

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

January 4, 2020

The Baxter, Bozeman, MT

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 10:21 a.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Nancy LaCounte, Renea Williams, Roy Oliver and Kelsey Fraser

Directors Present by Phone: Joe Kalt and Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Represented by Proxy: Shaun Strickland

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the November 20th, 2019 Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Kelsey Fraser, seconded by Nancy LaCounte, motion carried on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MCHA License Plate

President Kathy Foote asked Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser to update the Board on the status of the License Plate. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser said the renewal date will be September 2020. MCHA will need the required 400 registered plates to continue with the program. If at that time there are adequate registered plates, MCHA will need to supply their tax return as well as prove that 75% of their expenses are in Montana. Once that information is given to the state, then they will approve the License Plate for another year.

MCHA Flag Purchase

President Kathy Foote asked Kelsey Fraser and Roy Oliver the status of the flag purchase. Kelsey Fraser said she would only need the credit card and she would order the flag. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser said she would provide Kelsey Fraser with her credit card. Kelsey Fraser asked the board what their thoughts were on allowing other show producers to use the MCHA flag. It was discussed to charge a minimum fee per work for the use of the flag. Kelsey Fraser made a motion to charge any show producer wishing to rent/lease the MCHA flag, a \$5 per work fee. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and carried on a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

2020 Approved Classes

President Kathy Foote asked the Board if they felt there was a need to change the list of approved classes for the 2020 show year. The Board felt there was no need to change the class list for 2020. Our MCHA 2020 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.**

Never Won A Buckle Class (NWAB)

President Kathy Foote asked the Board for some input as to offering the NWAB class at all 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.

2020 Year End Awards

Minimum Participation

The Board agreed to not have a minimum participation rule in 2019, carried on a voice vote.

Membership Deadline

President Kathy Foote noted that the current deadline to become a MCHA member is May 1st, for your earnings prior to that date to be included for year-end awards. If the membership is purchased after that date the earning will be as of the date of the membership purchase. The Board agreed the rule should stay as is for 2020 but noted that the membership must be aware of the rule.

Jr. & Sr. Youth

President Kathy Foote asked the Board for ideas regarding combining the Junior and Senior Youth Year End Awards. The Board discussed the importance of encouraging the youth and if there was a place to spend money it would be here. The Board does not wish to discourage participation and decided that awards would be given to both the Junior and Senior Youth.

Re-Run Cattle Shootout

President Kathy Foote said the 2019 Re-Run Cattle Shootout was another huge success. She asked the Board their thoughts for doing a saddle again. The Board agreed that the saddle was a hit and should be done again for 2020. The Board decided to give a \$2000 voucher toward a saddle. President Kathy Foote will contact saddle makers and get the best possible price for a saddle.

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 2020, as was done in 2019.

Special Awards

President Kathy Foote brought to the attention of the Board that there has been concern too many awards were being given out and the issue of having left over awards. The Board discussed elimination of several of the Special Awards that have been given in the past. Nancy LaCounte made the motion to change the Open Horse of the Year to be voted on by the membership and to include the top 3 money earning horses in each open class except LAE classes; further, the Non-Pro/Amateur Horse of the Year will be voted on by the membership and will include the top 3 horses in each Non-Pro or Amateur class, excluding LAE classes. Motion was seconded by Ashley Lee and carried on a voice vote.

Kelsey Fraser made the motion to eliminate the Youth Rookie of the Year award until a larger population of youth enters the show pen. Motion was seconded by Renea Williams and carried on a voice vote.

Roy Oliver made the motion to eliminate the Horizon Yacht/NCHA SWT award, seconded by Nancy LaCounte and carried on a voice vote.

The Special Awards for 2020 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.

2020 Operating Budget

President Kathy Foote presented the 2019 MCHA P & L and the proposed 2020 Operating Budget created by Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser to the Board.

It was agreed by the Board to continue giving free membership to sponsors of \$400 or higher.

President Kathy Foote discussed with the Board charging the Re-Run Shootout contestants a cattle fee. The Board agreed that after those contestants show all year on re-run cattle it is in the best interest of MCHA to continue offering fresh cattle with no charge in the Shootout. Kelsey Fraser proposed finding a sponsor for the cattle used during the Shootout to help cover the cost of the cattle used. She will contact Jann Parker and offer it to her. The Re-run Cattle Sponsor will be advertised all year, along with the Shootout and Saddle.

President Kathy Foote asked the Board if there was any objection to the \$15,000 awards budget, the Board had no objection. Nancy LaCounte will have the \$15,000 awards budget for the 2020 Year End Awards. President Kathy Foote discussed with the Board the thank you gifts given to the sponsors. It was agreed by the Board that gifts were not necessary, instead thank you notes shall be sent to all sponsors. The Board noted that the expense of shipping awards not picked up at the Awards Banquet is quite expensive. Nancy LaCounte made the motion that all members receiving an award, that cannot be at the Banquet, be responsible for having someone pick up their award for them. Or, in the alternative, provide a prepaid shipping label to send award to recipient. Motion was seconded by Roy Oliver and carried on a voice vote.

President Kathy Foote noted that MCHA has surplus awards from previous years. One option is to use the awards for the silent auction in Big Piney. The other option is to use the awards for circuit awards or hard luck awards at MCHA produced shows. Currently Bambi Gress has the awards. The Board said it would be best to get all the surplus to Nancy LaCounte so an

inventory can be made. Once it is known what awards are left some decisions can be made as to how best to utilize them.

President Kathy Foote told the Board Will Nuttall had approached her regarding MCHA purchasing the back fence along with the flatbed to haul it, that was used for the Big Sky Aged Event. The cost of the package would be \$14,000. The Board felt at this time the cost is too great and the need of the back fence is not necessary, along with the issue of who would haul the flatbed and fence to the shows and be responsible for it.

Nancy LaCounte made a motion to approve the 2019 MCHA P & L and the proposed 2020 Operation Budget. Seconded by Renea Williams and carried on a voice vote.

Interest Account

President Kathy Foote proposed to the Board, opening an interest-bearing account with excess money currently in the MCHA Wells Fargo bank account. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser noted that the low balance in the account this year was around \$30,000.00. Joe Kalt suggested to the Board that the available excess in the account be invested in a Schwab Account. He said that if MCHA needed access to the funds they could easily be transferred to the current checking account from the investment account. Joe Kalt said he would be happy to set up the account for MCHA. Kelsey Fraser made the motion for Joe Kalt to look into the best option for MCHA and report back to the Board. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Annual Review of Secretary/Treasurer Compensation – Closed Session

Following discussion by the Board, it was decided that the 2020 Compensation for the MCHA Secretary/Treasurer position should remain the same in 2020 as in 2019.

2020 Committee Assignments

President Kathy Foote asked the Directors for ideas on Committee Assignments, response was as follows:

Show Committee: Ashley Lee (per Constitution, Vice President is Chairman)

Year End Awards: Nancy LaCounte and Kelsey Fraser

Year End Banquet: Ashley Lee

Sponsorship: Kelsey Fraser and Ali Anderson

Nominating: Joe Kalt, Roy Oliver, and Michelle Van Dyke

Rules Committee: Kathy Foote

2020 Show Schedule

Vice President Ashley Lee had previously provided the Board with the shows and dates that were under consideration for approval.

The Black Hills Stock show was originally on the list for consideration but because the show was less than 50 days from the date of the planning meeting it was not able to be considered for approval based on the MCHA Constitution. The Board would like to see it considered for the 2021 Show Schedule.

Based on the past reciprocal approval of the Big Piney show and one Utah show, the board decided on the April 24-25 Ogden UT show. Because the October Utah show is after the 2020 Year End Awards Banquet, that show was not considered for approval.

Based on past reciprocal approval of Big Piney and the Wright, WY show. That show was approved by the Board.

President Kathy Foote asked about the possibility of North Dakota approving a MCHA show and what show they may want for reciprocal approval. She asked Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser if Wylie Fraser would be willing to call the North Dakota President and discuss with him possible show approvals.

President Kathy Foote noted that there are more shows that could possibly be added to the current schedule.

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

March 18-22: Nampa, Idaho

April 17-19: Laurel, MT

April 24-25: Ogden, UT

May 9-10: Wright, WY

May 21-24: Livingston, MT (MCHA Produced)

June 12-14: Dillon, MT (MCHA Produced)

June 21-27: Western Nationals Denver, CO (NCHA show listed for information only)

July 17-19: Glasgow, MT

August 13-16: Big Piney, WY (MCHA Produced)

September 3-6: Livingston, MT (MCHA Produced)

October 2-3: Laurel, MT

Angela Bauer Scholarship

President Kathy Foote said that the Angela Bauer Scholarship cutting would be offered at the Livingston show in May. She also proposed that it be offered at the Year End Show. The Board agreed that both venues would be great places to offer the scholarship cutting.

Encouragement of New Membership

President Kathy Foote opened a discussion for encouraging new people to get involved with cutting. One suggestion was to hold free clinics around the state to hopefully generate interest in the sport. Renea Williams proposed having a booth at the NILE, she suggested having a drawing for a lesson or demonstrations on cattle or a flag. Michelle Van Dyke noted that people may like to watch cutting but if you could get a person on a cutting horse, they would be more likely to gain a greater interest. She thought offering an old war horse for people to try on a flag may be an option. Other thoughts were to hold a “Celebrity Cutting” at a show or offer people to come to a show and try a cutting horse. Kelsey Fraser suggested having Roy Oliver do a monthly podcast. President Kathy Foote created a Membership Encouragement Committee and appointed Roy Oliver as Chairman. She asked all the Board members to help with the committee.

Regional Series

President Kathy Foote asked Joe Kalt to update the Board on the Regional Series. Joe Kalt explained that the Regional Series will be comprised of circuits that will be the existing NCHA areas. The Series will be modeled after the PRCA. He said there is a task force organized to issue a report to NCHA. Joe Kalt said the Regional Series will be designed to capture members that have been lost from NCHA. He said there will be a Regional competition leading to a Circuit Finals. It will be based on points, not money won. Joe Kalt told the Board that there is discussion regarding turning Eastern and Western Nationals into the Regional Finals. He said this process should rebuild the base of NCHA and gives people more incentive to cut. Joe Kalt also noted that there is restructuring in the Executive Committee of NCHA and formal bylaw reforms are underway.

Sponsorships

Kelsey Fraser updated the Board on the possibility of charging for sponsorship of the flag. Kelsey Fraser said she and Ali Anderson have already met and have been working on 2020 MCHA sponsors. She discussed with the Board removing sponsors from the website if they have not paid their sponsorship by the first show of the year. The Board agreed. The Board discussed a cover letter to be provided to potential sponsors noting the economic benefits of a show. The letter should include what contestants may spend on gas, food, and lodging.

Web Site/Trainers Directory

The Board discussed the list of Trainers currently on the website, the list is in need of updating. Kelsey Fraser made a motion to charge \$50 per trainer for their listing on our Trainers Directory page, the listing would include the contact information and a link to their Facebook page and/or website. Motion passed on a voice vote. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser will write a letter to all of the trainers who were 2019 MCHA members offering this proposal to them. Any trainer who does not respond by April 1st, 2020 will be removed from the Trainers Directory page. Any

trainer listed on our Trainers Directory page must also be a current member of MCHA. This proposal will also be extended to Kicking S Video and Scootem-N-Shootem Photography.

Signatory on MCHA Wells Fargo Checking Account

President Kathy Foote and 2019 President Jeremy Young have added Kathy Foote to the Wells Fargo checking account and removed Jeremy Young from the account. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser remains on the account. The President and Secretary/Treasurer are to have equal access to the Wells Fargo checking account.

President Kathy Foote adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

February 19th, 2020

Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Roy Oliver, Nancy LaCounte & Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Present by Proxy through President Kathy Foote: Renea Williams

Directors Absent: Shaun Strickland

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the January 4th, 2020 BOD teleconference meetings were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MCHA License Plate

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser reported to the Board that the License Plate had been revoked by the state citing insufficient number of plates purchased. She told the Board she emailed the contact at the state for clarification on the date of renewal.

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser thought the date, based on the letter sent out at the end of 2019, would be September 2020. The contact told her that there had been a misunderstanding and that the law went into effect as of January 1, 2020. At the time of the original letter there were 368 registered MCHA License Plates and on January 1st there were only 342, falling short of the 400 plates needed to continue in the program. The License Plate was a large income booster for MCHA at around \$5500.00 per year.

Saddles to be Awarded

President Kathy Foote brought to the attention of the Board that during the Planning meeting, the Board did not discuss if a second saddle was to be given away or in what manner. The Board discussed the 2019 success of the drawing give away to the class champions at the Year End Awards Banquet. It was a great way to give back to the membership. The motion was made by Kelsey Fraser to again in 2020 give away a second saddle. The saddle will be given away via drawing for all the class champions at the Year End Awards Banquet. The motion was seconded by Roy Oliver and passed on a voice vote.

The Board discussed the possible saddle makers to be used. It was decided that the Board members will reach out to various makers and see where the best possible value will be.

North Dakota Show Approval

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser told the Board that while in Rapid City she was able to talk with the President of the NDCHA regarding possibly approving/reciprocal approval of a show. At this time North Dakota does not feel that Medora would be a good show for MCHA to approve because of the small size of the facility. They would like to see us approve a larger show venue, they also are not sure which MCHA show would fit their membership best. However, they remain very interested in working towards reciprocal approval perhaps for 2021. President Kathy Foote said it is very important to keep an open line of communication and hopefully something will work for next year.

Surplus of Past Awards

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser let the Board know that Bambi Gress does not have a large volume of awards. Nancy LaCounte said she had not yet received the awards from Bambi but anticipated some meeting in the near future. It was discussed that since there was only a small number of surplus awards, the best place for them would be the silent auction in Big Pine. That will be left to discuss after Nancy is able to get an accounting of the awards.

New Membership Encouragement

President Kathy Foote asked Roy Oliver to update the Board on his Podcast. Roy Oliver said he had come up with a few names. He will need access to the MCHA Facebook page, Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser will add him as an admin on the account. President Kathy Foote told Roy to run with his ideas and the Board discussed possible interviews.

President Kathy Foote discussed the possibility of forming a New Membership Committee. Joe Kalt said he would like to see a committee formed and would like to be part of it. Roy Oliver also volunteered for the committee. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser noted that Renea Williams shared some great ideas during the Planning meeting and suggested she be on the committee. President Kathy Foote agreed and said the Membership Committee shall generate ideas to encourage participation and education of the sport of cutting.

Sponsorship Update

President Kathy Foote asked Kelsey Fraser to update the Board regarding the sponsorships. Kelsey Fraser said she and Ali Anderson had been working on the sponsors and have contacted most of the past sponsors. Michelle Van Dyke said that with the loss of the License Plate income it is very important for all the Board members to help generate sponsorship money. She suggested that the Board members reach out to MCHA members for sponsorships. President Kathy Foote asked if Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser could send to all the Board members, a copy of the spread sheet of sponsors Kelsey and Ali have been working with as well as a membership list.

President Kathy Foote asked if there had been any interest in the Trainers Directory page. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser said she had not yet sent out a letter to the trainers but had written a draft and sent to Kelsey Fraser for comment. She said she will work on the letter and have it mailed by the next week.

Investment Account

President Kathy Foote asked Joe Kalt to update the Board on the possibility of an investment account for MCHA. Joe Kalt said he was able to go over the entire check register from 2019 to gain an understanding of the cash flow. He explained to the Board the cycle of the MCHA checking account with respect to show payouts and show income. Joe Kalt is planning to sit down with Wells Fargo in the next week and discuss with them the possibility of a revolving line of credit. He feels that if they would extend to MCHA a line of credit, MCHA would then be able to take around \$50,000.00 and move to an interest-bearing account. Joe Kalt explained to the Board that the line of credit will solve any flux in the checking account. Secretary/Treasure asked Joe Kalt if he felt it would benefit MCHA to change banks. Joe Kalt did not feel a different bank would handle the account any different nor would they have higher interest rates.

NEW BUSINESS

Change in Utah Show Approval

Vice President Kathy Foote told the Board that the April 24-26 show that was originally approved by the Board had been cancelled. Utah has since replaced it with a BVCHA cutting. The Board discussed several possibilities for replacement shows including approving the BVCHA show. It was decided that approving a show that was not Utah produced did not meet the reciprocal show approval agreement. The Board further discussed all the Utah produced shows and decided the best show would be the May 7-9 Ogden show. The motion was made by Nancy LaCounte to approve the May 7-9 Ogden Utah cutting as the reciprocal show approval for Big Piney, WY. The motion was seconded by Ashley Lee and approved by all the Board members present. President Kathy Foote reminded the Board that because this is an out of state show, there must be unanimous Board approval. She asked Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser to reach out to Shaun Strickland for his vote.

Subsequent to the Board meeting, Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser emailed Shaun Strickland for his vote on approval. Shaun answered that his vote was yes to approve the May 7-9 Ogden Utah show.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

March 25th, 2020
Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Roy Oliver, Renea Williams, Nancy LaCounte & Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Present by Proxy through President Kathy Foote: Shaun Strickland

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser, NCHA President-Elect Steve Norris, NCHA Region 1 Director Kristen York, Julie Anderson, Health Department Director, Park County, Montana, Suzanne Nellen, Jack Enright, Clayton Miller, and Wylie Fraser

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the February 19th, 2020 BOD teleconference meetings were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MCHA License Plate

President Kathy Foote informed the Board that Todd and Lee Wirthlin had stepped in to help encourage purchases of the MCHA license plate. Todd and Lee were behind the original formation of the specialty plate. They have been gracious enough to donate a Noble shelter and start a Facebook campaign as part of an incentive for people to purchase a MCHA specialty plate. It is very important for MCHA members to continue to purchase these specialty plates as they provide a significant amount of income to the MCHA.

MCHA Flag

Kelsey Fraser informed the Board that she has received the flag purchased by MCHA.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on COVID-19

President Kathy Foote introduced to the Board, Julie Anderson, Health Department Director for Park County, Montana. She asked Julie to share with the Board what the county and state is currently experiencing regarding the corona virus pandemic. Julie said that Governor Bullock is requiring the enforcement of social distancing and no public gatherings with 10 people or more in attendance. Julie was aware that one of the Board's initial concerns was the show scheduled at Miller's Horse Palace in April. Julie contacted Marilyn Tapia, Director of Public Health Services with RiverStone Health in Yellowstone County. Marilyn said she had reached out to the Miller family and they had stated all events

at their arena have been postponed per county mandate. Julie said the requirements for public gatherings in all Montana counties had been extended until April 10th and she did foresee that date being pushed further out. Health care providers in Montana do expect the number of infected individuals to climb within the next three to four weeks, and they will see active or increasing cases through June or July. Julie stated her concern was for high-risk people (ages 60+) and feels this is most of MCHA's demographic. She felt the travel and possible exposure to people carrying the virus should be a high concern for the MCHA. Julie noted that no matter what the federal government may call for regarding opening of public places, the State government will have authority to override that decision especially if there are "hot spots" within the state. Even though the moratorium on social distancing is active for the next month and may go longer, she does not see it continuing through June or July. Julie said that if the Governor's office feels the hospitals in the state are burdened by continuing cases of the virus, the date to reopen will continue to be pushed back.

President Kathy Foote asked Region 1 Director and NCHA Executive Committee member Kristen York to discuss the NCHA stance on the pandemic. Kristen began by going over the points made by NCHA in their March 17th letter. She explained that the NCHA asked all show producers to postpone or cancel their approved/scheduled shows from March 18th through April 20th. Kristen explained that NCHA will not be approving shows for 60 days which would be through May 17th. She discussed the fact that if a show chooses to continue, and is scheduled between March 18th and April 20th, the money earned at those shows will not count toward NCHA yearend awards, but will indeed count toward lifetime eligibility of both the horse and rider. Kristen said the NCHA plans on sending out weekly updates to the membership. The NCHA will be following all federal mandates and CDC recommendations, they do not see the April 20th date getting lifted, if anything NCHA believes moratoriums will be extended.

Kristen told the Board that NCHA does not want the weekend shows to suffer and will be as accommodating as possible to producers wanting to reschedule. There will be no cancellation fees during this timeframe. She explained that the NCHA Show Department will have discretion when rescheduling shows and may be able to give preference to shows that were cancelled. As this is uncharted water for the NCHA, they are working through some questions, such as when shows need to reschedule and if there is any kind of waiting period to reschedule. Kristen stated that Jay Winborn, NCHA Executive Director, will be following CDC guidelines as they may pertain to the NCHA and its operations. She said the NCHA is aware of the financial hits its constituents will be taking and that NCHA itself is taking a hit with the show cancelations. Kristen wanted to point out that if there is a currently scheduled/approved show, NCHA will not tell the producer it must cancel the show, but all NCHA fees will need to be paid as a result of any scheduled/approved show occurring.

Joe Kalt noted that the number of infections in the United States, and particularly in our area, are growing every day. He understood that even if there is the possibility of some businesses opening mid-April, the social distancing will continue to be in place. Joe made

the motion for MCHA to hereby cancel its approval of all shows previously scheduled to fall on dates prior to May 17th. Further, going forward in making any decisions affecting the interest of its members, MCHA will closely monitor any pertinent recommendations and information forthcoming from the NCHA, CDC, State of Montana, county health officials and relevant organizations. The motion was seconded by Michelle Van Dyke and was agreed upon unanimously by a voice vote. Joe Kalt wanted the membership to be assured the Board is working hard to reschedule shows and will keep them as up to date as possible. President Kathy Foote suggested the Board encourage members to donate to organizations in need since they are not spending money on shows. Nancy LaCounte felt that members should be encouraged to donate to local organizations of their choosing through an eblast.

President Kathy Foote suggested reaching out to the surrounding affiliates and possibly putting together a "Region 1 Task Force" for rescheduling shows. She said if everyone can come together and put together a list of shows so they would not be scheduled on top of each other, it can only benefit all the affiliates. Wyoming President Jack Enright, though that this was a great idea and asked if within the next two weeks a conference call could be put together. President Kathy Foote said she would reach out to the surrounding Affiliate Presidents. Kristen York felt this can only help everyone in our region.

\$50,000 Amateur Eligibility

President Kathy Foote asked Peri Suenram to update the board on the current issue with the \$50,000 Amateur class. Peri said the current problem with the class structure is the ability of competitors over the age of 60 with earnings less than \$400,000, to be able to compete in the \$50,000 Amateur class. For a better understanding of what this means, Peri did a comparison of two events, equaling six shows. At 67% of the shows, over 50% of the money winners had eligibility well over \$50,000, which is contrary to the intent of Standing Rule 8 (d) creating a level playing field. Peri has spoken with many of the Region 1 Directors and they have all been supportive of a rule change. Joe Kalt said he very much supports the proposal. He understands what the NCHA was attempting to do when instituting the age "rollback" but feels it has been detrimental to NCHA membership in the long run. Michelle Van said she felt it killed the Non-Pro class, with the current rule in place people can keep showing in the \$50,000 Amateur and not move up to the Non-Pro. She feels that NCHA must address this issue.

Nancy LaCounte asked Peri what the next step for MCHA would be. Peri said she is asking for MCHA to write a letter of support for her proposal. The Board is supportive of this and President Kathy Foote asked if Peri would draft a letter to be sent to all Board members for approval. Peri agreed, she will work on a draft to be sent to the Board.

Kristen York said this proposal was brought to the NCHA Convention last year but never got to the Executive Committee. She feels we need a place for the competitors between the \$50,000 Amateur and the Non-Pro, which is why they have the Unlimited Amateur in LAE events. One suggestion she had is to add an Unlimited Amateur class to the Weekend shows. Kristen explained to the Board how the committees within the NCHA work and

noted that Peri will need support and a presence at the NCHA Convention for this to be moved along to the EC Committee. She said the more affiliates who come forward in support of this effort, the more chance that this will have a large impact on how the committees view the proposal. Kristen also said we need to show what impact this rule has on our membership. President Kathy Foote asked Joe Kalt if he would be willing to help with this during Convention. Joe was very willing to help in any way he could. NCHA President-Elect Steve Norris said he understands the age limits were thought to be a good idea at the time they were implemented, however NCHA is now seeing the unintentional consequences of that action. He feels this is a very good time to present this change to NCHA. Steve suggested having the letter or letters in every Regional room at the NCHA Convention so it would be a discussion point for everyone.

Board Vacancy

President Kathy Foote let the Board know that she had spoken with Board member Shaun Strickland and he wished to resign from the Board. The Board will need to appoint an individual to fill the remainder of his term (the 2020 year). President Kathy Foote noted that Kelsey Fraser indicated perhaps Ali Anderson may be interested. Kelsey offered to speak with Ali and get back to the Board regarding her interest. President Kathy Foote also asked Board members to present names of people interested in filling the position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

April 23rd, 2020
Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Roy Oliver, Renea Williams, Nancy LaCounte, Michelle Van Dyke & Ali Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser, Theresa Nelson, Will Nuttall & Park County MT Health Department Director Julie Anderson

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the March 25th, 2020 BOD teleconference meeting were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MCHA New Board Member

Kathy Foote welcomed Ali Anderson to the Board and thanked her for taking the position.

Clarification on Appointed Board Members

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser explained to the Board MCHA By-Laws allow for appointed individuals to run for a Board position if they so desire, after their appointed term is up. This will mean Kelsey Fraser, Renea Williams and Ali Anderson are eligible to run for Board positions this fall. Kathy Foote noted to the Board that if there are any questions, this is addressed in the MCHA Constitution.

NEW BUSINESS

Montana Governor Directive for Phased Reopening of the State

Kathy Foote asked Park County Health Department Director, Julie Anderson, to update the Board on the directive received from Governor Bullock regarding the phased reopening of Montana. Julie said that per the Governor's Order of April 22, 2020, there has been some lifting of restrictions. However, what has stayed in place is the requirement of individuals to practice social distancing by staying 6 feet apart, limiting gatherings to 10 people and the quarantine of people coming into the State. Julie clarified that for MCHA the quarantine would mean competitors coming from out of state would need to be isolated for two weeks once they enter the State of Montana. This would also be the same for an out of state judge. Julie said that the restrictions would be relaxed when we reach the second phase of reopening of the state. However, quarantine measures would continue to be enforced. In phase two, gatherings of up to 50 people would then be allowed. Julie specifically

addressed questions regarding having a show inside a building, no matter the size of the venue, and said any show would be restricted to the 50 people maximum. She said there are ways MCHA could work with those regulations, for instance holding outside shows and having multiple arenas for competitors to show and warm up as possible options. Julie encouraged MCHA to come up with creative solutions to the issues and present them to the county health boards. Kelly Fraser asked Julie if she felt that June 15th was a realistic date for phase two to begin, and Julie said she thought that would be correct to assume, but is an unknown at this time.

Region 1 Task Force

Kathy Foote told the Board that the Region 1 Task Force had been put together and that they have had several very productive meetings. She said all the affiliates are working together to make sure shows are not scheduled on top of one another, at least as much as they possibly can, and considering co-producing shows. Kathy Foote noted that things will be changing often, and the Task Force will be updating the shows and keeping their respective memberships as informed as possible.

Wright Wyoming Date Change

Kathy Foote told the Board that Jack Enright, President of WyCHA, has told her that he would be willing to add a day to the Wright show. He also informed her of the date change for the Wright show from May 9-10 to August 1-2, 2020. If an extra day of showing is added it will be Friday July 31st. Joe Kalt made the motion to approve the date changes of the Wright, WY show, from May 9-10 to August 1-2, as well as allow WyCHA to have discretion as to adding an extra show day. The motion was seconded by Roy Oliver and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Crazy Mountain Cutting, Heart K Arena, Livingston, MT

Kathy Foote started the discussion regarding the current dates of the Crazy Mountain Cutting, May 21-24, and the alternate dates of June 10-14. She asked the Board what their thoughts may be on having both a May show, possibly 3 show days, as well as the June 10-14 show. Will Nuttall told the Board he feels the best thing for the industry would be to stay the course and not cancel shows. He feels that there are too many unknown factors and things have been changing on a weekly or even daily timeline. Will said his fear is that the cancelations of shows will be catastrophic to the industry.

The Board discussed the concern of the phase one reopening, allowing only 10 people at an event and the issue of out of state competitors needing to be quarantined for two weeks once they enter our state. Roy Oliver noted that from what Julie had discussed with the Board, it will be hard to get away from the constraints of the guidelines even in phase two, allowing 50 people at an event. Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser asked if the Board felt the show at Heart K would be financially viable without the support of the out of state competitors considering the cost of the arena. Kathy Foote said she felt Heart K would be open to working with MCHA on the cost of the facility. Renea Williams told the Board it may

be beneficial to focus on smaller shows within Montana and not to focus on out of state competitors.

The Board considered options of outdoor venues for a show. Kathy Foote asked Roy if Big Timber may be a possibility, he felt that it could be and would be willing to gather more information from the Sweet Grass County Fair Board. The Board discussed the possibility of having the Heart K show and using their outdoor arena. Kathy Foote said she would ask what the facility rental fee would be for the outdoor.

Nancy LaCounte made the motion to cancel the Crazy Mountain Cutting May 21-24 dates and officially move the show dates to June 10-14. Motion was seconded by Joe Kalt and carried on a voice vote. Kathy Foote asked the Board to look for other possible outdoor venues. Theresa Nelson noted that the NCHA Show Office will be taking show applications starting Monday April 27th, 2020. She said that NCHA will be looking at show approvals on a case by case basis and that the Show Office will be using their discretion on final show approvals.

Western Nationals

Kathy Foote told the Board that at this time Western Nationals is still scheduled. Theresa Nelson said she understood that Colorado is also a quarantine state and she feared that competitors would be facing the same situation as a Montana show. She said the NCHA is directing show secretaries to be diligent in keeping people as safe as possible by limiting contact, such as strict online entries. Kathy Foote told the Board Kristen York had asked if MCHA would be interested in sponsoring a lunch this year at Western Nationals. The Board did not feel that MCHA was in a financial position to sponsor a lunch this year.

MCHA Year End Show

Vice President Ashley Lee told the Board there is a show in Star, ID scheduled over the MCHA yearend show dates. The Star, ID show will be October 1-4 and is a weekend and LAE event. Ashley Lee had reached out to Clayton Miller to see if there may be alternate weekends available for the Year End show. Clayton thought that it was indeed feasible to move the dates. The Board discussed the possible date changes and noted that if we could add a day to the Year End show and move weekends it could encourage more attendance. The show would then be Thursday through Saturday on a weekend that worked with Miller's schedule. Ashley Lee will follow up with Clayton Miller on a possible date change.

Utah Reciprocal Approval

Kelly Fraser asked the Board if discussion was needed on the reciprocal approval of a Utah show, considering the previously approved May 8-9 Ogden, UT show had been canceled. Kathy Foote said she would reach out to UCHA President Matt Porter and ask if they will forgo the approval this year because of the current situation.

PCCHA Regional Format

President Kathy Foote told the Board that PCCHA is proposing a regional circuit. At this time she did not have the details but would update the Board at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

May 14th, 2020
Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Roy Oliver, Renea Williams, Nancy LaCounte, Michelle Van Dyke & Ali Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the April 23rd, 2020 BOD teleconference meeting were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Region 1 Task Force

President Kathy Foote told the Board the Task Force has been meeting every two weeks. They have been diligent in keeping all the affiliates informed of new shows, updates to shows, canceled shows, etc. She said the Task Force has been greatly beneficial to our Region regarding where we currently are on shows and how shows will be progressing in the future.

Crazy Mountain Cutting

President Kathy Foote noted that the show will be June 11-14. It is currently slated to be an outdoor show but as requirements are relaxed, we may be able to show indoors if protocols are strictly adhered to. Kathy noted that there have been other shows around the region that have been indoor and have been allowed. Ali Anderson said that around Yellowstone County there have been multiple events, and all have been allowed to continue. Kathy noted that Miller's Horse Palace has posted the protocols that need to be followed at their facility to be in compliance with the Yellowstone County Health Department.

Kathy Foote said she, Jan and Nico will be having a meeting with the Park County Health Department to make sure the show will be in compliance with local guidelines. Joe Kalt asked what, if any, issues the current quarantine order will have on the show. Kathy Foote said that as she understands the restrictions, horses have been deemed essential, and with that there will be no required quarantine as long as everyone adheres to the regulations and abides by the guidelines the County Health Department has put forth. Nancy LaCounte asked there be a post on Facebook to notify all the competitors that we are in compliance with County Health officials and quarantine is not required. She feels we need to post the

safety protocols we are to follow as handed down by the Park County Health Department after Kathy's meeting with them.

Nancy LaCounte asked Kathy Foote if there was indeed a date change on the Crazy Mountain Cutting. Kathy said that originally the show was scheduled for five shows over four days, June 10-14, however there were contributing factors that led to dropping the June 10th date. Kathy said those factors were three fold: 1) Miller's Horse Palace June 5-7 show 2) The lack of cattle availability 3) The direction of Theresa Nelson, the longtime secretary, noting that it would be financially draining to have the extra day. These dates had been confirmed via Theresa with the NCHA as backup dates to the original show that had to be cancelled because of Montana's COVID 19 lockdown.

Kathy Foote clarified that any earnings will not count towards horse and rider eligibility, only lifetime earnings and that the NCHA will not change that rule until all the affiliates are open and able to show. NCHA is working to keep this as fair for all the regions as it can at this time.

Roy Oliver brought to the attention of the Board that Wyoming would like to approve the Crazy Mountain Show. Wyoming has asked to approve it without requiring any approval fees be paid to Wyoming. They are only asking their name to be associated with the show, and if memberships are collected that would be much appreciated. There was discussion among the Board if this would be in the best interest of the MCHA, but as there is no cost associated with the acceptance of the approval, it would not have a negative effect. Roy Oliver made the motion to accept WyomingCHA approval of the Crazy Mountain Cutting with no affiliate approval fee being paid to Wyoming. Motion was seconded by Kelsey Fraser and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Big Piney

Kathy Foote said Kelly Zelikovitz is working on obtaining more cattle for the Big Piney show. Once cattle numbers have been confirmed she will make the decision if adding another day is feasible.

Year End Show

Ashley Lee told the Board that the current dates for the Year End show at Miller's Horse Palace, October 2-3, fall on the same dates of Star, ID which is a weekend show along with a LAE over four days. She feels it would be in the best interest of both MCHA and Miller's to perhaps move the Year End show to the weekend of September 24-26, or the weekend of October 8-10. If this show can be rescheduled it may allow for more competitors, especially from Idaho and Utah, to consider attending the show at Miller's Horse Palace. Ashley said she has spoken with Clayton and at this time he does not want to change the dates, he would like to wait a bit longer to see how the first shows go and how plans for the fall shows are coming together. Ashley said she was going to wait until after the June shows and reach out to him again to continue discussion of moving the show date. Kathy said she strongly feels that not having shows scheduled over the top of each other will be

beneficial to everyone. Ali Anderson also stated that she felt it would be in the best interests of the MCHA and Star, Idaho, if the shows were not on top of each other. Nancy LaCounte asked the Board if they have any ideas on if she should purchase awards. Kathy said she felt if we waited until July, we would still have time to order awards and would have a better understanding of how the fall may be looking.

Western Nationals

Kathy Foote said the Western Nationals have not been canceled, they are still planning on having the show. Currently the NCHA is dealing with the issue of a barn at the National Western Complex being used as a shelter for the homeless of Denver.

NCHA Convention

Kathy Foote told the Board that the NCHA Convention has again been canceled, however NCHA will be following their Bylaws to continue with elections.

Investment Account

Joe Kalt told the Board that during the shutdown he had not pursued the investment account as it was not a good time to invest. Now that he sees some economic come back, he will revisit possibilities for MCHA.

NEW BUSINESS

Miller's Horse Palace June 5-7 Show

Kathy Foote told the Board, Miller's have scheduled a show June 5-7, she asked Kelsey Fraser to present to the Board her thoughts on approving the show. Kelsey said she reached out to Clayton Miller to see why he did not ask for MCHA approval and if he indeed wanted approval of the show. Clayton said that yes, he would very much appreciate MCHA approval. He expressed to Kelsey that he was mad at how MCHA handled the cancellation of Miller's April show. Clayton felt that MCHA should have made a greater effort to ask how they had been working with the Yellowstone County Health Department regarding all events held at the Horse Palace. Kelsey said she feels that it would be a show of good will towards Miller's if their show were to be approved and all approval fees waived. She understands that having events is the Miller's livelihood and the show is going to go on with or without MCHA's support. Kathy expressed disappointment that Millers didn't reach out to MCHA when deciding to do the show and was sorry that Clayton felt the way he did.

Michelle Van Dyke wanted the Board to be aware that if there was approval for this show and MCHA did indeed waive the approval fee, MCHA may be setting a bad precedent for future shows and with that may lose out on revenue. She feels that the show should be approved but fees needed to be collected. The Board discussed thoughts on waiving the approval fees. Ali Anderson felt that it would be in the best interest of MCHA to support the Miller's show. Renea Williams felt it was MCHA's duty to extend the "olive branch" and

approve the show as well as waive the approval fees. She felt this would not be setting a precedent because we have never experienced a show year such as this and in this current situation, with trying to get shows going again, there is no precedent. Nancy LaCounte noted that without the two Montana shows in June, what other options do MCHA members have to cut, therefore it is in the best interest of the membership to approve the show. Kelsey Fraser made the motion to approve the Millers Horse Place June 5-7 show and waive all approval fees. Motion was seconded by Renea Williams and passed on a 6-3 vote.

MCHA Financials for 2020

Kathy Foote asked Kelly Fraser to give a quick overview of the current P & L for MCHA. Kelly noted that the largest expense currently was the flag purchase. She said there is nothing coming up that will be a large expense to the MCHA and the only fluctuation in the checking account will be the upcoming Crazy Mountain Cutting.

Kathy Foote asked for an update on the sponsorships, noting that sponsor income currently was at the same level it was at the end of 2019, but significantly less than 2017 and 2018. Ali Anderson said she and Kelsey had worked extremely hard at the beginning of the year. She noted that right now gathering sponsorships is particularly challenging as everyone has put a halt to giving money. They are hoping that as the economy opens back up there will be more interest in sponsorships. Kelly Fraser noted that most of the people/companies that Ali and Kelsey had contacted had paid for the year and only a few had not yet sent in their sponsorship checks.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

August 3rd, 2020

Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Renea Williams, Nancy LaCounte, Michelle Van Dyke and Ali Anderson

Directors Present by Proxy: Roy Oliver by Joe Kalt

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser, Theresa Nelson, Kelly Zelikovitz, Andi James, and Lee Wirthlin

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the May 14th, 2020 BOD teleconference meeting were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Big Piney Cutting Update

President Kathy Foote asked Kelly Zelikovitz to update the Board on the upcoming cutting in Big Piney, WY. Kelly said that she had been able to secure additional cattle for the five-day show. She said the show schedule will be run as last year except for the additional weekend day. The show and practice pens will be set up as last year. Kelly explained to the Board that the other building at the fairgrounds was not available for use as the county keeps it open to local riders and it has been set up for roping. She also noted that the fairgrounds have 300 panels available for MCHA to use, and all of those panels are needed for cattle pens at and around the new show barn. If we were ever to get the county to agree to the use of the old barn, MCHA would also need to bring in additional panels. Kelly told the Board that since the show barn is set up for the fair, we do not have to pay for the dirt to be brought in. This year the fairgrounds will be splitting the cost of the sand with us as they needed additional sand. Kelly told the Board that Kathy Foote was able to get 80 portable stalls, the max that the fairgrounds will allow, through Chinook stalls. There have been three local guys hired to help put up the stalls and take them down at the end of the show.

Again, this year there will be a catered dinner provided by The Den on Friday night. Kelly told the Board that MCHA is not allowed to provide any alcohol, however The Den will be serving a cash bar. During the dinner we will be having a silent auction. Mavis James and Pam Rankin have agreed to help with the silent auction by setting it up and decorating the tables.

Kelly noted that Dakota Arno will be providing small square bales and Andi James has ordered shavings for the show. She said that it would be helpful if there were people available to help Andi load the stalls with the first two bags of shavings. Andi noted that she has 4-H kids lined up to help on Monday August 11th with shavings. In total there are 206 covered stalls and 25 pens reserved on site. There are an additional 34 horses to be stalled off site and all the RV spots have been reserved. Kathy Foote said that currently she knows of 20 horses that have had to be turned away. Kathy said she had contacted local businesses to give them a heads up that there will be a large show for that week. Michelle Van Dyke has sent out an email to MCHA members asking for silent auction donations. She said that 15 people have committed to bringing items. She asked if Kelly Fraser could send out in the Big Piney eblast a reminder for people to bring items and that this is the “fundraiser of the year” for MCHA.

Crazy Mountain Cutting

President Kathy Foote asked Theresa Nelson to go over the P & L for the Crazy Mountain Cutting. Theresa said that she had sent out a “quick and dirty” report to Kathy (Kathy will forward to the Board). The show was successful again this year with a profit currently showing of over \$11,000.00. Kathy Foote noted that there was one outstanding issue that she wanted the Board to be aware of; MCHA had used Will Nuttall’s flag during the show and the motor had burned up. She was able to negotiate with Will to take \$1500 off his show invoice. This will cover the repair of the flag and Will shall be sending a check for the balance of his invoice.

NEW BUSINESS

MCHA License Plate

President Kathy Foote asked Lee Wirthlin to bring the Board up to date regarding the MCHA license plate. Lee told the board that it was a struggle to get to our 400-plate threshold. She told the Board it was time for the current plate to receive a face lift as it seems the market for this design is saturated. Lee would like the Board to consider a more universal horse design that would appeal to a broader audience. She would like to have the design this year for launch at the end of January 2021. This means we would need to have the proposed redesign into the state by September 1, 2020. There is a onetime fee of \$4120.00 to submit to the State. Lee said that she is willing to do all the work on this endeavor and she has an artist that is willing to work on it for no charge. Lee and Todd are also willing to do another plate purchase incentive, similar to the shed give away, once the plate is available. If this comes together, she feels the redesign will sell itself.

Kelsey Fraser made the motion to approve the redesign of the MCHA license plate. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and passed on a voice vote. Kathy Foote asked Lee to please run with her ideas and present to the Board some plate options to choose from.

MCHA Show Committee

Kelsey Fraser expressed to the Board that a show committee may be in the best interest for MCHA produced shows. She would like to see more Board involvement to perhaps split up some of the workload. Kathy Foote said that she felt they currently had that in place and reach out to local MCHA members to help with a show. Michelle Van Dyke said she did not think a show committee was necessary for existing shows, but she felt a committee would be beneficial to MCHA with a focus being on new shows in new locations. Michelle feels like we are stuck in a rut and need to get additional show venues for 2021. Nancy LaCounte said she had a different understanding of a “show committee”, she feels the committee would be worker bees to help a show go smoother. Renea Williams and Ali Anderson both asked that those putting on a show make it more clear to the Board and to the membership on what and when help may be needed. They both felt that if it were posted on Facebook or in an eblast we could get more members involved in helping at shows. Kathy Foote suggested that this discussion be paused until the next meeting. She asked if Renea and Michelle would like to be on a New Show Committee with her in looking at 2021 possibilities.

Crazy Mountain Fall Cutting

President Kathy Foote updated the Board on the September Crazy Mountain Cutting at the Heart K Arena in Livingston. She said that the application has been approved for a four-day cutting. She is estimating that MCHA will need 800 head of cattle. At this time, she is still looking for cattle in the area that may be used. It is a hard time of year to find yearlings as most are shipped the end of August. The Board discussed possible ways to find cattle including a Facebook post to reach locals that were not necessarily cutters.

Show Deposits

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser noted to the Board the difficulty she had with the deposits for the June Crazy Mountain cutting. She requested that in the future invoices were brought to her so she could do the deposit the Monday following a cutting as this is how it had always been done in the past (the only exception had been the Dillon show as Kelly was out of the country). For instance, in Big Piney she suggested that Ali, Kelsey or Nancy (as they all live in Billings) bring the invoices that Theresa Nelson had ready, when they left on Sunday. Any additional invoices that Theresa would have, Theresa and Kelly could work out how to exchange. Theresa Nelson said she understood what Kelly was saying, as entering items into QuickBooks does not go off the show register. She said she is willing to do whatever the Board decided to do to make things easier. Kathy Foote said she would like to look over the invoices at the end of the show to get a feel for how the show did. There is no issue with the invoices going to any of the Board members or those involved with producing the show, the issue is the handling of funds to be deposited. See page 6 Section 5 of the MCHA constitution.

Year End Show

Vice President Ashley Lee told the Board that she had been in touch with Clayton Miller regarding possibly producing a Year End Show. Clayton told her that he could not guarantee cattle for a September show. He also said that since the NILE could not be held at the Metra this year, the Horse Palace would be hosting it. This will take up the majority of October, only leaving the last weekend which would be over the top of Ogden. The next option for Miller's would be the first two weekends in November. Both Clayton and Ashley agreed that that would be too late for a show in our area.

Ashley Lee suggested making the September Heart K show the Year End Show and Banquet. Kathy Foote asked Nancy LaCounte if she felt awards could be ready by then. Nancy said she had not ordered anything at this time but had the awards picked out. She would call Tuesday and make sure items could be ready by the first weekend in September. Ashley Lee said she would make one last attempt to contact Clayton Miller just in case he could find cattle and to make sure there would be no hard feelings if the Heart K show was indeed the Year End Show. It was decided by the Board that no matter what, we would have the General Membership meeting at Heart K on Friday night. Kelly Fraser will send out a notice to the membership no later than Wednesday August 5th, for the meeting. It will start at 6:30 Friday evening September 4th, with appetizers and refreshments. Nancy LaCounte noted that the only award she has not considered yet was the Kim Asay recipient. She would like to know who would be receiving the award by the end of the week so it could be purchased and ready at the show. Kathy Foote asked all the Board members to email Kelly Fraser their nominations by Friday August 7th.

Awards Budget

Nancy LaCounte told the Board she understood from the January planning meeting that her budget was set at \$15,000.00. She said at this time it looks like the awards will come in under budget. There was a discussion on the two saddles that will be awarded during the Banquet. It was noted that those two saddles are not included in the awards budget. This year we did not choose a certain saddle maker, instead we would give a voucher of \$2,000 each to the maker of the recipient's choice. One saddle will be given away for the Shoot-out and the second will be to the class champion drawing as was done in 2019.

MCHA Current Financials

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser noted to the Board she did not have the final numbers from the Crazy Mountain Cutting but as soon as Will's check is deposited, she will be able to provide that. She asked if there were any questions from the Board on the P & L, there were none.

Nominations Committee

President Kathy Foote reminded the Board that we will need to gather names of individuals wanting to run for Vice President and Board positions. Joe Kalt, Roy Oliver, and Michelle

Van Dyke are on the Nominations Committee. Kelly Fraser will include a reminder to the membership of the available positions and to contact the committee members if interested in a position on the notice of the General Membership meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

October 28th, 2020
Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Kelsey Fraser, Renea Williams, Nancy LaCounte, Michelle Van Dyke, Roy Oliver, and Ali Anderson

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

Meeting Minutes: None were presented at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

As this was a special meeting there was no discussion of Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

MCHA Election 2020

President Kathy Foote thanked the Board for calling into this special meeting to discuss the 2020 Election for the 2021 MCHA Vice President and Board of Directors. She asked if the Board would like to open a discussion regarding questions and concerns over the process with which the ballots and results were compiled. Kathy Foote asked the Board to keep the discussion positive and to look at what we can do better in the future. She said she does not want a cloud to hang over the election. Michelle Van Dyke said the process of counting the ballots needs a correction. She said there should have been different protocol set up this year since there was a conflict of interest between the Association Secretary and a Candidate. Michelle felt the Board should have been cognizant of the issue but did not act on it prior to the election. Roy Oliver asked who may have an issue with the results of the election and why was the issue not brought up until after the results were released to the Board. Ashley Lee said that she was approached by several members who were concerned with the results and how the ballots were handled. This was concerning for several Board members since the results of the election were not made public until after Ashley's email was received by the Board. The question was posed as to why certain select members were allowed to know the results while the majority of the membership was not yet aware. Kathy Foote acknowledged this was handled improperly and those members should not have been told the results.

The main concern was that there were ballots that were returned to Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser and the envelopes were opened prior to taking the ballots to Jann Parker and

Tanya Dvarishkis. Kelly Fraser told the Board that there was a total of 53 ballots mailed out, of those only 11 were returned. There were however members who did not receive their Constant Contact e-ballot, and those members requested to have a ballot emailed to them so they could cast their vote. When those ballots were returned via email, Kelly Fraser had no choice but to open the email and print those ballots. There was a total of 21 ballots emailed to Kelly. In the last two years the election protocol was for all ballots to be returned to the Secretary/Treasurer, counted and then the results were released to the Board. Once the Board approved of the results they were released to the Membership via Facebook. The Board discussed what changes need to be made in the future and Nancy LaCounte suggested that all ballots be sent to the MCHA's accounting firm for tally. Kathy Foote said she felt that was a wonderful suggestion.

Michelle Van Dyke presented to the Board the idea of having the election redone. She felt it would ease any doubt surrounding the election and its process. The Board discussed the pros and cons of a new election and the majority felt not only would it show division, but it would also cause more turmoil within the association. The majority felt that the election results were as the membership intended and it was noted that there are no written protocols for an election process in the by-laws. Joe Kalt said there were no issues with the results of the election, only the process with which it was conducted.

The motion was made by Kelsey Fraser for Kathy Foote to set up a committee to revise the MCHA by-laws to list a detailed protocol for the election process and ballot handling. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Kelsey Fraser made a motion to leave the 2020 MCHA election results stand as is with no second election. Motion was seconded by Nancy LaCounte and passed on a voice vote; 6-yes, 2-no and 1-abstained.

Kathy Foote asked the Board if it would be possible to have a face to face meeting on December 5th, 2020. The meeting could take place in Bozeman, Livingston, or Big Timber. All members were willing to participate, if not in person, by phone. Kathy Foote said she would be in touch with Kelly Fraser to set up a time and place that would work for everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors Meeting

November 23rd, 2020
Teleconference

President Kathy Foote called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Directors Present: President Kathy Foote, Vice President Ashley Lee, Joe Kalt, Roy Oliver, Nancy LaCounte, Kelsey Fraser, and Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Present by Proxy: Renea Williams and Alison Anderson both by Kelsey Fraser

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser, Wylie Fraser, Cindy Garoutte, and Will Nuttall

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the August 3rd, 2020 and October 28th, 2020 BOD teleconference meeting were passed unanimously on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Montana CHA License Plate

President Kathy Foote asked the Board if they had received the email Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser had sent out that afternoon with the plate designs to be considered. The majority of the Board had indeed received the email and had commented on the plate they considered the best and most universal design, which was design #1. On a voice vote plate design #1 was unanimously passed. Kathy Foote asked Kelly Fraser if there were any details that needed to be addressed. Kelly Fraser told the Board that Lee Wirthlin will get the image to the DOJ and will get the production set in motion. She said that the plate will be available by the end of January 2021. Kelly Fraser told the Board one major change for MCHA will be the requirement by the State that 75% of the income MCHA receives from plate sales must be spent in Montana and will need to be proven each year on the certification. She will ask Lee to reach out to the State for more specifics on what the money may be used for. The Board would like to know if awards would be considered a justifiable expenditure for the money or if there were set requirements on how the funds are to be used.

Show P & L Finals

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser had emailed the Board the P & L statements for the June Crazy Mountain Cutting, the August Big Piney Cutting, and the September Crazy Mountain Cutting. She had also provided a current P & L statement of all MCHA finances. President Kathy Foote asked the Board if they had had a chance to go over the financials and if there were any questions. She noted that the June Crazy Mountain Cutting had great profit considering the cost of the facility. Kathy Foote said that the Big Piney show again was a huge success and had a huge profit of over \$48,000.00, which is almost unheard of when producing a show. Kathy Foote asked Kelly Fraser to explain the cattle cost of the shootout for the September Crazy Mountain Cutting. Kelly Fraser said she had taken the cost of the shootout cattle out of the cattle fee for the show as that amount should not go against the show expense. The shootout cattle cost would be found on the general P & L for the year end show expenses.

NEW BUSINESS

By Laws Committee

President Kathy Foote told the Board she had formed a By Laws Committee consisting of Tanya Dvarishkis, Theresa Nelson, Peri Suenram, Michelle Van Dyke and herself. She said the goal of the committee is to revise the election procedure. As of right now Tanya is drafting a proposal.

Ashley Lee Resignation

President Kathy Foote asked the Board if everyone had read the letter Ashley Lee had sent out regarding her decision to resign from the Board. She said under Article IV Section 2 of the By Laws the Board of Directors may elect a successor. Ashley Lee said she had reached out to Will Nuttall to take on the position left vacant by her resignation. She said that Will had agreed, if elected by the Board, to take over the position. Michelle Van Dyke said she felt Will is a good fit for this Board as he has put on numerous shows and will help promote MCHA and will encourage others from neighboring states to attend our shows. Joe Kalt asked Will what he would like to see in MCHA. Will Nuttall said he would like Montana to again become the place to cut in the summer months. He said it used to be a destination for those cutters out of the South and he would like that to be true again. Will would like to keep our current shows going strong but would like additional shows to be added to the schedule.

Joe Kalt made the motion to accept Ashley Lee's resignation and the appointment of Will Nuttall to fill the 2021 President position which will also include Will moving to a Board position in 2022. Motion was seconded by Michelle Van Dyke and passed on a voice vote.

MCHA Audit

President Kathy Foote said she felt it was good business practice to conduct a formal audit of the MCHA financial records every two years. She asked Kelly Fraser if she had reached out to the MCHA accounting firm for a quote. Kelly Fraser said she had indeed spoken with the firm, Fagan & Cook, they would be more than happy to do the audit, it should cost around \$1200. She said the firm would like to do the audit during the month of December and this will allow them to also get a start on the 1099's for 2020. Kelly Fraser said she would be taking all the bank statements as well as all the invoices from each of the three MCHA produces shows to the firm. She noted that every year for the association taxes the accountant gets the complete QuickBooks file not just a printout from her. Ashley Lee made the motion for the MCHA accounting firm to perform an audit of the financial records. Seconded by Nancy LaCounte and carried on a voice vote.

Big Sky Circuit

President Kathy Foote told the Board that there had been three proposals brought before the NCHA for the Big Sky Circuit Finals 2021: Gillette, WY October 1-3; Rapid City, SD October 29-30; Rapid City November 12-14. Kathy Foote noted that for some in our region, such as Minnesota, would be traveling over 1000 miles to attend the show. This may be hard for some members. Joe Kalt said to alleviate some travel they will allow for members to choose which Circuit they would like to participate in. For instance, some of our MCHA members on the west side of the State may choose to be in the Redwood Circuit. Joe Kalt asked Wylie Fraser how easy it is in the PRCA to choose your designated circuit. Wylie said it was a simple process and our MCHA members should have no problem with the NCHA Circuit program in designating their circuit. Kathy Foote noted that the NCHA will be giving each Circuit \$8000 for the finals. It is being recommended that \$4000 of that money should be used for awards. Hopefully, the remainder will be used for added money, but it will be up to the producer to use the money as needed. Kathy Foote said she would like feedback on the three proposals for the Circuit Finals as the National Directors will be asked to vote on the location and date. The proposals will be sent to the Board for them to look over and send feedback on.

Planning Meeting

Kelly Fraser asked the Board if they had any thoughts on the January planning meeting. It was discussed that there would be difficulty for everyone to meet in person and perhaps the best solution would be for a Zoom meeting. Will, Cindy and Kelly will work on some proposed dates for the meeting and get back to the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.