

## MBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Zoom Call

April 7, 2021

### ROLL CALL

Stephen LePage, Al Kelly, Mandy Garness, Cliff Garness Kevin Robinson, Marlon Clapham, Jerry Davis, Jess Wagner, Rick Miller, Stephanie Prater, Mike Prater, Claudia Davis, Rich Smith, Brian Koelzer, Ken Schultz, Mark Schwomeyer, Liberty Brown, Joelle Selk,

### NEW ACTION ITEMS THAT WILL REQUIRE UPDATES AT OUR JUNE 10, 2021 BOARD MEETING

1. **Action Item: Stephen, Cliff, Bryan, and Liberty will meet to decide how to handle donated hunts.**
2. **Action Item: Jerry will send out ballots to membership via Survey Monkey and send out snail mail ballots to members without email addresses with a deadline of April 20<sup>th</sup>.**
3. **Action Item: Joelle will drop off grill at Jerry's.**
4. **Action Item: Stephen will contact Muzzy and Feradyne Outdoors about donating something for a door prize with thoughts toward a bow reel for the Youth Largest Fish.**
5. **Action Item: Mark with help from Jess and Stephen to draft a proposal for early Archery Moose and Goat season for successful drawers of these permits.**
6. **Action Item: Stephen will talk to individuals about getting to eager and to keep issues like this to a minimum so that the conversation is not lost in the mass of emails especially during the Legislative session.**
7. **Action Items: Jerry will spearhead getting a business membership for Flaming Arrow Archery in Kalispell.**

**Stephanie will spearhead getting a business membership for Capital Sports in Helena.**

**Stephen will spearhead getting a membership for Mike Brost.**

### STATUS OLD ACTION ITEMS FROM DECEMBER 5, 2020 BOARD MEETING

1. ~~**Action Item: Jerry will send the Senate Fish and Game and House Fish Wildlife and Parks committee member lists to the general membership.**~~  
Completed
2. **Action Item: Kevin will organize and/or delegate to volunteers the following for the up-coming Carp Safari to include:**
  - 1) **reserving the Hellgate Campground**

We failed to get the group camping area reserved in time and we lost the opportunity to use it during the weekend of June 11<sup>th</sup>. We will do our event at a campsite for this year. Dates will remain the same. Everyone will have to find their own camping. Need to see if we can reserve some campsites right around the boat launch and we will do the event there.

**2) Scheduling a dumpster**

Kevin will reserve the dumpster.

**3) Planning food**

We are going to do a barbeque Kevin will arrange for burgers/dogs/buns/chips/etc. Kevin will arrange volunteers to flip burgers etc. Buy food for 150 people.

**4) Getting Carp Safari equipment from Joelle**

Joelle will drop grill of at Jerry's prior to the event.

~~3. **Action Item: Marlon work with Claudia to get reimbursed directly or to the Teen Elk Camp for the cost of the draw locks.**~~

Completed, Marlon's costs for draw locks were put toward the Teen Camp fund.

~~4. **Action Item: Marlon to obtain video of the draw locks being used in the Archery in the School Program to be distributed to the Board.**~~

Marlon continues to work on this, please see Draw Locks for MAS program below

~~5. **Action Item: Brian will look into guest speakers for this years Convention and their respective costs then coordinate with the board to determine who if anyone the board would like.**~~

Canceled

~~6. **Action Item: Board members will solicit local businesses and others for donations for this years Convention and provide convention information for the next newsletter by January 15<sup>th</sup>.**~~

Canceled

~~7. **Action Item: Jerry will send a link to the LAWS Legislative system out to all board members.**~~

Completed

~~8. **Action Item: Jerry will send out and keep updated a Watch List for all bill of concern to all board members and TBM.**~~

Focus this year was almost entirely on SB 111 the Crossbow bill.

**9. Action Item: Stephanie will research the cost of getting banners made as well as some potential designs and report back to the board.**

This has not yet been completed. Stephanie will follow up.

**10. Action Item: Liberty will modify the 2011 letter mentioned above to insure that it not only captures our previous stance but captures our current stance.**

During the April 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting we thought that there was nothing to do but up on further review of the December 5<sup>th</sup> minutes it appears that the letter states that the MBA still opposes limited permits in the 22OD. These are now 900 HD permits and I think MBA is no longer opposed as noted from our survey.

**11. Action Item: Nick and Mark make a rough draft of a letter to the Governor stating our hopes and expectations and concerns.**

Mark will follow up with Nick.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Claudia

As of March 31st, we have \$50,646.94 in the checking account.

\$17,224.48 in regular savings,

\$31,502.66 Life Membership fund between CD and Money Market

For a total Checking/Savings of \$99,374.08.

Restricted Net Assets

Contributions Fund \$3,600

Life Member Fund \$35,000

Life Member Fund Interest \$2.66

Teen Camp Temporary Restricted Fund \$3,676.28

Legislative Fund \$10,528.15

20/21 Income \$10,749.23

20/21 Expenses \$15,501.69

20/21 Net Income \$-4,752.46

Claudia thinks we make less than \$3,000 per Carp Shoot event.

Claudia would like to receive some verification/feedback from Finance Committee when she sends out reports.

Claudia requested that if she could change the checking account to one signature to expediate payment to vendors. Monthly and Checking and Quick Books statements sent to finance committee should be adequate to prevent abuse of single signature.

Marlon will be sending in receipts for draw locks he has recently purchased.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Claudia

Membership increased by 48 members for a total of 502 which only include one person per family membership. We are 10% up from the last meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **CONVENTION**

Brian

The board discussed whether to hold a convention later this year or to cancel and plan for an event next year. It was decided that because of the continued Covid restrictions to cancel and begin planning for next years Convention. We will not raffle or auction items like we did last year at the Carp Safari, we will instead hold on to them until next year.

**The Board accepted the decision to cancel this year Convention unanimously.**

The exception will be the hunts, which will be discussed in a separate meeting between Stephen, Cliff, Bryan, and Liberty and decide if auctioning off the Africa and Argentina hunts is worth the effort.

**Action Item: Stephen, Cliff, Bryan, and Liberty will meet to decide how to handle donated hunts.**

### **ELECTIONS**

Brian sent out the draft ballot to Stephen and Jerry. He would like to run this year's elections via Survey Monkey. We will have to send paper ballots to those that do not have email addresses. He would like to have the elections completed by April 20<sup>th</sup> at the latest so the results could make the publishing date for the newsletter. We also need to address the multiple members under a Family Membership with the same email address.

**Action Item: Jerry will send out ballots to membership via Survey Monkey and send out snail mail ballots to members without email addresses with a deadline of April 20<sup>th</sup>.**

### **CARP SAFARI**

We have an old action item below that will be updated with the following information.

We failed to get the group camping area reserved in time and we lost the opportunity to use it during the weekend of June 11<sup>th</sup>. We will do our event at a campsite for this year. Dates will remain the same. Everyone will have to find their own camping. Need to see if we can reserve some campsites right around the boat launch and we will do the event there.

Kevin will reserve the dumpster.

We are going to do a barbeque Kevin will arrange for burgers/dogs/buns/chips/etc. Kevin will arrange volunteers to flip burgers etc. Buy food for 150 people.

Joelle will drop grill of at Jerry's prior to the event.

We will not be doing any bucket raffles, but we plan on having door prizes Stephen will ask Muzzy, Feradyne Outdoors if they can donate items, and Brian said we have plenty of prizes we already have for the convention.

Joelle said we need to get a bow reel to award for the youth largest fish. AMF has stopped donating this but we may be able to get it donated by local sporting goods store.

**Action Item Joelle will drop off grill at Jerry's**

**Action Item: Stephen will contact Muzzy and Feradyne Outdoors about donating something for a door prize with thoughts toward a bow reel for the Youth Largest Fish.**

### **TRAVELING RETRACTABLE BANNER**

We have an old action item below that will be updated with the following information.

Stephanie has not yet checked into costs of a traveling retractable banner but Vista Prints offers them but costs depend on size and numbers. Not sure of size or if we want one for each region.

Marlon talked about banners we have in many of the regions, but we need to replenish those banners also because some have gone missing.

Stephen and Stephanie will work on both the traveling banner and MBA banners.

### **FACEBOOK ADS**

Liberty created a video and posted on FB to encourage people to join MBA. We spent \$158 for that posting and since that posting we have had 40 new members though the memberships may not be entirely because of just the FB effort but also our work and FB posts on SB 111. Liberty thinks that the FB efforts are paying off. Costs were \$2/day for running the video and Liberty says he can continue at that rate with some other content he will develop.

**The board unanimously approved to continue funding FB ads at the same level Liberty is now using.**

When letter for Carp Safari is completed by Kevin Liberty will update website with new information on Carp Safari, the canceled Convention post Carp Safari on FB.

**Board approved unanimously to approve level of spending for FB ads last year for Carp Safari which was \$200.**

### **NEWSLETTER ADS**

We post ads for those business that are MBA Business members, we do not charge for ads. Liberty will post an ad on FB to remind business that they get a free ad in our newsletter and create an ad for the newsletter to do the same.

### **LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR**

Nick drafted a letter and Mark did not review it yet and Mark is not sure if it was sent. Mark will check with Nick.

**Action Item: Mark will follow up with Nick on the letter to the Governor.**

### **DRAW LOCKS FOR MAS PROGRAM**

Marlon said he didn't know if Ryan with Montana Wild has started making the video but there is a right and a left-handed draw loc in the program and Marlon is building a one-armed modification so that it can be used interchangeably for a right or left handed shooter. Marlon also making modifications for Chris Fowler out of Missoula to assist him, his shoulder will not allow him to hold a bow so mods are required.

### **2011 BREAKS ELK PERMIT LETTER**

Liberty said at last board meeting we had agreed to leave it as is as that is still our stance.

**NOTE:** From the last board meeting:

As noted during the meeting our membership now supports limited quotas for both the breaks permits and the 22 units outside of the breaks, as supported by our survey in July 2019 when 92% of respondents supported the quotas in some form.

This is taken from the 2011 letter "Unlike the limited permits in the Breaks, the MBA was unaware of the intentions of the FWP and the Commission to apply a permit system similar to the one in the breaks to 23 other districts outside of the breaks until a few days before the idea was proposed at the June 2007 commission meeting. The MBA has been and continues to be opposed to the limited permits in the 22OD. (In 2009 the Commission removed HD441 from the 23OD at the request of the MBA making it the 22OD.)"

Liberty will handle modifying the letter.

### **MBA TEEN CAMP**

Due to Covid restrictions Jerry, Becky, and Marlon decided to cancel this year's Teen Camp.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **501(C)(3) STATUS**

Discussion of need to research pros and cons and complications of changing MBA's status from a 501(c)(7) to a 501(c)(3) if we start fund raising for adoptive equipment for those with disabilities. Jerry and Claudia will visit with an attorney who specializes in not-for-profit business. This may be advantageous for MBA if we become a part of a larger group who provides adoptive equipment for archery hunting thereby allowing us to fulfil fund raising commitments. Al will talk to Paul about MBEF helping and Claudia and Jerry will talk to attorney and talk to Mark about TBMs latest change. TBM's reason for changing to c(3) was because they are an issue based non profit organization and as a 501(c)(3) they have less restrictions on tax deductible donations and can appear less partisan.

### **DISABILITIES ADAPTATIONS COMPANY COMING TO MONTANA.**

Marlon talked about a company that will be coming to Ennis that will be specializing in adaptations of sports equipment for those with disabilities. He will be talking to them about having them take the plans and methods he has used for archery equipment.

### **DISABLED BOWHUNTERS OF MONTANA ORGANIZATION AND OTHER PREEMPTIVE STRATEGIES.**

Dane and Mark have a concept to create a disabled bowhunting organization to encourage those with disabilities to bow hunt with modified archery equipment to prevent crossbow inclusion. Stephen discussed possibly hiring a lobbyist, purchasing the Draw Loc company that is selling out.

### **TENTATIVES**

Some possible issues we may want to bring to the Commission are goat and moose preseason for archery and hunt your tag requirement.

Joelle says the earlier we start the better and that Quinton is a good source. Make sure we have built a coalition to support proposed tentatives before we submit our proposal. Steve will call Quinton to visit with him about the process. Mark would like to be included on Tentatives committee. He thinks the hunt your tag area is to close to call to stand behind because our survey only had 60% respondents that were in favor of that. He thinks that we are all probly in agreement with opening moose and goat seasons early for permit holders for archery only. August 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for getting proposals to FWP. Mark will be in charge of writing a proposal with help from Stephen and Jess.

**Action Item: Mark with help from Jess and Stephen to draft a proposal for early Archery Moose and Goat season for successful drawers of these permits.**

### **RECOGNITION FOR THOSE THAT HELPED WITH SB 111 TESTIMONY**

Jerry made a motion and Stephanie seconded and the Board unanimously agreed:  
To give a business membership to Flaming Arrow Archery and offer to pay for repairs to crossbow they lent us.  
To give Capital Sports a business membership.  
To give Mike Brost a membership for one year.  
Stephanie will get Capital Sports logo for newsletter.  
Jerry will get Flaming Arrow logo for newsletter.  
Stephen will get Mike Brost contact for his membership.

**Action Items: Jerry will spearhead getting a business membership for Flaming Arrow Archery in Kalispell.**

**Stephanie will spearhead getting a business membership for Capital Sports in Helena.**

**Stephen will spearhead getting a membership for Mike Brost.**

**Action Item: Stephen will talk to individuals about getting to eager and to keep issues like this to a minimum so that the conversation is not lost in the mass of emails especially during the Legislative session.**

### **ARCHERY CLUB SHOTS**

Claudia has been getting calls requesting info on 3D shoots in the State.  
Liberty has been sharing shoot information from Montana 3D Archery's FB page. He is also going to be updating the MBA Website with info from Montana Archery 3D FB. Claudia will direct future requests to our Website and FB and Montana 3D Archery FB.

### **ANNUAL AWARDS**

**Action Item: Steve will contact Brian about awards nominations and how to present awards.**

## **REGIONAL REPORTS**

### **REGION 1**

Thankful for hard work to kill SB 111.

### **REGION 2**

No Report but Kevin had an interview with Gene Wensel for the newsletter. Steve suggested Tom Hoffman as a possible interview.

Marlon promises some interesting info from his Blast from the Past.

### **REGION 3**

No Report

### **REGION 4**

No Report. Stephen will be talking with Pete Siegel.



**REGION 5**

A lot of new members and all happy about outcome of SB 111. Ken got some good video of set up for Pete Siegel and he will share with Marlon and Liberty.

**REGION 6**

No Report

**REGION 7**

Rick and Bob will be working on bolstering the ranks in Region 7.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Jerry Davis Secretary MBA on April 13, 2021