

AGENDA: MHIB Board Realignment
Thursday., Mar. 13th, 2025, 10AM - Noon, MD Dept. of Agriculture

- I. **Welcome:** Kevin Atticks MDA Secretary of Agriculture
- II. **Introductions:** MDA Staff, Board Members
- III. **Overview of Meeting:** Cassie Shirk, MDA Assistant Secretary
- IV. **Government Relations & being an MHIB Board Member:** Rachel Jones, **Director of Government Relations**
- V. **Questions on MHIB Bylaws—**Justin Hays, Deputy Principal Counsel
- VI. **Inspections & Licensed Stables—**Ellen James & Peggy Morgan Stable Inspectors
15 minute Break
- VII. **MHIB Mission—Anne Litz**
The Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB), as outlined in Article 2-708.1 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, promotes equestrian activities and the use of horses for recreation in Maryland and abroad. It accomplishes this through:
 - a. Promotional efforts that raise awareness and visibility of the equine industry,
 - b. Educational and research projects that benefit the industry,
 - c. Strategic initiatives, such as developing economic impact reports, career programs, stable planning, and marketing incentives to support the local horse economy,
 - d. Advisory capacity to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Governor regarding industry matters, and
 - e. Acting as the licensing authority for Maryland horse stables.
 - f. MHIB's Vision and Mission:
 - g. Increase public awareness of Maryland's equestrian traditions
 - h. Highlight the positive impact of horses on Maryland's quality of life
 - i. Boost the visibility of equestrian activities statewide
 - j. Serve as a key resource for Maryland horse owners
 - k. Promote high standards of horse care in Maryland through horse stable licensing*, educational programs, and grant funding
 - i. All Maryland stables that solicit the general public, and have ONE or more horses - and either give lessons, board horses, have a rental service, offer Equine Therapy or Therapeutic Riding, or are a rescue or sanctuary stable, are required by the State of Maryland to obtain and maintain licensing through the Maryland Horse Industry Board.
- VIII. **Review of Board Realignment Survey**
 - a. Strategic Planning
 - b. Bylaws
 - c. Board Meeting
 - d. Visioning Session
- IX. **MHIB Ongoing and Current Projects**
 - a. Growing Licensed Stable Network
 - b. Contractual Hire
 - c. MD Horse Park System: commissioned studies 2004, 2012, 2015 and now Launching the Horse Park System in 2025
 - d. Maryland Horse Farm Tour/Preakness Festival
 - e. Horse Discovery Center Network
 - f. Horseland at State Fair

- g. MD Horse Forum: held every 5 years
 - h. 2024 American Horse Council economic impact studies
 - i. International Involvement: MD Sister States, USLGE grants exchange trips in talks, Working the Secretary of State, Embassy Night at WIHS and Preakness
 - j. MHIB Grants Program \$30,000
 - k. MTCP_ Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program – 2026 Maryland Horse Industry Career Program addition
 - l. Trails Brochures & Partnership with DNR
- X. Committees: Setting the Focus & Assignments**
- a. Nominating
 - b. Budget Review
 - c. Health Advisory Committee
 - d. Grants
 - e. Equine Welfare
 - f. Strategic Planning
 - g. Marketing/Horse Pak System
 - h. Horse Discovery Centers
 - i. Horseland
 - New Committees
 - j. Western Riding
 - k. Sport Horse Committee
 - l. HOW (Horse Outreach Workshop)
- XI. Advisory Board**
- a. Purpose/Duties
 - b. Composition – TBD

XII. Discussion

XIII. No Public Comment

ADJOURNMENT