



## Special Meeting Minutes called by Dan Wiley

**Date:** March 31, 2020

**Time:** 8:10 PM EDT, 7:10 PM CDT, 6:10 PM MDT, 5:10 PM PDT

**Location:** Zoom Tele-conference

**In Attendance:** Justin Grady, Pat Wendling, Craig DeHaan, Cynthia DuVal, John Cooper, Dan Wiley, Kim Kiser, Brent White, Vernon Lang, Jerry DuVal, Dan Taylor, Special invited guests: Darren Osbment- President MHYF, Shelley White- Chairperson for Junior Nationals Committee

**Not In Attendance:** Bill Moreton, Joe Bottini

An agenda was provided by Dan Wiley.

Agenda as provided on 3/28/2020 at 2:28PM PDT:

### Junior Nationals

- COVID-19 plan and recommendations
- Clarification on payment for facility
- Latest dates to be able to order awards
- What help can be provided by the MHBA Board to the Junior Nationals Committee

Dan Wiley requested that the meeting stick to the above agenda only and that other items can be addressed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Call to Order:** Justin Grady

A notice that all MHBA Board meetings would be automatically recorded by the Secretary only was provided. Each member in attendance would respond “yes” if they agree to be recorded and “no” if they did not want to be recorded. A roll call was provided and all members attending agreed to be recorded, including the two special guests.

Justin indicated that this special meeting was requested by Dan Wiley with respect to the concerns over Junior Nationals and to see what the MHBA can do to assist them. Justin invited Dan to begin with the first part of his agenda.

Dan Wiley stated that the reason he called this meeting was because Brent White had made a motion and Vernon Lang had seconded the motion, for the Miniature Hereford Junior Nationals to become a stand-alone entity. Dan spoke of the many emails that had been sent/received since that occurred and that he assumed that the special meeting that Vernon had called ( 3/26/20) previously was to address those Junior Nationals issues. He said that instead, the agenda was sent to the Board an hour prior to the meeting and consisted only of old business. Dan said that he felt that we do have issues with Junior Nationals and COVID-19 that do need to be addressed, which was why he called for Thursday’s (3/26/20) meeting to be adjourned and another special meeting to be called.

Junior Nationals- COVID-19 plan and recommendations

Dan spoke of how the country was basically shut down and asked Shelley White what she had been talking to her committee about and how they are trying to prepare for the possibility of Junior Nationals having to be cancelled. Dan said that he had seen that the World Pork Expo that was to be held in June was cancelled as of today. Shelley said that right now they are going by the recommendations of the Governor of the state of Kansas and the local city of Hutchinson. She said that as of now, things will be closed until April 30<sup>th</sup> with all state non-essential employees on administrative leave. Shelley said that they have 83 days to plan this event and she felt that they should continue with the planning process at this time. She said that the committee will



make a decision by June first and that as of now they are planning and moving forward as though it is going to happen in the end of June.

Justin let Shelley know how much the Association appreciates all the hard work that they have put into Junior Nationals and we are here to offer our help during this COVID-19 issue. Justin stated that no one wants it to be cancelled, that we just want to be prepared. Justin asked Shelley if there was a plan just in case the government does close everything down that Junior Nationals would not lose all its money. Shelley said that they had made modifications, one is for entries and ownership deadlines, and they have now extended it to May 15<sup>th</sup>. They have also cut off the payment feature that they usually use for entries; now they will be sending out invoices after the entry deadline has ended and the exhibitor may have the choice to pay the invoice by check or other means at check-in. This way they don't have to worry about dealing with refunds.

The second issue that Shelley spoke about was the payment to the Kansas State Fair venue. She stated that the reason she requested the full rental amount be paid in full was so that if the event had to be cancelled, that she felt with the venue having the full payment, the Junior Nationals might be able to have a priority over other events for rescheduling dates. Craig asked Shelley if the venue was willing to hold their spot for future rescheduling since there was no contract in hand. Shelley said that she could not answer that. John asked if we were paying for a facility without having a contract. He also asked what the amount of the payment was. Shelley said that they have a proposal from the state of Kansas for the cost of these facilities, what she doesn't have is a signed executed document. Shelley said that she was able to get an email from Kansas State Fair that all of their payments would be honored for a future date. She said that the future date does not have to be in 2020. She said that if we have to cancel June of 2020 we can reschedule for June of 2021. Shelley said that they have purposely not chosen a location for the 2021 event. Pat said that he understood that the venue was only requested to hold the check until they were able to get a signed contract out when they were allowed to go back to their offices. Darren Osbment said that he had spoken to Nathan (Kansas State Fair) regarding the contract and payment and that he did say that he would be out of the office until at least April 6<sup>th</sup> and that he would get the contract to him as soon as he was able to return to the office. Darren asked Shelley to clarify the date range on the Invoice from the venue. He said that the dates were 6/24 to 6/27 for four days at \$5000 per day which is the \$20,000 but in the Facebook page for Junior Nationals that it states that they are going from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> and he wondered about the additional day at \$5000. Shelley stated that she was able to negotiate move-in day at no charge. Craig asked Shelley if the committee was confident that the venue would honor that \$20,000 no matter what. Shelley said that he (Nathan) assured her of that, even if it was at a future date, even if it was a year out.

A brief discussion of MHBA and MHYF funding and sponsorship of MHJN ensued. Shelley stated that in the 5 years that she had been running Junior Nationals that only three board members have been present at different times. Dan Wiley stated that he had talked to her about needing help with Junior Nationals so that statement was not entirely true. Cynthia stated that over the last three years that she had talked to Shelley on the phone offering to attend their committee meetings as Treasurer of the Miniature Hereford Youth Foundation that she was willing to participate in their meetings to provide financial answers to any questions the committee had. She said that she was never requested to attend any of those meetings. Shelley stated that the committee guidelines state that people had to have attended Junior Nationals to be on the committee. She said that these were the guidelines that the committee established. Pat spoke about his conversations regarding offering help at this year's event as well as attending a few days.

Jerry asked if Shelley had a cutoff date in mind if they had to cancel Junior Nationals due to the COVID-19. Shelley said that as a committee they are targeting June 1<sup>st</sup> to make that decision in order to allow time for people to cancel vacations, hotels and things like that. She said that they haven't published that as their date but from a committee perspective that is the timeframe they are targeting.



#### Clarification on payment for facility

Dan Wiley said that there was no truth in the rumors that there had been a stop payment on the \$20,000 check. He said that he was worried about the COVID-19 so he had made a call to Cynthia and Darren and asked them if the venue had been paid for yet. They said yes and that the check would be delivered on Thursday of that week. Dan said that he asked Darren if there was any way that he could ask them to hold that check until we talked to find out what was going to happen if the things got cancelled and if we would get our money back. Dan assured everyone that there was never a stop payment of the check. A discussion occurred regarding a series of contentious emails attacking the MHBA Board was sent in early March 2020 after the MHJN committee meeting regarding Junior Nationals. It was noted by Dan Wiley that there had been an email motion to permit the MHJN to become its own entity along with other things that raised a lot of concerns. Justin asked Darren to clarify the payment on the facility. Darren said that he called and asked if they could hold the payment until April 6<sup>th</sup> when he got back to his office and he said yes. Darren said that he got a little fussy with him as he had been speaking with Shelley and he had asked for the contract just so that we would have the contract for our records. He told Darren that he was not able to do that as he could not get to his files because they were on leave. He said they would hold the check until he got back in. Darren said that all he did was ask them to hold the check. Both Darren Osbment, President of the MHYF, and Cynthia DuVal, Treasure of the MHYF, stated that there has never been a stop payment on the venue check.

#### Latest dates to be able to order awards:

Dan said that this issue had been answered in the previous discussions tonight. The awards have been ordered so the dates can be changed or awards reused at a different time. Shelley said that the only concern they have at this time is the ribbon order from Staats and that they have a 30 day lead time and she is in communication with them to see if there is something they can do with ribbons. Shelley said that they do have the prizes, they do have the buckles, and they do have the banners. The artwork is being completed now and will only take her around 10 days to turn around the sponsor banners that have their logo on it.

Darren said just to give everyone a total. We paid the \$20,000 for the venue, Cynthia sent another check for \$8000 that leaves a total of \$1900 in the Junior Nationals account and we have had no deposits or inflows at all. Craig brought up that they had the Junior National Breeders World auction and that those funds should go right to the MHYF account. He asked if that would be an income that they are producing. Darren answered that yes it would be if it was being deposited into the Youth Foundation account. Craig stated that he assumed that those funds would go into that account. Darren said that he had no control over that, the answer would have to come from Shelley. Shelley answered that nothing had changed. Justin said that he knew that there had been some concerns over how the funds were in the account over the last couple of weeks and that he appreciated Darren letting us know what is there. Justin thanked Shelley for all they do for the kids and Junior Nationals.

#### What help can be provided by the MHBA Board to the Junior Nationals Committee

Dan said that having this meeting would be a good opportunity for the Board to be more involved in the Junior Nationals and to assist Shelley with whatever she needed. He said that was his intention. Justin asked Shelley what they would need help with from the Board. Pat suggested that Shelley send an email list of her concerns so that he had time to go over them and process it. Shelley stated that emails loose that personal touch and that ability to have dialogue, but that she would be happy to do that. Craig said that if she did that we could go over them and then have another meeting. Shelley talked about the size and scope of Junior Nationals and that because of that, things have changed. She said that the budget for this year is \$65,000 and that they won't get their entry money in like they usually do. She said that this committee needs to have some things in place to take care of a show of this size and scope. Justin said that we understand that this is a ground up show and takes a lot of preparation.

Justin stated that we could have another meeting just for Junior Nationals if it is needed. Brent suggested that we have a combined meeting with the Junior Nationals committee. Shelley suggested that



everyone visit the MHJN website (mhjn.org) that way you can get a feel for what happens there and that she would like to have a follow up meeting at a future date. Craig asked if Shelley would like the meeting with just her to discuss her letter or if she would like the committee to be part of it. Shelley responded that it should be with the committee. Shelley said that a meeting would be best, she doesn't get to vote on anything unless there is a tie. She stated that there is a high level of frustration on the committee and she thinks it would go a long way to show that their concerns have been heard and their cards are on the table and that there will be some dialogue about it. Craig asked if a Zoom meeting would hold 24 people and Cynthia assured them that it could handle that many people. Justin asked Shelley to be sure to let us know of any updates as they come in.

Justin thanked our special guests Darren Osbment and Shelley White for joining us. Craig moved to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Jerry.

**Adjourn:** 9:40PM EDT, 8:40PM CMT, 7:40PM MDT, 6:40PM PDT  
Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia DuVal  
MHBA Secretary