

BOD Meeting August 26, 2026

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

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

Minutes from June 24, 2026:

- Motion made by Gail to approve the June minutes, seconded by Floyd. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report is in the meeting packet.
- We have closed out the year 2025-2026. Our accountant has access to the QB program and is working with Cricket.
- Kevin at Baird is pleased with our account and it is a safe account. We earned 16% while the average earnings was 17%.
- If any district needs a running total of transactions, with breakouts and details, they should contact Cricket and she will supply them with those reports.
- Dana motions to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Nancy. Passed.
- Nancy Young was present at the meeting. She is asking that WHC help to promote scholarships.

Legislative report:

- Jolene talked about Richford, in Waushara County, who is upset with the Amish community in their area. The township wants a bill that will address these items:
 - State should regulate the age of buggy drivers
 - More lights and reflectors need to be on buggies
 - Buggies should be licensed
 - Buggies cannot have any steel wheels
- The township is issuing fines to the Amish for leaving manure on the roadways; not on the side of the road, but on the road itself.
 - Several Amish have been given citations and these actions have happened:
 - 1 went to jury trial and Amish was found guilty
 - 1 is going to a jury trial
 - 1 case was dismissed through a different judge
 - If this goes to a bill, it will not be seen until January so there is no action required at this time.
- Discussion on Alliant Energy Center followed. If we have any members in Dane County, they could lobby the Dane County board members. Darla will look at her membership list and identify members and directors that are in Dane County.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- The monthly report is in the packet.
- Amber Marshall from the series "Heartland" has been announced as returning in 2027 along with clinician Dan James. The Sunday competition will be a 'wild horse challenge.

Committee Reports:

- Annual Awards- Logan; Logan is the new chairperson for the committee. Any thoughts on improving awards and the awards ceremony should reach out to Logan.
- Budget & Finance- Nancy Edwards: nothing new
- By laws- Dana Sechler: there are three suggested changes to the bylaws in the meeting packet to read and consider.
- Districts- Katie Bachhuber: was not present at the meeting to give a report.
- Judges Program & Seminar- Dan Gruenwald: was not present at the meeting.
- Member Services- Anne Murphy: nothing new
- Policy & Procedures: Anne Murphy: nothing new
- Public Relations- Bonnie Shepherd: the committee will be scheduling a meeting soon to discuss future events and the MHF program ad.
- WSHCEF Scholarship- Linda Ernsberger: was not present at the meeting.
- Sponsorship- Heather Kuenzi: the committee will be meeting in October after the September 30th deadline for applications to be submitted. All sponsorship award winners are required to submit a completion report within one year of the event. The sponsorship committee has received 4 of 15 so far this year. If a completion report is not received, the group is not eligible for additional sponsorships until the group has submitted the completion report.
- Technology- Dana Sechler: the only issue is finding a directional mike or mikes that can be set up in the room for the meetings to allow for better audio.

- Trails- Floyd Finney & Cricket Jewett: We are in the process of looking for a place for the trail design school. Door County reached out to the trails committee; the DNR has equine trails in their master plans. Getting these trails has been in the works for many years and looks like they may be coming to life! On the trails committee page, there is a link to sign up to get Master plan updates.

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Determine the Needs of the Equine Industry- Anne Murphy: Nothing new.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy: Nothing New.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber: Nothing new.
- Long-Range Strategic Planning Process Status: Dana Sechler: nothing new.

Old Business

Proposed By law submissions:

- There are three submissions in the meeting packet.
- Voting on the bylaws will be taking place within a week and results will be announced at the September meeting.

New Business

NONE

Other:

- There is no search engine on the WHC website. We do not have a cost on what it would be to add a search. Darla will find out the cost and the technology committee will present it in September.
- Cricket explained that if you do a search in Google, it will take you to the WHC page.
- The Farm Technology Days was a success, but it was hot, dusty and smoky (forest fire smoke).

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 9/23
- October 10/28
- November and December- no BOD meeting

Motion made by Ron and seconded by Scott to adjourn at 8:12 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Jill Feller
WHC Secretary