

WYHSRA Spring Meeting 2024

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, February 4, 2024, with the Pledge and Prayer. Those present were Barry Hayden, Dixie Huxtable, Shelly Thompson, Heidi Justus, Burt Reno, Jeff Longwell, Shawn Lesmeister, Scott Arthun, Ken Persson, Keyton Hayden, Cooper Justus, Hadley Thompson, Abigail Olson, Adeline Norstegaard, Trigg Thompson, Kayley Hutchison, Carter Hutchison, Thorpe Thompson, Brannon Bartlett, Quin Larson, Ryan Hayden, and Cody Waite.

Minutes: Thorpe Thompson made a motion to approve the fall minutes; Ken Perssons seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Financial: After discussion Thorpe Thompson made a motion to approve the audit; Quinn Larson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

National Director / Mid-Winter Meeting: Lots of issues discussed at midwinter meeting. RCH has lots of rule changes to be aware of. New this year is golf carts will only be able to be driven by 21 and older person absolutely no contestants. If a contestant is caught, then they will be sent home with no questions asked. Cost to rent has gone up, no ATV's will be allowed, and if things are not much better then no golf carts will be allowed at all the following year. They added \$50,000 more to the jackpot in HS and JH. Ram is no longer a sponsor. The point system has been removed. NHSRA is looking at implementing background checks for Nation Directors. Wyoming High School Rodeo will follow suit for directors if Nationals passes the rule. New this year your videos can be emailed to you after your run. There are a couple of different options. Thorpe Thompson made a motion to not pay for the videos unless a sponsor is found; Hadley Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Wyoming will buy the felt back numbers as in years past. Thorpe Thompson made a motion to make a ground rule like Nationals that if the wrong stock in the goats is ran and a rerun is made no penalties from the first run will carry to second run; Hadley Thompson seconded. Motion carried. JH Nationals will be in Des Moines for 2 years then Guthrie for 10 years. HS Nationals in Rock Springs for 2 years, then Lincoln for 2 years, and Gillette 2 years. Our Queen, Slater Jones, did a great job at the midwinter meeting.

Queen: Slater headed to the meeting, but roads were closed, and she could not continue. She sent a report. She has gone to something every month and has done an outstanding job! We are super proud of her.

Student President: Keyton reported that the students decided to do the same awards as last year. He reminded the directors to work on sponsorship.

Board Openings: We went over the 7 possible openings. We will have 3 stay on and have 4 openings this year. Barry talked about finding quality applicants.

Marketing Director: Scott is waiting for some information.

2025-2026 State Finals Locations: We had two location bids for Buffalo and Torrington. They were both very similar in cost. The biggest difference is Torrington is indoor and Buffalo had 20

more camping spots. After much discussion, the board voted, and Buffalo will be our location by 1 vote. Dixie will visit with Buffalo and get the bid confirmed.

State Finals: Brannon Bartlett will do the leather work for the awards for us. Ken Pearsons reported it is looking promising for the Legion to pay for some of the banquet. Shelly will start to look for bids. Barry Hayden will get Shelly the info for the cutting and cattle contracts. The rest of the contracts have been sent and confirmed. Camping and stalls will be handled like last year. Done online. Stalls will be chosen, and camping will be first come. Everything including payment will be done online. Burt Reno will take care of getting helped lined up for stock events like Whiskers use to do. Brannon Bartlett will take care of rough stock. The board agreed to do the same as in the past with hiring 5 kids for \$250 each to work. We had a host hotel contact us, but we are going to look around and get a few more quotes. After much discussion Ryan Hayden made a motion to leave the fee's the same as last year except shooting that will add \$25 for jackpot fee and ticket sales will remain the same with every \$150 worth of tickets sold a \$60 credit will be given towards entry fees, not jackpot; Scott Arthun seconded. Motion carried. We plan on doing the Jim Morre and Ton Parker awards. Goat tying will be handled the same as last year in that the goats will come back on time and a goat can come back to the short go more than once. The schedule was discussed in length, Shelly Thompson asked the board to move the short go start time back to 8:00 as she has a commitment that afternoon that she cannot miss. The board feels it is better to change the start day so that if any issues occur, they are not in a jam or give out wrong awards. Quinn Larson made a motion to move the schedule up to start a day early unless it works better to move start time to 8:00 depending on Shelly's commitment start time; Heide Justus seconded the motion; Thorpe Thompson abstained. Motion carried. If Thorpe is not there for the short go Barry Hayden will take his place.

Nationals 2024: We only get 28 camping spots in Rock Springs. We will do like in years past for camping spots. If you have horses on grounds, you will get preference for camping spots, then rough stock, then shooting if we do not have enough spots for these we will draw for spots.

Stock Bids 25/26: With the location being Buffalo we will now work on stock bids. Dixie will get these ready so we can get them out and vote on these at the State Finals Sunday meeting.

Spring Schedule: Spring Schedule is set. Thermopolis would like to have a rodeo this fall. After discussion Brannon Bartlett made a motion to offer them a fall date for a JH rodeo only, if all goes well then, we will consider a HS rodeo the following year; Quinn Larson seconded the motion. Motion carried. We need to have mandatory meetings in Laramie. We will have a rough stock JH safety meeting at 7:00 Friday. Mandatory contestant meeting midday where it fits best. HS we will do rough stock safety meeting 2 hours before the Saturday night perf starts. Mandatory contestant meeting at 7:30 Sunday morning.

JH: If anyone is around, please check in with Gillette for JH State Finals in case they need help. It will run the same as last year. After much discussion the board decided to not approve the JH running with the HS rodeos.

Cutting and RCH: Lots of rule changes that the contestants need to be aware of.

Shooting Sports: There are several new shooting ground rules for the spring season from Nationals. Scott Arthun made a motion to adopt these ground rules for our shoots; Thorpe Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Judges Seminar: There will be a 2-day clinic in Miles City, MT with rough stock March 23-24 that we recommend all of our judges to attend and anyone wanting to start judging. A letter from Myron Hales was brought to the board and the board unanimously agreed to not put Myron on the list. Dixie Huxtable will be sending a letter to him.

Rifle Raffle: Tickets and posters are ready. Any student can get tickets and sell them for credits on their state finals entries. Ken is still waiting to hear back from 2 commissioners about the commissioners' license. Everyone appreciates Ken's hard work to raise money and help the contestants of the organization. Thorpe Thompson made a motion to reimburse Ken for his motel rooms; Brannon Bartlett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Scholarship: Ken went over the criteria and submission for the scholarship to make sure everyone was on the same page. The applicants can bring their application and transcript with them to the interview. If they do not have the application or transcript they can not interview. If they turn in their applications prior to the interview and do not show up to the interview, then no scholarship will be awarded.

Goat Tying: Morgan Watts had brought to the fall meeting about doing what other states do in having someone at the far end of the arena with a bucket of oats catching horses to save time and reduce knee injury. The board further discussed this and voted against it as this is not done at Nationals.