

BOD Meeting February 25, 2026
Monthly meeting

Call to order by **President Anne Murphy at 7:00 pm.**

Roll call: **An attendance chart is attached to these minutes.**

Minutes from January 28, 2026:

- Motion made by Linda to approve the January minutes, seconded by Gail. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report is in the meeting packet.
- The move of accounts to the new banks has been completed.
- Dana motions to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Nancy. Passed.
- Winter Fun Day was a huge success due to the organization and volunteers.

Legislative report:

- Ag Day at the Capital report is in the meeting packet.
- Jolene discussed the two bills she mentioned at our January meeting; neither of these bills have moved.
- Jolene discussed the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund. The democrats and republicans are on different sides of this bill and there is no action.
- The bill for veterinary debt relief will be approved but won't have funding until July 1, 2027.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- A report was included in the meeting packet.
- MHF would like to thank all the directors for their support in voting to approve a \$5000 scholarship for a WI youth to attend the Lead Changes camp that is led by Chris Cox. A week ago, MHF was notified that the Lead Changes camps will not be taking place in 2026 but will be available in 2027. Since the terms of the scholarship were for 2026, we will not be using that money.

Committee Reports:

- Annual Awards- Logan; nothing new
- Budget & Finance- Nancy Edwards: Deadline for budget requests is April 8; the form is in the packet.
- Bylaws- Dana Sechler: there are a couple bylaw proposals in the packet for review. A few of the bylaw changes submitted were sent to legal review and are not in the packet this month.
- Districts- Katie Bachhuber: there is zoom meeting set up with all the district to review the new forms and processes.
- Judges Program & Seminar- Dan Gruenwald: next seminar will be held on April 11.
- Member Services- Anne Murphy: The new level III member attended the meeting.
- Policy & Procedures: Anne Murphy: There are two documents in the meeting packet to review.
 - Dealing with Complaints & District Funding were reviewed.
 - Motion made by Nancy to accept the policies with the changes that were discussed; seconded by Dana. Passed.
- Public Relations- Bonnie Shepherd: Let Darla know what schedule you can work at the WHC booth for the MHF WHC booth. The PR event list for 2026 is in the meeting packet. Directors who sign up to work in the WHC booth at MHF will receive a WHC logo sweatshirt.
- WSHCEF Scholarship- Linda Ernsberger: seven scholarship winners will be receiving awards!
- Sponsorship- Heather Kuenzi: the spring deadline is February 28th.
- Technology- Dana Sechler: no updates
- Trails- Floyd Finney & Cricket Jewett: the Trail Master Certification course is scheduled for May 13-16 at the Southern Kettle Moraine Trails. Trails grants were awarded for 2026. There were only 5 requests for a total of just over \$15,000. One capital grant for \$10,000 was also approved.

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Determine the Needs of the Equine Industry- Anne Murphy: Nothing new.
- Round Up: Bonnie Shepherd: maps need to be in by the end of February. The drawing will be held on March 6.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy: Anne is meeting with another leader from an equine group to discuss tactics to get more participation with youth.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber: see above.
- Long-Range Strategic Planning Process Status: Dana Sechler: nothing new.
- Discussion regarding third party involvement in reworking WHC bylaws, policies and procedures is on hold.

Old Business**Some of the Proposed By-law Change Submissions are in the packet:**

- Two submitted changes have been sent to legal counsel for review and have not returned yet to be included in the packet.

New Business**MHF Ticket Request Form:**

- Directors need to send the completed form to the office by March 9th

Other:

- Nancy Young and Mark Long will be doing Farm Technology Days. Anne is also in contact with the person who is organizing Farm Tech Days to get information needed for WHC.

Future Meeting Dates:

- March 3/25- annual meeting. Start time will be at 6:00 for pizza; meeting to follow.
- May 5/27
- June 6/24
- July 7/22
- August 8/26
- September 9/23
- October 10/28

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Ron to adjourn at 8:06 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Jill Feller
WHC Secretary