# State Board Meeting Minutes

**Date: April 13, 2026**
**Time: 7:00 pm**
**Location: Zoom meeting**

| ATTENDEE | PRESENT | ATTENDEE | PRESENT |
|---|---|---|---|
| President & Newsletter Editor: Caryn Vesperman | Yes | Member at Large & WHC Representative: Heather Klopp | No |
| Vice-President & Webmaster: Stephanie Severn | No | Member at Large: Cindy Riffle | No |
| Secretary: Carol McKinnon | Yes | Member at Large: Jessica Sims | Yes |
| Treasurer: Morgan Winter | No | Eastern Chapter President: Nicole Trapp | Yes |
| Membership Recorder: Diane Brault | Yes | Eastern Chapter Alternate: Tammy Risseeuw | No |
| Member at Large: Melinda DeLuca | Yes | Eastern Chapter Representative: Jessica Kaczmarek | Yes |
| Member at Large: Mary Hanneman | No | GUEST(S): | N/A |

**Call to order: 7:12 pm**

**Approval of Agenda**
Jessica K moved to approve the agenda. Diane seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**President's Report - Caryn**
Caryn shared highlights from the World Cup in Fort Worth, Dallas, describing Becky Moody's winning freestyle performance on a non-fancy horse, scoring 88 %, emphasizing correctness, connection, and high degree of difficulty.

- She will share the You Tube link to Becky Moody's winning freestyle performance with board members and will include the link it in the newsletter.

Caryn acknowledged Celeste's resignation as a member-at-large and awards committee chair.

- The board will seek to fill the member-at-large position, vacated by Celeste's resignation, potentially with a member who is an eventer.
- Jessica K volunteered to take over the awards committee chair.

Necessary changes to the eventing awards program were discussed.
Jessica moved to reduce required shows for eventers from three to two and to add the "modified" division in the awards application. Nicole seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**
Carol moved to appoint Jessica K as awards committee chair. Diane seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- Stephanie to provide Jessica K with the editable award application documents.
- Awards email to be set up routing to Jessica K's personal email.
- Awards program to be highlighted in newsletter and social media with clear application instructions.

**Secretary's Report - Carol**
The minutes from the February board meeting and March annual meeting were reviewed.
Jessica K moved to approve the February 18, 2026 minutes. Diane seconded. Melinda abstained due to absence. **Motion passed with one person abstaining.**
Diane moved to approve the March 14, 2026 annual meeting minutes. Jessica K seconded. Melinda abstained due to absence. **Motion passed with one person abstaining.**

**Treasurer's Report - Caryn (Morgan absent)**
Morgan provided financial reports via email, including CD renewal recommendation and annual meeting budget reconciliation.
Carol motioned to renew the 14-month CD at 3.78% for another 14 months. Jessica K seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Summary of Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet - Nicole and Jessica K**
Nicole and Jessica K reported on the annual meeting held at Osthoff Resort, including attendance, financial outcomes, vendor feedback, educational content and panel discussion.
- There were approximately 46 attendees for the presentations and 40 for dinner, meeting budgeted expectations.
- Room attrition negotiation resulted in $2000 charge with $1000 available as credit for a possible 2027 event.
- Future planning should focus on increased sponsorship to prevent losses.
- Attendees actively engaged with vendors during breaks and vendors appeared satisfied with participation.
- The three speakers were very interesting. The panel discussion format was successful with strong member engagement.

**Membership Recorder's Report - Diane**
Diane provided updated membership numbers.
- Current membership is at 126 members compared to 125 at same time last year.

**Member-At-Large Outreach Project Status**
- The association members are organized according to their zip codes and divided among the members-at-large.
- Caryn will send an email to members introducing their assigned member-at-large board contact.
- Mary is developing talking points for members-at-large to use in their communications with members.
- Members-at-large to serve as sounding boards for ideas, not organizers.
- Goal is to generate camaraderie and potentially organize barn meetings with educational talks.

**Member Survey Results - Caryn**
Survey discussion was postponed to the next meeting to allow full board participation.

**Website/Social Media and Newsletter Updates - Caryn (Stephanie absent)**

- Caryn reported no concerns from Stephanie regarding website or social media.
- Plans to advertise newsletter co-editor opportunity.

**Wisconsin Horse Council Report - (Heather absent)**

Wisconsin Horse Council busy with the Midwest Horse Fair.

**Eastern Chapter Updates - Nicole**

Nicole provided update on Eastern Chapter activities.

- The Rider Biomechanics clinic with Suzanne Galdun was successful. There are plans for a repeat clinic in the fall.
- The chapter's current focus is on the preparation for the upcoming schooling show June 6 & 7 at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds, Cedarburg.
- Jessica confirmed that she has two WDEA banners that can be used at the schooling show.

**New Business - Caryn**

Reviewing the scholarship program and the helmet and vest reimbursement program will be added to the next meeting's agenda.

**Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will take place sometime in May, date and time to be decided.

**Adjournment**

Jessica K moved to adjourn. Diane seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

**Minutes respectfully submitted by:**
Carol McKinnon, Secretary