REGION 4 ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Director Peggy Weems at 11:35 a.m.

CLUB VOTING DELEGATES PRESENT:

AHACO	Naomi Richmond	CASHC	Lisa Kolke
AHACO	Laura Venne	DAHA	Insufficient membership
AHCCO	Deb Witty	EVAHA	Noel Collins
AHBAO	Carol Helton	EVAHA	Kristi Stewart
AHBAO	Braden Davidson	WVAHC	Kendyl Modrich
AIM	Jonathan Howell	WVAHC	Dawn Gossler
ARHA	Joanna Cervantes	PAST DIR.	Julie Hedden
ARHA	Rod Powell		

EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT:
Region 4 Director Peggy Weems, Region 4 Vice Director Braden Davidson, Treasurer Barb Garcia, Secretary Julie Hedden.

OTHERS PRESENT:
Cecily Sotomayor, Ramona Modrich, Mike Modrich, Elijah Shaw, Chris Bickford, Gina Bressler, Theresa Schimmel Spencer (via Zoom), Skylar Powell (via Zoom).

AGENDA ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS:

None,

DECLARATION OF ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

Lisa Kolke declared no conflict of interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **March 15, 2026**
2. **April 9, 2026**

MSA/Kendyl Modrich/Naomi Richmond motion to approve the March 15, 2026, and April 9, 2026, minutes. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT & APPROVAL – Region 4 Treasurer Barb Garcia.

Treasurer Barb Garcia presented the Treasurer's Report, reporting a total of $213,911.39 across all accounts, broken down as follows:

- Columbia Bank CD: $32,573.41

- Key Bank: $74,977.08
- Pioneer Trust CD: $27,329.49
- Pioneer Trust Checking: $79,031.41

She also reported that the 2026 Region 4 Championship Show generated approximately $16,000. The show's financials have not yet been fully reconciled.

MSA/Deb Witty/Carol Helton motioned to approve the Treasurer Report. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

DIRECTORS REPORT – Peggy Weems.

Director Peggy Weems presented the Director's Report. She reported that Tara Boresek had passed away and that the Regional Show Commission voted to establish a memorial trophy in her honor to be awarded at the Regional Show.

Peggy also explained the new structure of the Arabian Horse Association (AHA). Regional Directors are no longer members of the AHA Board of Directors but instead serve on the National Council. Three National Council members representing different areas of the country serve on the Board of Directors, which meets weekly. The National Council, made up of the Regional Directors, meets via Zoom every other month.

Director Peggy Weems reported that funds remaining from the former Cascade Club were available to reimburse delegates for their early-bird convention registration fees. The eligibility requirements and distribution of the remaining $1,400 were discussed, including how the funds would be divided if multiple reimbursement requests were received.

MSA/Julie Hedden/Naomi Richmond made a motion to authorize the use of the $1,400 in Old Cascade Club funds to reimburse Region 4 delegates for their early-bird convention registration fees. Delegates must attend the General Session at Convention and submit their reimbursement requests to Treasurer Barb Garcia no later than November 30, 2026, to be eligible. If the number of eligible delegates exceeds the available funds, the funds will be divided equally among all eligible delegates, with total reimbursements not to exceed $1,400. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Peggy Weems reported on other AHA updates. She stated that Region 2 had voted to dissolve its Region. A committee is working on a USEF resolution regarding the microchip requirement. She also reported that the AHA Board of Directors voted to eliminate qualification requirements for 2027. Additionally, Taryl O'Shea has replaced Stan Morey as AHA's new CEO following Stan's retirement. The Board also voted to add $20,000 to the MDP Grant Program to support local promotion. AHA has also added Innately software to allow for online registration and membership.

Director Peggy Weems reported that a new Region 4 club has been established, the Willamette Valley Arabian Horse Club.

APPROVAL OF JONATHAN HOWELL APPOINTMENT TO THE REGION 4 BUDGET COMMITTEE – Region 4 Director Peggy Weems.

MSA/Lisa Kolke/Dawn Gossler made a motion to approve the appointment of Jonathan Howell to the Region 4 Budget Committee. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

REVISION OF REGION 4 BYLAWS – Region 4 Director Peggy Weems

1. **Discussion/modification of proposed changes.**
2. **Vote**
3. **Motion – Region 4 establish a Bylaws Review and Revision Committee for the purpose of reviewing the current Bylaws, considering recommendations and delegate input, and preparing proposed revisions for consideration by the Board of Delegates; and that the committee consist of seven members: the outgoing Region 4 Director, incoming Region 4 Director, incoming Region 4 Vice-Director, Region 4 Secretary, Region 4 Treasurer, and two additional Region 4 members as deemed appropriate. – Region 4 Vice Director Braden Davidson.**

Lisa Kolke explained that no motion had been made to revise the bylaws and that the revision process also requires a 30-day review period. Based on guidance from the parliamentarians she consulted, the email previously sent regarding proposed bylaw revisions did not follow proper parliamentary procedure. She recommended revising the motion previously made by Braden Davidson to form a committee by adding a representative from each Region 4 club. The committee would review the bylaws, make recommendations, and bring the proposed changes back to the Board for review. Lisa Kolke also stated that she would look into hiring a parliamentarian to provide guidance and consulting on parliamentary procedures and the bylaw revision process.

MSA/Lisa Kolke/Deb Witty made a motion to establish a Region 4 Bylaws Review and Amendment Committee consisting of one representative appointed by each Region 4 club. The committee will be responsible for reviewing the existing Region 4 Bylaws and developing proposed revisions and amendments to be presented to the Region 4 Board of Delegates for consideration, voting, and adoption. Each club will appoint its representative by the Convention meeting. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

A) Region 4 Championship Horse Show Commission – Nancy Harvey.

Region 4 Championship Show Manager Nancy Harvey presented a report on the 2026 Region 4 Championship Horse Show. She reported receiving positive feedback from exhibitors and owners, many of whom expressed how much they enjoyed the show.

Nancy Harvey provided an update on the 2027 Region 4 Championship Horse Show. She reported that the proposed budget is based on a projected profit of $10,000. She has verbal commitments from the judges and plans to finalize their contracts at the upcoming US National Show. All other show staff have been hired.
Nancy also discussed several areas for improvement, including having additional awards presenters and improving the awards presentation process. She also noted plans to provide a more structured seating area for the judges.

B) Judges Selection Committee – Dawn Gossler.

Judges Selection Committee Chair Dawn Gossler reported that all judges hired for the 2027 Region 4 Championship Show were among the committee's top choices.

C) Local Level Committee – Julie Hedden.

Local Level Representative Julie Hedden reported that the AHA Marketing Toolkit has been updated with new promotional materials and resources. The Board approved an additional $20,000 for local promotion grants to support outreach events. She also reported that Project Giddy Up's "We Want You Back" campaign has resulted in nearly 200 membership renewals. The Committee emphasized the importance of keeping Region and club websites updated with accurate contact information to help attract new members.

D) Youth National Convention Report – Eli Shaw, Region 4 Youth Director.

Youth Director Eli Shaw presented a report on the Youth National Convention. He shared fundraising ideas, including a silent auction and fun activities such as a Ride-A-Buck class. His goal is to raise funds to make youth participation more affordable. Mike Modrich suggested exploring the possibility of establishing Region 4 Youth as a nonprofit organization, which could make it easier to obtain donations from local businesses.

E) Youth – Noel Collins.

Youth Advisor Noel Collins emphasized the need for an incentive program to attract and retain more youth members. She discussed several ideas, including establishing a high-point program, offering additional scholarships, hosting clinics, and increasing outreach to established youth organizations such as 4-H and OHSET. Noel also submitted a budget request for funds to support clinics and other youth activities and programs.

F) Sport Horse / Dressage – Jonathan Howell and Lisa Kolke.

Jonathan Howell reported that the 2026 Region 4 Sport Horse Championship Show was cancelled due to a lack of entries. He explained that the current show dates have been problematic because they are too close to the Canadian National Show dates. Additionally, the Region 5 Sport Horse Show is now scheduled in July, creating further scheduling conflicts.

The Sport Horse Committee has explored alternative dates and found that Devonwood has availability June 11–13, 2027. Jonathan reported that he had spoken with Devonwood management, who were very willing to help make the show successful. He also contacted several Washington exhibitors who were receptive to the proposed dates.

Jonathan requested Board approval to hold the 2027 Region 4 Sport Horse Championship Show at Devonwood on June 11–13, 2027.

MSA/Deb Witty and Naomi Richmond made a motion to approve holding the 2027 Region 4 Sport Horse Championship Show at Devonwood on June 11–13, 2027. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

MSA/Lisa Kolke and Julie Hedden made a motion to approve the Sport Horse Committee, consisting of Jonathan Howell, Chris Bickford, Lisa Kolke, Kaye Phaneuf, Beth Bonham, and Laura Venne. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

G) Scholarship – Dawn Gossler.

Scholarship Committee Chair Dawn Gossler reported that no youth applications were received for the scholarship program. Two adult applications were received by the May 1, 2026 deadline, and scholarships were awarded to Noel Collins and Jennifer Anderson.

H) Region 4 Performance Futurity – Rod Powell.

Region 4 Performance Futurity Chair Rod Powell reported that half of the buckles for the 2027 Futurity are sponsored. He also added that World Class Equine in Oregon is now a sponsor and will be sponsoring the Reserve Championship awards.

I) Distance (Endurance & Competitive) – Nance Worman.

Nance Worman was not present, so Julie Hedden read her report. Nance reported that 2026 had been a year of transition as she took over the Region 4 Endurance Program. The 2026 High Point Awards had 10 Arabian and 6 Half-Arabian horses participating. Two Arabians and one Half-Arabian had qualified with 200 or more points, with one ride remaining in the season. She noted that increased participation across multiple horses and higher fuel costs had affected point totals and participation.

The 2026 Region 4 50-Mile Championship was held in May at the City of Rocks ride in Almo, Idaho, with eight Arabians and one Half-Arabian participating. One horse was pulled, but all others completed the ride. Nance reported increased interest and participation due to better awareness of the program and attractive prizes. She thanked the Region for its continued support and stated that the $1,100 budget was sufficient to continue the Endurance Program.

Treasurer Barb Garcia suggested reallocating the $500 normally designated for the Jackpot Program to the Distance Program, noting that there were only three Jackpot entries. The suggestion was discussed, and Barb agreed to speak with Nance Worman about the proposed change.

J) Recognition Committee – Sonya Bickford.

Sonya Bickford was not present, so Chris Bickford presented the award on her behalf. Lisa Kolke was recognized for her years of dedication and service to Region 4 and received a plaque in appreciation of her contributions.

OLD BUSINESS.

Budget modification and /or approval – Region 4 Budget Committee Chair Chris Bickford.

Lisa Kolke stated that she would look into the cost of hiring a parliamentarian to provide consultation on the bylaws. She also said the $1799.00 in the line Secretary Expense is for the cost of an OWL which is a 360-degree camera, microphone, and speaker system used for hybrid meetings.

The Board agreed to adding $2500 to the Region 4 Youth line item for a total of $ 3000, adding $1500. to the Treasurer Expense for a total of $2000. $4000 would be add to Reserves.

MSA/Deb Witty/Carol Helton motioned to approve the Budget as amended. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS.

A) Approved Region 4 shows.

Director Peggy Weems said one show has been approved for 2027, which is the Regional Championship Show May 17 – May 23, 2027.

B) Election of Show Commission.

- **Two positions open.**

Julie Hedden nominated Cecily Sotomayor and Kendyl Modrich to the Show Commission.

No other nominees. Cecily Sotomayor and Kendyl Modrich elected by acclaim.

C) Additional business.

None.

ADJOURNMENT - (NEXT MEETING IS CONVENTION CAUCUS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2026, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS).

Director Peggy Weems called for adjournment at 2:45 p.m.

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Peggy Weems - Director

ATTEST:

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Julie Hedden – Secretary/Transcribed