

**MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD**  
**Minutes of the Board Meeting**  
**July 9th, 2024**

Meeting held Teleconference

The meeting started at 10:07 A.M.

**Present:** Sheila Curry (Chr.), Neil Agate, Lisa Watts, Cassie Shirk, Dr. Amy Burk (V. Chr.), Dr. Justin Sobota, and Jennifer Sulin

**Unable to Attend:** Connie Sawyer, Erin Ochoa, Adrian Ford III, Jay Griswold, Jenile Tapscott, Ross Peddicord

**Also on the call:** Lexi Danielson, Cricket Goodall, Quinn Reed, Fran Horgan, Susie Husk, Sabrina Dobbins, Michael Hall, Amber Cash, Lara McPherson, Jane Seigler, Carolyn Mackintosh, Al Martinez, Stacie Benes, Ellen James, Peggy Morgan, Anne Litz,

**Call to Order:** Sheila Curry (Chr.) called the meeting to order.

**Introduction of Attendees:** **Quinn Reed** - Quinn Reed, WIHS's new Marketing Manager. Quinn is from Ohio, comes from college sports, but grew up in the horse world. Her dad's an FEI steward (at WIHS in 2023, and at Aachen now), and her parents own and run Dandy Products. Quinn will be our contact for advertising, tickets and marketing.

**Lexi Danielson** - Program Manager, Maryland Horse Library, introduced by Cricket Goodall. Lexi will be producing the talks, programs and educational components of the Library. The next event is July 22<sup>nd</sup> is a Virtual talk about the famous Misty of Chincoteague and the author of the novels Marguerite Henry

**No minutes from the June Meeting to Approve at this meeting. Minutes will be presented for Approval in the August 2024 meeting**

**Monthly Budget Report:** : Fiscal is still closing out the Budget from FY2024, will report in August.

**Note:** Budget Committee met Virtually on June 21<sup>st</sup>, to approve the budget for Fy2026  
5-person Budget Review Committee  
Jay Griswold (Chr.), Neil Agate, Sheila Curry, Dr. Amy Burk and Lisa Watts.

**3. Presentations: Presentation on Irish Trade Mission:**

- Fran Horgan, Maryland's Irish Representative, responsible for organizing and hosting the Irish Trade Mission reported on a very successful partnership between Maryland and Ireland through Equine and Tourism. As this trip was Genetics' focused, she offered further virtual meetings between Maryland Representatives and the Sport Horse Community. She is working with Stone Slade, MDA International Marketing on the full

report from the trip. Made note of the huge congratulations to Carolyn on her second visit to Millstreet and her event at Loch Moy

- Kim Egan – also echoed praise of the 3-day Loch Moy event and relationship with Ireland.
- Carolyn Mackintosh – Praised all Fran’s hard work on organizing the entire Irish Trade Mission and Young Rider Exchange. Hopes to continue the Young Rider Exchange and Loch Moy will be running the USEA YEH Qualifier +NEH and the USEA MD Horse Trails this upcoming weekend, July 12-14th

#### **4. Committee Reports & Updates:**

- **Stable Licensing: FY24:** We had 814 stables license, a new record and an increase of 17 stables from the 797 licensed in FY23. **FY25:** As of July 8th, 524 Stables have renewed or been approved as new, over half our stables, and 277 still need to renew, plus new stables to be inspected.
- **SUSPENDED LICENSES:**  
Stables in Non Compliance FY23 and FY24: There was one stable (Four Winds Farm in White Hall) in non-compliance in FY23 and one stable (Stockbridge Manor in Glen Arm) in non-compliance for FY24 for failure to renew their licenses. Both were contacted by phone, email and regular and certified mail, and failed to respond. As of June, Stockbridge Manor been in contact has said they have mailed in checks for FY24 & FY25. After consultation with our Assistant AG, Four Winds Farm have been fined \$500 plus their \$125 licensing fee. Each owes \$625. Four Winds Farm’s accounts have been turned over to MDA General Collections.  
Suspended License: After a meeting with Ass’t AG Justin Hayes on June 7, Granite Springs Stable in Warwick, which has failed numerous inspections, was given opportunity to pass inspection. The stable failed that inspection. The owner, Bryan Bradley, will be notified to attend an administrative hearing. His license could be suspended, depending on the outcome of the hearing.
- **ONESTOP Licensing System:**  
The new OneStop MDA Portal opened for the Vet Board and the Horse Board on May 28th. All 812 Stables received an email from Salesforce to renew on June 1st and one from GovDelivery on Monday June 3rd, a reminder on June 17th. Now the stables that have not renewed are technically unlicensed and received email alert of Operating an Unlicensed Stable on July 8th.

Overall the Software is working well, and most issues are user-error, that can be worked through one by one. The Software Issues are being handled in a timely manner by Maddie Raville, our leader and support. We are very grateful to work with her and how responsive and helpful she has been through a challenging process.

As of July 8th, 524 Stables have renewed, over half our stables, and 277 still need to renew. We have not received any Paper applications yet, but that can take 2-4 weeks for turn around. MDA’s Donna Hill will be championing the paper application under Anne’s guidance and make it possible for stables to still renew by check. A huge thank you to Donna.

The current issues we are seeing in July.

1. Stable Operators not creating a new account in OneStop
2. Stable Operators using a new email address that is not associated with their current stable account
3. Stable Operators not being able to find the Renewal Button on the Dashboard\*\*\*
4. Stable Operators not being able to open the Renewal Page\*

\*\*\*This is one of the larger problems a bunch of stables still are getting lost when renewing but Maddie has put in alerts and steps to help people get to the right place

\*A big fix has been to allow the Renewal Page to open in the same window, and not be blocked as a pop up.

- **Approved 2024 Meeting Schedule:**

Thursday, Aug. 15	10 AM	<b>Virtual – Google Meets Teleconference</b>
Tuesday, Sept. 10	10 AM	<b>TRRC (Therapeutic &amp; Recreational Riding Center), Glenwood</b>
Thursday, Oct. 17	10 AM	<b>Fairhill Equine Veterinary Clinic, Dr. Kathy Anderson (in conjunction MARS MD 5 Star at Fair Hill), Elkton TBC</b>
Tuesday, Nov. 12	10 AM	<b>Virtual– Google Meets Teleconference</b>
December 2024 – Grants Committee Meeting		

**Rutledge Ridge Farm, Fallston Bridleless demo Melanie Ferro-Wise and Oak Spring Equestrian,**  
Woodbine Working Equitation demo, TBD in 2025

**Neil Agate** announced he will be hosting the Maryland Horsemen's Polo Cup at Seneca Polo Club on Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> as a Fundraiser for Maryland Horse Council and the Foundation. One page invite was sent to the board and guests.

- **Establishing Committees That Need to Meet:** Budget, Equine Welfare, Sport Horse Registry, Western Riding, Grants: BOARD MEMBERS--

**Budget:** JAY GRISWOLD, (Chr.), Neil Agate, Sheila Curry, Dr. Amy Burk, Lisa Watts – Met on June 21st  
**Equine Welfare:** ERIN OCHOA (Chr.), Peggy Morgan, Ellen James, needs to be re-established; has not met since pre-Covid – Meeting TBD

**Sport Horse Registry:** SHEILA CURRY (Chr.), Connie Sawyer, Kim Egan, Jane Seigler, Kirsten Green (RRP) needs to meet and be established– Meeting TBD

**Western Riding:** JENNIFER SULIN (Chr.), Sheila Curry, Jessie Flores, Annie Trice, Dee Dee Bandy, Lynda Arnold, Ellen Schultz, Lyn Fick, Corey Jackson, Julie Murphy, Cindy Harris, Chad Walker, Tina Sherman, Ray Parker, Morris Hall, Robin Vandervoort, Ellen James, Peggy Morgan – Meeting requested by Chr. Jennifer Sulin to see Rosecroft and have a virtual meeting of the Western Committee to engage in the Horse Forum.

**Grants:** LISA WATTS (Chr.), Sheila Curry, Neil Agate, Dr. Amy Burk, Dr. Justin Sobota – Meeting Dec 2024  
Other Board members with Committee Chairs: MD Horse Forum—DR. AMY BURK, (Co-Chair); Horse Park

**Tourism Grant:** CONNIE SAWYER, (Chr.); **Health Advisory**—DR. JUSTIN SOBOTA (Chr.)

- **Horse Discovery Center (HDC) Network:** The HDC are busy hosting camps and attending summer fairs and festivals, including Horseland at the Maryland State Fair on three consecutive weekends: Aug. 22-25, Aug. 29 – Sept. 2 and Sept. 5-8. “Fred” the Maryland Standardbred Mascot will be at Horseland this year, thanks to Rosecroft. Anne will be speaking about the Horse Discovery Centers at the Agriculture Education Summit on July 16, 2024 at the MDA, Annapolis. Request for two Board Members to serve as HDC inspectors with a Stable Inspector when the HDC Application reopens (TBD)
- **Agenda being determined for Break-Out Session Topics at the 2024 MD Horse Forum:** Co-Chairs Dr Amy Burk, **Jen Reynolds and Anne Litz meet with the entire committee on June 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the top findings from the Survey. Anne & Jen** met June 21st to edit and work out the Agenda for the day that includes topics that attendees would most like to see discussed at the August 8, 2024 MD Horse Forum at McDonogh School, Owings Mills. They are waiting on edits from the committee and the Final will be out July 18<sup>th</sup>. We have a major financial commitment of

\$25K from the **Rural Maryland Council** to be presenting sponsor. Confirmed Sponsors—**MD Sports Commission, Rosecroft, MD Horse Breeders' Association, Cloverleaf, Green Horse Enterprise**, and **SMADC**—have already signed on. **B&D Builders** will sponsor the reception after the Horse Forum at the McDonogh stable. **TO DO LIST: Confirm Guest Speakers (Gov., Lt. Gov, Sec'y Atticks, Balto. Co. Exec., Steuart Pittman, MTROA), Entertainment (T58, Will Wright), Awards (My Racehorse MD Preakness winners), Youth (WIHS Youth Committee, TB Career Advancement group)**

- **MD Horse Park System Tourism Grant Committee:** Marriner Marketing from Maryland has been awarded the contract. MHIB has worked with MDA Procurement Manager, Pamela Sams-Turner, on this process. This opportunity was provided by a \$250,000 grant provided by the Maryland Office of Tourism. The Horse Park executive tourism grant committee (Connie Sawyer, chair; Sheila Curry, Kristin Hanna, Cricket Goodall, Sandy Turner, Jeff Newman plus Anne & Ross) look forward to working with Marriner on developing the timeline and future of the Horse Park System. Ross is working with the procurement to have the paper work wrapped up by FY24 closeout.
- **New MD Trail Riding Guides**— **Dianne Dougherty** of Trail Rider's Path (TrailRidersPath.com) smaller proposal was approved to develop the new print and online guides for public access riding trails and public trail riding stables in Maryland. Dianne is currently working with MHIB to update our two current trails brochures—**Saddle Up Maryland** and **A Guide to Maryland Horse Trails**—for \$10K including her work in content, graphic design and printing. This is a doable figure for MHIB's FY25 marketing budget, depending upon approval by the MHIB board. Both guides/brochures are between 7-9 years old. Dianne has started to send in first drafts!
- **MD Horse Park System: Prince George's Equestrian Center:** MHIB is helping to sponsor the Groom's Party at the MD Horse & Pony Show at PGEC on Sept. 11 – 15. **Fair Hill:** Tickets for the MARS Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill Oct. 17-20 went on sale May 20. **MD Horse Library & Education Center:** MHLEC continues to hold a robust schedule of monthly talks and has a new hire in Lexi Danielson Program Manager, Maryland Horse Library
- **Maryland/Ireland Rider Exchange Exceeds Expectations!** MHIB helped sponsor a Maryland-Irish rider exchange between the Maryland International 4 Star at Loch Moy in Adamstown, MD and Millstreet International Horse Trials in County Cork, Ireland. The top young rider (age 25 and under) from Loch Moy 2023, **Madison Temkin**, traveled to Ireland May 28. Maddie finished in the Top 10 after **Caroline Pamukcu** and **Kelley Hutcheson** provided her with a horse to compete in the Young Event Horse competition. Maddie not only got to spend the week at Millstreet and meet with FEI officials, she was able to immerse herself in Caroline's operation. Caroline has since been named on the U.S. Event Team for the Paris Olympics. **Godfrey Gibbons** was selected at Millstreet to represent Ireland at Loch Moy July 5-7. He rode one of Caroline's horses at Loch Moy and placed 9th. **Equestrian Trade Mission to Ireland:** **Kevin Atticks**, MD Sec'y of Agriculture, and **Stone Slade**, MDA International Marketing Director, received a USLGE grant to travel to Ireland and visit many equine organizations and events. **Fran Horgan**, MHIB's Irish representative, planned the itinerary and helped chauffeur Kevin and Stone around Ireland. They represented Maryland's Standardbred industry at the **Irish American Harness Racing Festival** and also attended the Millstreet International Horse Trials among many other stops. **Fran and Stone are working on the report to present at the August Meeting**
- **2025 Grants program:** MHIB will start to accept FY25 grants applications on August 1.

## **5. Stable Reports—see Addendum for Full Reports**

Ellen James reported that two stables on her New Stable Inspector Report have stopped responding for an initial and follow up meeting. Ellen requested a meeting with Ass't AG Justin Hayes to review what the more the inspectors can do at this time. Cassie Shirk approved this request. Ellen will follow up with an email next week with details

## **6. Administrative Reports**

- **Equine Academic Community (Dr. Amy Burk):** Nothing to report but warns people to watch out for Heat stress!
- **MD Dept. of Agriculture (Cassie Shirk):** Nothing to report but reinforces her support to the Horse Board.
- **MD Horse Council (Neil Agate):** Praised the Md Horse Trials and the success of the Maryland Breds at the Trials. Invited the group to the July 19<sup>th</sup> Polo Match and asks all to join the Horse Council.
- **Organized Shows & Events (Sheila Curry):** Sheila asked everyone to attend and encouraged attendance to the Maryland Horse Forum, August 8th
- **Standardbred Sector (Lisa Watts):** Ocean Downs – Michael Hall has broken a track record and celebrated 2,000 training wins. Rosecroft and Ocean Downs have signed a 5-year agreement. The state's signature harness race, the \$100,000 Potomac Pace, is scheduled this year for Sunday, Nov. 17. The Racing Calendar for Fall will be out Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 2024.
- **Thoroughbred Sector (Jenile Tapscott wrote in):** Only thing to report is Pimlico will be closing on September 1. All horses and workers will be placed at Laurel Park. Preakness will be run at Pimlico in 2025. Still no word on the new training center.
- **Trails & Recreational Riding (Jennifer Sulin):** Jennifer attended the Friends of Patapsco Valley and made great connections with DNR, thanks to Kim Egan. She is working with Trot to improve the Annapolis Rock trails at Patuxent River State Park by partnering with Gentle Giant's volunteer network. Congratulations in the Western world Jadeyn Collins representing in the Girls Breakaway final and Reagan Jackson in Girls Goat. Jadeyn was 16th. Reagan had a nice goat tie, and ended up 19<sup>th</sup>.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:15 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Litz**

**ADDENDUM: Peggy Morgan/Ellen James Stable Reports attached**