

**Montana Cutting Horse Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 4, 2026

**Time:** 6:50 PM – 8:38 PM (America/Denver)

**Location:** Virtual Meeting

**Audience:** MCHA Board of Directors

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**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

- **Meeting called to order** at 6:59 PM by President **Ashley Lee**.
  - **Roll call conducted by Secretary Valee Miller.**  
All board members present  
Ashley Lee, Roy Oliver, Kelly Fraser, Jann Parker, Gus Hoffman, Dave Ziebarth, Doug Pearce, Jeremy Young, & Cody Lee
  - **Additional Attendees**  
Valee Miller & Andi James
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**2. Approval of 2.5.26 BOD Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion:** Kelly Fraser moved to approve the February 5, 2026 meeting minutes.
  - **Second:** Roy Oliver
  - **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.
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**3. Insurance Update**

- **Report by Valee Miller:** Michaela added panels to the insurance policy; additional shows can easily be added. Trailer coverage can be added when purchased.
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**4. Red Lodge Show Update**

- **Report by Roy Oliver:**
    - The Red Lodge show will not be held at Andy's facility due to logistics.
    - Roy Oliver and Rob Fraser will meet with fairgrounds staff to finalize costs, Cattle Supply is covered. There are no RV spots available at the fairgrounds and a water truck would be needed.
    - Tentative show dates: **July 23–25, 2026.**
    - Sponsor secured for added money.
  - Roy Oliver to confirm fairgrounds and cattle details within the next few days.
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**5. Treasure State Clinic Discussion**

- **Concern:** Treasure State Cutting Horse Association scheduled a clinic immediately before the MCHA Deer Lodge 2<sup>nd</sup> show, using MCHA's sand and back fence.
- **Discussion Points:**
  - Clinic scheduled for Tuesday–Wednesday before MCHA's Thursday show.
  - MCHA members are not eligible to attend, as clinic limited to prior Treasure State members.
  - Potential wear on sand and loping pen.
- **Decisions & Actions:**

- **Roy Oliver** will contact the Treasure State Board to request they bring in additional sand after their clinic at their cost.
- **Ashley Lee** will ask Peri Suenram how much sand is normally added for the second Deer Lodge show and what replacement amount is reasonable.
- **Roy Oliver** to coordinate timing for sand delivery and set a minimum load requirement if needed.

## 6. Big Piney Show Planning

### a. Schedule Options

- **Options Discussed:**
  - **Option A:** 3 shows over 5 days.
  - **Option B:** Same as 2025 schedule.
  - **Option C:** 3 shows over 4 days.
- **Discussion Summary:**
  - Concerns about late nights and staff fatigue led by Andi James.
  - Balance between trainer workload and show manageability.
  - Limitations due to stall capacity (~370 stalls).
- **Decision:**
  - **Motion:** Doug Pearce moved to adopt **Option A (5-day schedule)**.
  - **Second:** Dave Ziebarth
  - **Vote:** Motion carried.
  - **Outcome:** Big Piney will run 3 shows over 5 days, allowing all weekend classes to show three times.

### b. Show Secretary Position

- **Discussion:**
  - Board agreed to reduce from two secretaries to one.
  - Tablets will continue to be used to streamline scoring.
  - Show committee to draft a new contract and solicit bids.
- **Show Committee Members:** Roy Oliver, Ashley Lee, Kelly Fraser, Gus Hoffman.
- **Actions:**
  - Ashley Lee to schedule a committee meeting next week to finalize secretary and judge contracts.
  - Committee to contact potential secretaries, including Teresa, and present recommendations at the next board meeting.

### c. Added Money and Fees

- **Approved Adjustments:**
  - **4-Year-Old and 5–6-Year-Old Non-Pro Classes:** Increase to **\$1,500 added**, matching Open classes.
  - **Weekend Classes:** Increase added money by **\$750 each**.
- **Motions:**
  - **Motion** Kelly Fraser moved to equalize added money for Non-Pro and Open classes.
  - **Second** Jann Parker
  - **Vote** Motion passed.

- **Motion** Roy Oliver moved to add \$750 to all weekend classes.
  - **Second** Kelly Fraser
  - **Vote** Motion passed.
  - **Next Steps:**
    - **Kelly Fraser** to draft updated fee and cattle charge schedule for review.
    - **Andi James** to send updated stall costs and class names to Valee Miller for membership distribution.
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## 7. Awards Discussion

- **Kim A/C Award:**
    - **Motion:** Kelly Fraser moved to continue the Kim Asay Award.
    - **Second** Jann Parker
    - **Vote** Motion carried.
  - **Horse of the Year Awards:**
    - Discussion on reinstating Open, Non-Pro, and Amateur/Jackpot Horse of the Year awards.
    - Decision to base awards on **money earned in weekend classes only** to avoid popularity bias.
    - **Motion:** Roy Oliver moved to reinstate awards based on weekend earnings for Open, Non-Pro, and Amateur/Jackpot divisions.
    - **Second** Kelly Fraser
    - **Vote** Motion carried.
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## 8. Deer Lodge Show Updates

- **Cattle Fees:**
    - Doug Pearce noted fees listed on NCHA website were outdated.
    - Ashley Lee confirmed Peri Suenram is updating cattle fees and added money.
  - **Lodging:**
    - Valee Miller reserved rooms for judges, announcer, videographer, and two additional rooms for cattle help.
  - **Announcer & Videographer:**
    - Kicking S Video & Kathy Greenwell
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## 9. Additional Operational Items

- **Show Pen Panels:** Roy Oliver coordinating installation of new show pen panels at Deer Lodge and Big Piney.
  - **Scheduling:** Valee Miller to share updated Big Piney schedule and stall reservation info with membership once received.
  - **Judge Requirements:** Ashley Lee to verify NCHA rules regarding number of judges for added money classes.
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## 10. Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn:** Kelly Fraser moved; Doug Pearce seconded.
- **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

- **Meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM by President Ashley Lee**