

Montana Hereford Association
Conference Call Meeting
January 25, 2009

In Attendance: Matt Beery, Ace Diemert, Cory Dutton, Della Ehlke, Jerry Geregthy, Laurence Hess, Tom Sparks, Justin Wichman

Meeting was called to order by Della Ehlke, President. Minutes from the October meeting were approved as submitted. There was no treasurer's report. Secretary opening was discussed. Carmen Wichman has applied for the position and spoken with Della about the proposed duties and stipend. Byron Bayers informed Della earlier today that he knows of another person interested in applying for the position. After discussion, the group was in favor of appointing a secretary without further delay. Della appointed Carmen Wichman as the MHA Secretary. Everyone was in agreement. Della will notify Carmen and pass on appropriate files, etc.

Ace spoke about the website. He recommended that at least two people have all of the website password and access information. It was decided that the Webmaster, the Pres and the Secretary will all keep a file of the passwords. Ace said that adding a link to each paid member on the MHA website that goes to a short description of their ranch offerings would be no problem. We will work on getting that done once the current membership drive is finished. Ace reminded everyone to let him know if they wanted to see certain things on the website. He also said that getting the word out to cattle buyers, etc., about the new information being offered on the site could provide more impact.

Jerry motioned and Matt seconded to spend \$100 towards a gift certificate for John Morford for the work he did on the MHA DVD. Della will request the check from Tom Spraggins, obtain a gift certificate and mail it with a thank you to John Morford.

Matt Beery nominated Tom Sparks as President. Jerry seconded, and suggested nominations be closed. Cory nominated Matt Beery as VP, Matt declined. Della nominated Justin Wichman as VP. Jerry seconded. Matt is VP.

Committees are as follows:

Advertising - Matt, Ace and Justin
Directory - Della, Cory
Convention - Cory, Della
Nominating/Awards - Matt, Laurence and Carmen
Promotion/Marketing - Justin, Jerry, Cory, Ace

Financial/Treasurer – Tom Sparks with Carmen’s help
Membership – Laurence, Della

March is Ag appreciation month, Justin has the opportunity to run an MHA radio spot. Della will get him the words from the radio spot that we used earlier. Laurence will look up how long the MHA has been in existence.

Della reminded the Advertising Committee that now is an important time to get some ads together for members spring bulls ales. Della brought up an application for membership by a miniature Hereford breeder. Della and Laurence will review and decide how to proceed.

Ace suggested we get a newsletter out ASAP listing the current 2009 members and announcing that a new membership map will be printed within 2 weeks of the newsletter so anyone wanting to be on the map needs to have their membership in before that. Once Ace has a list of current members, he will not be asked to change the map. Goal is to have the newsletter out the first week of February, and have the map printed around the first of March.

Short discussion about the possibility of using Hereford America as a vehicle for getting the MHA news out (in lieu of a newsletter) . Nebraska is trying this now. Della will get a proposal from HA and present it to the Board.

Tom reminded everyone that June is the 125th anniversary of the MSGA and they were having a mid year convention in Miles City. The MHA will try to put something together to be part of that.

Della brought up the idea mentioned at annual convention by Dale Venhuizen of perhaps having the MHA sponsor some small prize (rope halter, cap, etc) for EVERY 4-H member who exhibits a Hereford influenced animal at the County Fair. The promotion committee will consider.

Della will send DVD information to Ace and 2008 Financial Report and 2009 Budget to Tom Sparks. Della will send minutes of this meeting to Tom Spraggins to serve as the official notification of officer change and secretary addition.

Committees are expected to be working on their individual projects. Tom expects to have another meeting in March or April, specifically if we are going to participate in the MSGA Mid Year in Miles City.

Jerry motioned the meeting be adjourned. Cory seconded. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Della Ehlke