MRLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

4/12/2022

The board of directors for Marias River Livestock Association met at the Marias Valley Golf Course Country Club on Tuesday, April 12th at 7 p.m. Those in attendance were: Dean Lerum, Bob and Diana Thompson, Butch Gillespie, Jeff Habets, Clayton Gernaat, Lance Stokes, Travis Clark, Chris and Robin Kimmet, Kelly and Tasha Hartwell, Thad White, Derek and Heidi Sisk, and Carrie Lerum.

President, Dean Lerum, called the meeting to order. Bob moved and Chris seconded to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried. The Treasurer’s report was read. The ending balance was $33,634.30. Clayton moved and Lance seconded to approve the report as read. Motion carried.

Carrie read a letter from Kim Lee from the Bitterroot Valley asking if MRLA would like to participate in a fundraiser of selling brand books. The board decided not to take on that task.

Chris stated that Steven Vantassel will provide a one hour long presentation about pocket gophers. Then the second hour he will demonstrate different traps, poisoning with hand probes and possibly a burrow builder. We need to have it be two hours long to get applicator points. If there is extra time he will talk about skunks. We will try to have it on either May 26th or on May 19th.

Chris said that Chad Scarborough is working with him to order three belt buckles for approximately $60 each for awards in memory of Kelly Mothershead during the Youth Rodeo that runs all summer long in Shelby, MT. Jeff moved and Lance seconded to spend $250 or less for 3 belt buckles. Motion carried.

Carrie reported that Dick Kinyon has agreed to cater the Rib Tickler dinner in November. Bob moved and Clayton seconded to hire Dr. Kinyon and have him order beef for the event. Motion carried.

Travis Clark gave the board an update on the upcoming Flesch Family Benefit events. He stated that the Flesch Family Benefit Dinner and Auction has 65 items available for the live and silent auctions. Ryan Perry and Jim Fritz have agreed to auctioneer for the live auction. Carrie Lerum, Sanna Clark and Dena Fritz will clerk for the auction. First Bank of Montana is donating the use of a 30x50 ft. tent. They also donated the trailer and fuel to deliver it from Lewistown, MT. Kelly Hartwell volunteered to promote the event and the auction/raffle items on Facebook. Travis, Bob and Jeff volunteered to go on TTO with KSEN radio on the morning of Monday, April 25th. UFI Sanitation donated the use of six portable out houses. Please plan to come and help set up around 1 p.m. at the Frontier Bar & Supper Club in Dunkirk, MT.

Robin Kimmet is planning a dinner for the Flesch Family Benefit on Sunday, July 24th of the Marias Fair. On Sunday of the Fair, the Food Booth will be closed, so she will organize a free-will donation benefit meal from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. consisting of brisket sandwiches, chips, and potato salad to go. She is hoping to set up the food at the FFA Booth at the Fairgrounds. She asked if MRLA would be willing to help set up, serve and advertise the event. She is hoping to use the funds raised at the fair to start a scholarship in Nanna Flesch’s name for youth to use to purchase their show animals. Jeff moved and Clayton seconded to help support Robin for this fundraiser up to $500.00. Motion carried.

Thad White, the Shelby High School FFA Advisor and Ag-Educator talked about the upcoming Range Days that will be held June 20-22, 2022. The Mid-Year Membership meeting will be Tuesday, June 21st. Dinner will be from 5-7 p.m. The guest speaker will talk for ½ hour and then follow with a question/answer session for 15 min. It will be at the Seewald Barn. He is currently looking for sponsors for the event.

Clayton moved and Bob seconded to pay the Secretary/Treasurer of Marias River Livestock Association $2400/year. The board also decided to add President, Dean Lerum and Vice-President, Clayton Gernaat on the signature card for the MRLA checking account. Motion carried.

Carrie reported that an annual subscription to Zoom would cost $104.93. After some discussion, Jeff moved and Clayton seconded to get the subscription for one year. Motion carried.

Friesen would like to hold a Beef Quality Assurance training in June at the Sunburst Community Center. They asked if we would help advertise the event. The board agreed to promote the event on Facebook and on our website.

Jeff updated the board on the Senator Daines Staff meeting that was held in Conrad last week. He talked about upcoming proposals.

Dean stated that we are in D3 stage for drought in our areas. He recommended jumping on the FSA website and checking out the drought monitors.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10th at 7 p.m. at the MVGCC.

Clayton moved and Lance seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

Carrie Lerum, Sec/Treasurer