

**MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
ZOOM – 11/14/2023**

President Denver Gilbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

In Attendance: Jay Wagner, Clint Begger, Kortney Diegel, Mark Radue, Ty Parker, Sophia Wyatt, Ricki Grebe, Cassie Gibson, Tater Erickson, Tim Larson, Ryan Gaasch, Hailey Burger, Billie Harms

Absent: Kari Trexler, Tobin Arnold, Payton Levine

PR/Marketing: Denver stated that interviews for the PR/Marketing Position will be held on Friday Nov. 17 with Amy Robbins and Paige Anderson. Discussed offering a base pay of \$25,000 per year plus 10-12 % of sponsorships they gather. Will let them know we are thinking that \$200,000 will need to be raised to put on the State HS Rodeo. Tater has been working on a rough marketing plan to go over with whoever is hired for the position. Once a pr/marketing person is hired then we will contact a lawyer to help draw up a contract.

Denver stated that Wyatt Glade is going into private practice and that we could contact him to see if he would be our attorney to help with contracts, etc.

State Finals: Majestic Valley Arena will soon have the contract finalized for us. They also said that they have a new marketing person and that she may help us with local sponsorships.

Colter Heckman Lawyer Letter: Colter Heckman had a lawyer draft a letter which was sent to the MHSRA, requesting reimbursement for the money he lost in ticket sales between the 2022 and 2023 State Finals. This loss was a result of a venue change. Additionally, the letter addresses the issue of the denial of the opportunity for him to organize the state finals for a third consecutive year. We must respond to him by Nov. 24.

Denver spoke briefly with an attorney about our contract with Colter Heckman and he stated the contract was vague and it will more than likely come down to a he said/she said if it went to court.

MOTION: Tater made a motion to pursue a visit with an attorney to see if there is merit in Heckman's case. If not, then send a letter to Heckman's attorney stating that we will not pay the amount requested. 2nd by Ryan.

Motion approved

Debbie asked about the By-Law Amendment regarding the JH Student officers that was voted on at the August meeting. They are already included in the bylaws as being able to attend all meetings. Jay had investigated the JH officers on the national level, and they are not included as voting board members. It was decided that the by-laws did not need to be amended.

Discussion was held on whether the JH Officers should attend the Mid-Winter Meeting in January 2024.

MOTION: Clint made a motion to invite the JH Student Officers to the NHSRA mid-winter meeting in Branson.

2nd by Tim.

Motion approved with 1 opposed (Mark Radue) and 1 abstaining (Jay Wagner).

Billie will email the 3 JH Student officers and invite them to MHSRA January Board Meeting and the Mid-Winter Meeting in Branson, MO.

Dan Wyatt had contacted Jay about attending the Mid-Winter meeting. He has been working with the national shooting sports coordinator about some rule changes and he would like to attend the meeting.

MOTION: Kortney made a motion to send Dan to the Mid-Winter Meeting with MHSRA providing his airline ticket and lodging.

2nd. By Clint.

Motion approved

Kortney and Ryan discussed the judge's clinic that MHSRA will host during the circuit finals in Great Falls in January. The clinic will be held on Saturday, January 13 from 8-5. Mike Tatsey will instruct the clinic and it will be free for all to attend. The state directors are highly encouraged to attend as well.

MOTION: Tater made a motion to pay Mike Tatsey \$50 per person attending the clinic with a \$250 minimum and get him a hotel room for Saturday night.

2nd by Tim.

Motion approved.

Debbie will reserve the meeting rooms at the Sleep Inn in Great Falls for the judge's clinic and the board meeting.

MOTION: Clint made a motion to adjourn the meeting

2nd by Jay

Motion Approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.