

Minutes of the Wyoming Cutting Horse Association (WYCHA) Board of Directors Meeting

February 5, 2025

Teleconference, recording at <https://fccdl.in/Y6lUI27yNp>

President Shaun Musselman called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

Directors Present: President Shaun Musselman, Helen Larsen, John Murdock, Doyle Fritz, Wylie Fraser, Jack Enright, Audra Crouse, Gordy Bray, Justin Johnson, and Amanda Focke.

Directors Absent: Lynn Moore

OLD BUSINESS:

NCHA Days

Audra reported receiving an email from the facility in Sheridan stating they were canceling all events for the summer. The college hired a new coach, Bobby Harris, who wanted everyone out to remodel the barn. Audra and Gordy spent money and time buying stalls and organizing the event. Triangle T Productions has NCHA approval to host the show.

Gordy called Afton in Riverton about the Central Wyoming Community College (CWCC) venue, who was excited to have them and canceled classes from May 12th on. CWCC wants students to see professionals working with their barn. Shaun offered to contact Doug Pierce for Montana and Allison Walker for the NCHA. Audra is asking for approval from WYCHA to consider the Riverton venue. Some people in Montana are happy about the initial plan to go to Sheridan but not pleased with the possibility of moving to Riverton. Any approvals are subject to NCHA approval, as they previously have withheld approvals until NCHA Days was finalized. NCHA Days is an NCHA show put on by an approved affiliate or an independent producer if there is no affiliate.

The president asked for a motion from the floor to move the event. If the motion is approved, it will still require NCHA approval. Millers has the date open as an alternative if the move to Riverton is not approved. Audra and Gordy were credited for their work in trying to secure Riverton as a new facility.

A motion was made by Wylie to move the cutting to Riverton on the same date, and it was seconded by Amanda.

Discussion

Justin inquired about the readiness of the Riverton facility for NCHA Days, specifically regarding water, pens, and stalls for a potentially large number of horses (120-130). Gordy stated

that there are 140 stalls available. Gordy inspected the facility with Afton. There are three large cattle pens and an outdoor arena for holding cattle, with an alleyway for cattle movement. A water truck is available, and college kids will fill water buckets three times a day. The facility is large with plenty of restrooms, but lacks a concession stand; food trucks are being considered. There are no RV hookups available. There are 1400 head of cattle available.

Shaun expressed concern about relying on someone else to fill water buckets, preferring to manage his own horses' water intake. He anticipates Mary Hayes would share this concern. Gordy acknowledged the need to ensure a good water supply. There was a suggestion to set up the water truck with hoses for individual use like how it was done at Miller's in the past. John asked about water truck access if college kids aren't available. Afton, the facilities manager, will be present, along with maintenance personnel who can operate the tractor and water truck.

Vote was called for by the president, the motion passed, Audra and Gordy abstained from voting.

Circuit Finals and Year End Show

Montana is having a meeting to decide whether to approve the Riverton show. There are concerns about cooperation between Wyoming and Montana. Wyoming is not planning on having circuit finals this year. Miller's traditionally hosts the year-end show, with both Wyoming and Montana participating. There was a discussion about which state has the right to host it this year. The decision on circuit finals was tabled at the WYCHA AGM meeting in January. It was suggested to continue supporting Clayton and Valle Miller and to share shows between affiliates. Clayton is planning an October show. Shaun suggested the last show in the circuit should be the circuit finals. There should be a discussion between Wyoming and Montana to decide if it will be the circuit finals. Wyoming and Montana need to have a meeting to figure out how this is going to happen.

Shaun says if everyone gives him the latitude, he's happy to call Doug and open the conversation to see how they feel about it and move forward. John agrees that they should be working with Montana, not against them. He doesn't want anyone to feel like they're working against Montana or vice versa. Shaun will reach out to Doug and go forward from there.

Shaun asked for any other items from the floor; none were presented. The president called for a motion to adjourn. Amanda made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Wiley. Gordy and Audra thanked everyone for taking the time and making arrangements. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.