

ROLL CALL

President	Ken Schultz	P
1 st Vice President	Brian Koelzer	P
2 nd Vice President	Stephen LePage	P
Treasurer	Mandy Garness	P
Secretary	Jerry Davis	P
Region 1 Representative	Al Kelly	NP
Region 2 Representative	Marlon Clapham	P
Region 2 Representative	Kevin Robinson	P
Region 3 Representative	Liberty Brown	P
Region 4 Representative	Justin Doll	P
Region 4 Representative	Jess Wagner	P
Region 5 Representative	Ben Buller	NP
Region 6 Representative	Tristan Manuel	P
Region 6 Representative	Nick Seabrase	P
Region 7 Representative	Rick Miller	NP
Region 7 Representative	Bob Morgan	P
Director at Large Even Years	Cliff Garness	P
Director at Large Even Years	Jake Garness	P
Director at Large Even Years	Alisha Zemlicka	NP
Director at Large Even Years	Stephanie Prater	P
Director at Large Odd Years	Jeremy Harwood	P
Director at Large Odd Years	Mike Shepard	NP
Administrative Services	Claudia Davis	P

Meeting was called to order by Ken Schultz.

MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 31, 2023**TREASURER REPORT****Current Balances**

Total liabilities	\$5,642.57
Contributions	\$3,600.00
Life Member Fund	\$35,929.83
Life Member Fund interest	\$175.09
Restricted Legislative Funds	\$11,348.15
Restricted Teen Camp Fund	\$4030.27
Restricted Modified Archery Equipment	\$1000.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$54,323.66
Fiscal Year Net Income	-\$6,672.39
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$101,831.93

Budget

Mandy asked that that board members submit budget requests prior to our next meeting so that a new 2023-2024 budget can be developed and voted on. Please submit those requests to both Mandy and Claudia.

Closed Action Item: Steve and Membership Committee will draft an updated renewal letter for all renewing members. Update: Ken updated the renewal letter for the next year.

Action Item: All committee chairs send budget requests to Mandy with a deadline of no later than May 15th.

OLD BUSINESS

UPOM Lawsuit

Discussed paying the \$2000 we have committed to for paying legal fees associated with the lawsuit. Ken said that BHA had done a fund raiser a while back to help and they have not yet reached out to us as they said they would. As noted in our last meeting BHA does not want to take in more funds than are needed to pay for court costs. We are still waiting for BHA to invoice us.

Crow Tribe Issue

Rick was not at the board meeting so there is no update.

June 2022 Action Item: Rick will contact FWP and others as needed to determine what action may be taken to address the potential impacts of unrestricted hunting on Forest Service Lands by the Crow Tribe.

Disabled Vets Needing PTMAEs

Marlon discussed the work that he and Mike Shepard did to coordinate getting batteries for an out of service track chair that Missoula Parks and Rec needed a battery. Besides MBA and Parks and Rec other organizations that were instrumental were MonTECH, VFW Post 4042, and The Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana. The Veterans Coalition ended up paying \$500 of the \$550 needed to pay for the battery. MBA picked up the balance. This track chair was then provided to Hans Zaglauer, a disabled Viet Nam War combat vet.

There was discussion about having Hans testify if SB 298 will if SB 298 makes it to the House. We will follow up on that if the bill moves to the House. Marlon just sent an MBA draw loc to Paul Martin to help an individual. Marlon will be ordering a left-handed draw loc. No other details.

Closed Action Item: Kevin will make contact with the state biologist to see if we can get him to testify.

Closed Action Item: Jerry will initiate a conversation with Tom Kuglin on crossbows for disabled bowhunters during archery season. Update: Jerry provided the Pete Siegle MBA article and Jerry's crossbow assessment from last session. Tom has taken no action as of yet.

Closed Action Item: Ken will talk to Steve Martin past Wy Bowhunters pres and find out what he knows about high success ratios. Update: Ken talked with them but they are hesitant to step into MT politics.

Action Item: Marlon will redo shop drawings and information about bow modifications and will send them to Ken so he can visit with the individual(s) in Billings that might take on some of the machining and manufacturing of modifications.

Future MBA Convention

The board discussed other locations for our annual convention. Bozeman and Missoula are triple the cost for convention rooms etc. costs. Kalispel and Billings locations have always been lightly attended. Options are the Hotel and Convention Center (formally Holiday Inn) in Billings, Fairmont, Great Falls, Butte Copper King, Kalispel Red Lion. In 2024 the convention will be in Great Falls, 2025 will be back at Fairmont but we need to start booking for years beyond 2025. Another possible spot would be Helena, the Delta. Jeremy

said that TBM is interested in getting some of the info from us on banquets, particularly the Banquet handbook. If enough concern with convention location then possibly we could have it at another location even if it means not making money as we may have enough funds to do it once.

Action Item: Stephanie will check on availability and rates for the Delta in Helena.

Action Item: Nick will check with Bill on rates at the Red Lion in Kalispell.

Closed Action Item: Brian will explore to see if Fairmont will give us a break on room rates at the next Convention. Brian tried but failed to get ahold of Julie at Fairmont.

Carp Safari Hellgate Campground Camping

Kevin gave a brief overview of this coming Carp Safari out of Hell Gate Campground on Canyon Ferry. He has reserved the shelter area with its camping spots for Friday and Saturday. Kevin would like guidelines and a checklist developed for setting up Carp Safari. No one took on this task so it is still open.

Bowhunter Education

Nick talked about HB 243 bill up right now to bring back the mandatory field day and that he has been asked by FWP to be on an advisor committee on Hunter Education. MBA backed that bill. Jerry discussed the 2nd email he sent out to get more bowhunter ed instructors to attend the breakfast on Sunday. Brian said that he had dropped the ball last convention and ended up contacting Wade Cooperider late and Wade had already made a previous engagement.

Closed Action Item: Stephanie will interview a private landowner about the lack of hunter ethics training in FWP's latest hunter education program. Update: Stephanie said that her attempts fell through.

Closed Action Item: Region 2 Convention Committee arrange with FWP to host the Bowhunter Education Breakfast on the Sunday of the Convention (April 2, 2023). Update: Marlon got FWP's Wade Cooperider to host.

Closed Action Item: Marlon will draft a letter for the Commissioners and the Director for Board approval. Marlon drafted letter and sent it.

Legislative Committee

Jeremy discussed the Legislator Reception that was sponsored by all members of the Sporting Coalition and discussed the Sportsmen's Caucus. Jerry thought that we could not participate in the Sportsmen's Caucus because we are a c7 and not a c3 nonprofit. After reviewing some past history he found he was a bit incorrect as it was the Sportsmen's Caucus Advisory Council and we were not selected for though we requested a seat. The advisory panel advises the Sportsmen's Caucus. It may not be in existence this session. Jeremy discussed the bills that the Sporting Coalition supports which are all Habitat Montana related and some of which try to prevent the diversion of the Marijuana money from Habitat Montana to other programs. There was some discussion of MBA changing from a 501(c)7 to a 501(c)3. Jerry said in his discussions with an attorney on this subject he found that it could be costly, lengthy, and full of perils. There was discussion about MBA not being very visible and active for other bills besides SB 298. We should have been opposing or supporting other bills. Discussed ways for improving our Legislative Committee process. Ken felt we need to be more organized going into a legislative session by possibly hiring someone to track bills. Jerry thinks we need to start using Congress Plus not only to help us solicit support or opposition for bills but also to help plan if we are going to continue paying for it. Liberty has expressed a desire to become the chair of the Legislative committee. Liberty thinks that the rules for acquiring a PTMAE are pretty lax and it may be wise to make the PTMAE more restrictive. Justin suggested using Social Security classification for determining eligibility. There appears to be some confusion as to what the Bylaws and the BOD Handbook is and what it contains. Board members should read and understand our guidance document.

Action Item: Liberty will be the new Legislative Chair for next session.

Action Item: Chair of the Legislative Committee will work with the committee to develop processes for improving our methodology for addressing Legislation during sessions to include bill tracking either spreadsheet or Congress Plus and how to keep confidential MBA comms separate from other comms we have with other groups we work with on Legislative strategies.

Action Item: Ken will place Justin Doll on the Legislative and Bow Ed Committees.

Action Item: Jerry will send out a short article by an attorney which briefly outlines the process of changing from one nonprofit to another nonprofit status.

Closed Action Item: All Board Members study up on the proposed Montana Conservation Trust Fund and the Montana Elk Management Coalition so we can discuss in the near future via Zoom. Update: MBA signed on to letter.

MBEF Update

Update: Marlon contacted Paul and he is dealing with family issues and though he probably will want to be involved again he now has his hands full with family.

Closed Action Item: Marlon will Contact Paul Martin to see if he still wants to sit on the MBA Board.

Membership recruiting

Steve updated the board on the membership drive where we sent out post cards to all holders of a bow stamp that would allow their information to be released via FWP. Since that effort we have 41 new members. The post cards and postage cost us approximately \$3000. The board discussed past efforts and possible future actions.

MOTION

Liberty made a motion that we set aside \$500 per region for membership drive events.

Seconded by Jess

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Action Item: The Board will put in a budget request to the Finance Committee (Mandy) to set aside \$500 for each Region to be used for membership drive events.

Board Meeting Day, Friday vs Saturday

At present we have Friday meetings the day before the convention and the day before the carp shoot. Discussion about doing our December meeting in Lewistown at the Electric Co-op HQ.

Action Item: Stephanie or Steve to check with Mark S. to see if it would be possible to arrange for our December meeting to be on a Saturday at the Electric Co-op HQ.

BOD handbook discussion

Discussed that the handbook contains duties or committees and officers but if changes are needed those need to be submitted to the Governance Committee in draft form so the Board can vote on those changes. The Bylaws and the Handbook were updated and voted on at the 2022 MBA Convention.

Action Item: All board members should read the MBA Bylaws and the Board of Directors Handbook.

Raffle Ticket Process

Steve informed the Board that he was happy with the new raffle ticket process in that it simplified the selling and drawing of raffle tickets. He did not have a written process and he said it was developed by the Convention Committee.

Secretary Position

Due to a ballot error Jeremy was not listed on the ballot as a choice as a DAL. Jeremy had said he would work with Jerry as a DAL to be able to step into the Secretary position within the next year. Because Jeremy was not on the ballot as a DAL and because officers must have served a term on the Board before becoming an officer and because Jeremy is an Odd Year DAL until the General Meeting tomorrow the board has decided to make Jeremy and Jerry Co-Secretaries until the next election.

MOTION:

Brian made a motion that we present Jeremy as a Co-Secretary at tomorrow's General meeting.
Seconded by ?
Vote Passed unanimously.

Superior Archery

Ken dropped into Superior Archery and found out that they were very supportive of the PTMAE and if anyone comes onto the premise with a crossbow they are politely asked to leave. The owners will become members of MBA. We thank them for that support.

Newsletter

The board discussed the issue with board members not getting articles into her on time or earlier. Our lack of promptness is causing issues for Julie. There was discussion about Mandy's spreadsheet for discussion topics that each issue's focus should be.

Closed Action Item: Brian will look into what amount would be fair to pay Julie to be the editor of the Montana Bowhunter Magazine. Julie informed Ken and Brian that she will not accept any compensation as she does it because she likes doing it.

Action Item: Mandy will email the board the spreadsheet she developed for newsletter quarterly topics.

Action Item: Magazine Committee will develop some ideas about improving content.

FWP Fiscal and FTE Support of PTMAE

Jerry made an inquiry to FWP asking them the possibility of using 1 or 2 dollars from each bow stamp for supporting the PTMAE efforts that are solely on the back of MBA. He received a response FWP is prevented from making diversions of designated funds and suggest we reach out the Montana Legacy Foundation to see if they could assist us. Nick is concerned that diverting money from the bow stamp may reduce funds for bowhunter education. Nick asked if it may be possible to get a bill sponsored to raise the bow stamp \$5 to be used for the PTMAE program. Possibly get a bill sponsored to create a check off for hunting licenses to support the PTMAE program.

Upcoming Archery Events

Bridger Bowmen talked to Brian about MBA co-sponsoring a weekend shoot on their Jackson Creek property. We would help to set up and tear down and help with the shoot and possibly donations for their raffles etc,. We receive 50% of the take or \$1200 whichever is greater. They would also like us to advertise in the Newsletter and on our website and social media. The event will be the 3rd and 4th of June the week before the Carp Safari. Bridger Bowmen donated \$1000 to the PTMAE. Ideas abound. Brian will head up the working group and 3 or 4 others said they could help out.

MOTION:

Ken made a motion that MBA co-sponsor the Bridger Bowmen shoot on June 3rd and 4th.

Nick Seconded.

Vote passed unanimously.

MOTION:

Justin made a motion to give \$1200 to the Bridger Bowmen for the shoot on June 3rd and 4th to cover costs of prizes, food etc.

Seconded by?

Vote passed unanimously.

Action Item: Brian will make a request to the Finance Committee to have \$1200 designated for the Bridger Bowman shoot on June 3rd and 4th.

Carp Safari

Kevin gave details that the Carp Safari will be at Hell Gate Campground with group site with 10 campsites reserved for Friday and Saturday June 9th and 10th.

Teen Bowhunting Camp

Jackie gave a run down on this year's camp at the Moon River Ranch in Sula. MT, June 22-25, 2023. Set up on the 20th and 21st. Jackie would like to have some MBA Board members attend for at least Saturday to socialize with the Teens. They are looking at moving the camp around the state in the future. There needs to be some better coordination between the Teen Camp and MBA to ensure that individuals are reimbursed out of pocket expenses. There was discussion about payment for the trailer.

Action Item: Finance Committee will look into helping with costs of the Teen Bowhunting Camp given that MBA has a line item in its budget for the camp.

Total Archery Challenge

Jeremy talked about integrating with Operation Enduring Warrior to promote the PTMAE and adaptive archery equipment throughout the US. He has been in contact with representatives from that program and will keep us abreast of further comms with them.

Other Action Item Status

Action Item: All members let Ken know of things that need to be updated on the Website so he can work with Liberty to get it updated.

Closed Action Item: Steve will provide receipt for printing costs to Claudia for reimbursement. done

Closed Action Item: Board will consider forming a Website Committee. done

Closed Action Item: Claudia will send Kevin a temporary credit card. done

Closed Action Item: Convention Committee form a budget for this year's convention. done

Closed Action Item: Convention Committee will submit a budget for this years Convention to the Treasurer. done

Closed Action Item: The Convention Committee will look into simplifying the raffle ticket process done

Closed Action Item: Put together a manual for organizing, funding, and running an MBA Convention. done

Closed Action Item: Steve will put together a synopsis of talking points that can be used when Board Members are talking to legislators about the upcoming crossbow bill and to be included in the next newsletter. done

REGION REPORTS**Region 1****Region 2****Region 3****Region 4****Region 5****Region 6****Region 7****Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be at 10:00 at the FWP Montana Wild Center in Helena on Friday June 10, 2023.

Committees

Action Item: Liberty will modify the website to include a chat app for each committee that will allow only committee members to carry on conversations dealing with committee business.

Action Item: Ken will request board members to volunteer for at least 2 committees and then will update the committee listings below at our next meeting on June 9, 2023.

<u>Legislative</u>	Chair: Liberty Brown	
Jerry Davis	Jeremy Harwood	Jess Wagner
Marlon Clapham	Steve LePage	Justin Doll
Stephanie Prater	Paul Kemper	

<u>Financial</u>	Chair: Mandy Garness	
Al Kelly	Jeremy Harwood	Claudia Davis

<u>Landowner/Sportsman</u>	Chair: Stephanie Prater	
Tristan Manual	Jess Wagner	Rick Miller
Bob Morgan		

<u>Nominations</u>	Chair: Brian Koelzer	
Stephanie Prater	Al Kelly	

<u>Awards</u>	Chair: Cliff Garness	
Marlon Clapham	Steve LePage	Brian Koelzer
Al Kelly		

<u>Membership</u>	Chair: Steve LePage	
Mandy Garness	Nick Siebrasse	Bob Morgan
Ron Aasheim		

<u>Convention 2024 (Region 4):</u>	Chair: Cliff Garness	
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<u>Magazine</u>	Chair: Cliff Garness	
Jerry Davis	Julie Jensen	Brian Koelzer
Kevin Robinson	Rick Miller	Jackie Weidow
Stephanie Prater		

<u>Carp Shoot</u>	Chair: Kevin Robinson	
Steve Lepage	Jerry Davis	Marlon Clapham

<u>Bow-Ed</u>	Chair: Marlon Clapham	
Nick Siebrasse	Tristan Manual	Al Kelly
Justin Doll	Stephanie Prater	

<u>Youth Membership and MBA Teen Bowhunter Camp</u>	Chair: Marlon Clapham	
Kevin Robinson	Becky Doyle	Jerry Doyle
Jackie Weidow		

<u>Governance</u>	Chair: Jerry Davis	
Jeremy Harwood	Al Kelly	

<u>PTMAE</u>	<u>Chair:</u> Marlon Clapham	
Kevin Robinson	Steve LePage	

<u>Tentatives</u>	<u>Chair:</u> Rick Miller	
Jess Wagner	Stephanie Prater	Steve LePage
Mark Schwomeyer		