

## MINUTES- USBCHA BOD MEETING

1/28/2026

Attending: Directors: Haley Hunewill, Michele Howard, Jan Stebbins, Terry Murray, BobAllen, Rachel Ritland, Kay Stephens, Russell McCord, Lori Perry, John Campbell, Shane Scallan, Sue Schoen, Marianna Schreeder, Fiona Robertson, Viki Kidd, ScottGlen, Bob Washer, Bridget Strang, Lori Chamberlain. Officers: Lori Cunningham, LindaDeJong, Russell McCord, Marianna Schreeder

### 1. Approval of December 2025 Minutes:

Motion: Marianna Schreeder: Accept minutes

Second: Viki Kidd

Approved Unanimously

### 2. Leslie Whitney Request for Trial Sanction:

In accordance with a prior disciplinary sanction, Ms. Whitney was required to propose a plan for managing her livestock guardian dogs and submit her plan to the BOD for approval of future sanctioning of at least 2 trials. Leslie submitted plan for BOD consideration.

Discussion: The only addition was that it needed to be clear the plan be followed for the entire duration of the trial.

Motion: Scott Glen: Accept plan as presented with addition of commitment to maintain the plan throughout the course of the trial- before and after dogs have run.

Second: Bridget Strang

Approved unanimously

### 3. 2026 Cattledog Finals Bid: 2 bids presented

Newall, SD -Kayla Hutchinson leading- Primary concern was lack of plan how and where cattle obtained and age of stock as well as lack of experience putting on trials by the host committee. Suggested they put on some trials and have a clearer idea of what putting on a finals would entail.

Shannon City, Iowa- Bryan Brown, chair -The host committee recognized problems last year and have a plan in place to improve. Host team consists of people with a lot of experience putting on cattle trials.

Both hosts were willing to call in if there are any questions

Motion: Rachel Ritland: Accept the Iowa Bid

Second: Jan Stebbins

Approved unanimously

#### 4. Sheep and Cattle finals judge nominations needed

One month left for nominations, deadline is end of February 2026. Directors asked to encourage nominations.

#### 5. 2026 Sheepdog Finals

Proposal to try day qualifying for one year starting this year.

Discussion:

Directors shared their thoughts and what feedback they were getting from their districts. Most felt both the current system and day qualifying each had pros and cons and these were discussed. Some Directors noted members had expressed concern over limiting sheep numbers or not having fresh sheep for all preliminary round runs. It was noted that each finals bid was evaluated on its own and the Board would not approve a bid that did not have adequate sheep. Some discussion concerned the possibility of having different flocks in the future as is done at the World Trial, however, it was also noted that sheep access was not an issue for the 2026 Finals. Directors also discussed there could be a one dog difference on a preliminary round day and managing ties. Directors had access to information from several previous Finals and discussed the variety of factors why the number of runs per day which made it to the top 40 have varied.

Motion: Lori Chamberlain: Do one year of single day of qualifying

Second: Scott Glen

Motion passed with a Roll call vote: 14 yes, 5 no (Marianna Shreeeder, Russell McCord, Rachel Ritland, Bob Washer and Sue Schoen), 4 absent

#### Finals Trophies and Awards

Lori Cunningham noted that several of the Finals awards/traveling trophies are in poor condition and difficult to transport and encouraged BOD to come up with ideas to preserve our history but facilitate management of finals awards.

Discussion: More discussion and suggestions are needed on a possible alternatives.

6. USA World Trial issues update.

Purina is once again supplying team jackets. Bridget Strang will coordinate with Purina and team.

No new information received from ISDS.

Young Handlers Brenna Rushing (TX) and Chloe Scott accepted invitations for USA's two Young Handler slots.

Motion: Bridge Strang: Table decision on identifying the 5 USA teams that will count as the official team until next meeting since it is not urgent at this point

Second: Sue Schoen

Approved unanimously

7. New Business: None

Meeting was adjourned.