunteers for set-up and breakdown of shows. Kelsey motioned that we reimburse Roy. Wiley seconded it.

Kelsey brought to the table that bringing another person on the MCHA bank account would be wise. To add incoming President (2022) Cindy instead of Will on the checking account. Make things 100% clear since a husband and wife are both on the account. Moved and second by Kelsey and Kathy to remove Will and add Cindy to the account.

Montana Cutting Horse year end show details. Alison asked if we had made decisions on the Miller horse show end of year banquet details. It was requested to have the banquet at Miller's seeing Theresa does a great job at the show. It also keeps people around the facility and makes for more fun at the shootout. The concern was raised about a Friday, Saturday and Sunday show. What would the details be for the Sunday Show----seeing the banquet for this year is Saturday and year end totals would already be totaled? It was suggested to move it to a Thursday-Saturday show. Banquet still was planned and scheduled for Saturday night. Remove Sunday and change the show dates to accommodate everyone involved. Will called Clayton and Theresa to confirm the dates. It was OK'd by Theresa to change schedule, as well as to host the banquet. Alison is in charge of the banquet details. Nancy asked regarding another NWAB class. It was advised to contact Theresa and Andi at Big Piney, and Kelly for Millers, since we have sponsors for the

NWAB throughout the year. The shoot out was briefly discussed. Advised to do same as the past. Fresh cattle in the shootout. Sponsors for the cattle. Calcutta event.

Alison has a horse blanket to donate to her idea of turnback horse award, wants to know how to do this, if we could do a turnback horse of the year? After discussion, it was decided to give multiple gifts/thank you's to the turnback horses that are there every time, for all the contestants. Nancy has been given the chance to get multiple gifts/awards to the turnback help. Will made a suggestion to give awards during the banquet, all trainer help attending. Nancy makes a motion to order 10 turnback horse appreciation awards, with no year put on the award item to have the ability to use elsewhere. Alison seconded. Will asked if we had done away with horse of the year, or is it by money won. Kathy agreed it was by money won. Kelsie will look back at prior minutes to see how we vote regarding these suggestions. The MCHA Board continued discussion if the awards should only be the high money winner, concerned with the others that had placed. Will voiced his opinion of the incentive for people to go show, the year-end award should go to high money winner, stating not to take away the prestige of being the top of their divisions.

Kim Asay award nominations. Kathy asked it be _____ stating she has been an amazing force for the industry. Will nominated _____. Will also asked we talk more about Kim more and make realization of the award and its meaning. Kelsie will send an email to vote for this honor. Wylie made a motion to go to the two nominees from several other suggestions. Roy seconded it.

Michelle wants clarification on what is approved on the 50% of the approved shows. Do we need to keep this rule, or look into changing it? Nancy stated she wanted to try to encourage people to go to more of the smaller shows and Montana shows. Kelsie looked back to the planning meeting (January 2021) minutes and read the reasoning of why it was put into place. It was discussed how we make this accurate, the amount of work it will take to record keep this percent, and what we can do to change moving forward. Kathy stated it is a sign of the times, the amount of affiliate shows along with members traveling in and out of state makes for a broader amount of competitors in each division. Alison stated about the newly added circuit incentive also affects traveling for competitors. The board agreed that we will have to stay with the bylaws and adhere.

Will voiced opinion about having the weekend show at Idaho (August-September) Montana approved. Michelle, Kathy and Nancy said that it must go through the proper channels to approve a show. Out of State approval was longer than the time frame to have this show Montana approved. It was agreed we had to follow proper guidelines and not approve the show. Michelle remembered the time we had denied South Dakota their approval due to the same reasons. It was suggested we re-evaluate during the year-end general membership meeting.

Kathy requests the voting/election process be evaluated. Creating a revision to the by-laws. Article III Section 8: Method of election was made. The board read and went over this election method. Kelsey asked about 18-25 year olds and their voting on family membership, asking for clarification. The finalized article presented will be brought forward to the general membership meeting.

Will asked about the Facebook blast that changed the circuit finals from Gillette, WY Torrington Wyoming. Will discussed knowing Gillette was having a hard time to find cattle. Kathy made calls to the NCHA Circuit director, as well as Jack Enright. Wylie and Nancy stated it was the only option to keep the circuit finals. Will asked about the Torrington facility, getting clarification on what are we gaining by moving it to a smaller venue, even further away. The President asked if we are benefiting our membership by moving dates and location. Kathy mentioned Jack bringing up a good point of moving on top of shows in the fall, maybe it should be moved to spring months. Kathy also gave credit for concept of the circuit program that it has to evolve and get kinks out as each year goes. Wylie stated it is what it is, stating it was the only place that was able to house us and get cattle. Michelle asked about adjusting the boundaries of the circuit program, that NCHA should readjust to accommodate. The MCHA Board requested that NCHA directors ask about our wants and needs for the betterment of our Montana members. Will suggested that Wyoming should have communicated better with its neighbors to make it a better venue for all. That the decision to move should have been consulted with the rest of the circuit before making a final decision. Michelle asked for clarification for taking top 30 to circuit finals, that seems like a lot and loses its prestige. Kathy and Will were speaking highly of Western Nationals and the layout and format of such a prestigious event. Pushing towards another event as such would be ideal.

Wylie made a motion to adjourn meeting. Roy seconded.

President Will Nuttall adjourns the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board Call In

08-19, 2021

Zoom Call In Meeting

President Will Nuttall called meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Directors Present- Kathy, Michelle, Alison, Roy, Cindy, Kelsey

Not present-Wylie and Nancy

Others Present- Secretary/Treasurer Kelsie Harbert

First item on the agenda and direct point of the phone call pertained to the 50% rule. President Will Nuttall said there had been a lot of talk and concern regarding the 50% rule. He asked we put the matter to bed and make a final decision. Michelle stated that it just isn't working, that the only solution is to abolish and to go with money earned. Kathy said the spreadsheet spoke volumes regarding the outcome of attendance and of people who even qualified for 50%. Kathy said to rescind the 50 % rule. She stated that it was made with good intentions. Kathy added it seems to be the precedent now that traveling out of state is necessary. She also stated this was not put into place by law; it was a board decision that can be rescinded. Michelle made a motion to rescind the 50 % rule for eligibility for year-end awards and make it eligibility for awards by money earned. Kathy seconded. Motion passed. None opposed. Secretary/Treasurer Kelsie asked about how to clarify and explain to membership regarding rescinding rule and how to notify members correctly. Kathy and Kelsie were to work on wording of a notification to be used.

Second item on agenda is year-end details. Alison is doing the banquet and is willing to plan hors d'oeuvres and snacks for membership meeting. It was planned by the BOD that the general membership meeting will be Friday, 30 minutes after the conclusion of the show. We spoke regarding nominations and replacement for our board. Moved onto the necessity of replacement be on the west side. That it would be nice to get other parts of the state included. The Board discussed bylaws and term limits clarifications. Tanya and Cody were both nominated to assume Alison's role due to her resignation. Discussion was made regarding the two nominees. It was reiterated about the time and dedication that it takes to be on the board and make productive events. The BOD decided to do an electronic vote on Alison's replacement via constant contact and get back with results. It will be notified to everyone seeing there were issues with these specific emails going to spam/junk files in the past. Will moved onto Kim assay award details. Nancy stated she had ordered the award. It was discussed about the presentation and that a write-up needs to be made about the award winners. Michelle has taken on this task to put something together. Rookie of the year has been ordered and assigned. It was awarded to the member who has won most money from 0 to highest money earned during this season's competition.

President Will Nuttall voiced his concern again over the open horse of the year and non pro horse of the year. He stated it needs to be most money won for the year, not a vote.

The re-run shootout was discussed regarding any items needing to be finalized. Kelsey Fraser and Michelle will get ahold of Cody Lee and Rob Fraser to do the Calcutta and the announcing.

The Board stressed the necessity to accumulate good nominations for our board. Nomination suggestions are to be taken to Roy Oliver and his task team. The Board went over the 30 day notification and the bylaw change that needs to be posted on the website. We all agreed that it will go out as soon as possible.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn the meeting Alison seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 5:42

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board Call In

11/12, 2021

Zoom Call In Meeting

President Will Nuttall called meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Directors Present- Nancy, Michelle, Rob, Wylie, Darrell, Doug, Cindy, Kelsey

Not present- Kathy, Roy

Others Present- Secretary/Treasurer Kelsie Harbert

Meeting minutes were moved and seconded.

Kelsie gave a quick report regarding W-9's and accountant information.

No old or unfinished business was discussed.

Michelle asked for a recent profit and loss report, Kelsie sent it to them during the meeting for them to review and look over. Michelle and other board members also asked for a report showing year to year comparisons. Kelsie asked if she could send it out after completion to date, it was sent out the following morning.

Cindy asked if we would like to approve the South Dakota show. It was moved and seconded to approve show as a MCHA show.

The circuit boarders were requested to be gone over by Kathy, the board agreed they were what they were going to be at this point. The region isn't quite what is needed, but to give the circuit a chance to grow and work out the kinks.

Year end was discussed with a few suggestions of going back to buckles as awards to make it more "grandiose" once won. It was said we would go over more at the planning meeting in January.

Rob Fraser requested we meet early to plan our show schedule. Cattle availability and show locations will be tough this year, the sooner we get together to make final schedules the better. The planning meeting was then set for January 8th at a central location in Bozeman. More information about this meeting will be TBD. It was also asked that the board think of new locations, try to set dates, and to seek out alternatives for shows in the State of Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12