

Orinda Horse Association

Board Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2025

6:00 - 7:30 pm

These minutes are intended for the exclusive use of OHA members. Please refrain from sharing this document with non-members.

Meeting called to order by Elise at 6:01 pm.

Board members present: Elise Torres (President), Linnea Wren (Vice President), Sylvie Thome (Treasurer), Kusia Hreshchyshyn (Communications), Mark Tompkins (Secretary)

Members present: Erica, Tanya

Announcements: Members should review task list and work on their tasks, particularly as we are approaching the last quarter of the fiscal year. Members should feel free to email the Board on unanswered emails if they have not received a Board response. It is always fine to ask the Board again if there hasn't been a reply.

REMINDER TO MEMBERS: Please pull more teasel, fiddleneck, coyote brush, and scotch broom. Thank you!

1. Adoption of Agenda - No changes. Kusia moved to adopt agenda. Linnea seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes - June 5, 2025. Elise motioned to adopt previous meeting minutes. Linnea seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Consent Calendar - Sonny's associate Dennis approved.
4. Appreciation - Kusia thanked everyone who helped with teasel removal - great work.
5. Member Comment - Erica would love some discussion of dieters managing weeds, gates, and other infrastructure in diet areas as opposed to weeding just by pasture managers. Erica will check current guidance and update. Tanya would like to discuss hay purchase status (later agenda item). Tanya also mentioned that the last users of the red barn paddock left it uncleaned. Mark noted Lower Sullivan is ready for horses except for salt block, which pasture team will move in from the beer can.
6. 2024 - 2025 Projects

- a. AGP - Just waiting for EBMUD to set meeting. Linnea will coordinate with Eddie who is out of town until sometime in August.
- 7. Planning Grid (https://orindahorsemen.org/?page_id=14063)
 - a. June – *follow-up - herd move completed. No significant follow ups.*
 - b. July – *current*
 - i. Review Pasture Calendar upcoming herd moves
 - 1. 7/14 - through gate to lower Sullivan
 - 2. 7/19 for move to pond In-hand,
 - ii. Feeding schedule. Discussion of improved management of truck feedings that all members with trucks get similar truck feeding opportunities. This would require a board decision on maximum truck feedings per person at or before the August board meeting. Sign ups for feeding will be in early September. Some members also want some pond feedings to be reserved for non-truck feedings.
 - iii. Hay order - Hay4You was selected after follow up calls. We will order at least 480 bales as we did last year. Last year's cost was \$29 per bale. We also discussed ordering additional bales for extra feeding that will take the total to approximately 500 bales. Also discussed including an additional 20 bales for member purchases, so total order will be at least 520 bales. Also may consider an extra 50 bales for members personal use. This would take us to 560 bales. Tanya to request quotes for 520 and 570 bales. Board determined that per bale cost for member purchase will be \$30 and per flake will be \$5. Hay delivery will likely be late August or early September. REMINDER TO MEMBERS TO HAVE PASTURE TEAMS PREP HAY STORAGE UNITS IN JULY OR EARLY AUGUST.
- 8. *August - look ahead. Set annual meeting date. Typically mid-September. Will offer September 6/7 or September 27/28.*
- 9. Herd Moves - Elise proposed board members no longer lead herd moves and rather we form herd move committees of 3-4 people to lead moves. Potential committee members could include Tanya, Heather A, Michael Bowen, Liz Strauss, Alix. Heather M., Eddie, Harvey. Elise moved to create this committee. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 10. Rules Revision: The Board has completed their review and the revisions sections are now back in the hands of the team leads who's next step is to solicit member feedback.
 - a. Horse Health Care (add BCS requirement). Elise motioned that we add a requirement for members to get a BCS from their vet at time of fall clinics. Linnea seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - b. Use of Stalls, Paddocks and Ring Pasture - no update from June.
 - c. Work Hours Rules and Procedures - no update from June.
 - d. Vehicles & Trailers - no update from June.
 - e. Membership - no update from June.
 - f. Arena - no update from June.
 - g. Herd Feeding - no update from June.
 - h. Dispute Resolution - no update from June.

11. Committee Updates

- a. Treasurer - Executive key process complete.
- b. Legal Committee - no report.
- c. Membership Recruitment Advisory Committee - Holly reported recommendation to approve Dennis as Sonny's associate. Elise motioned to approve Dennis. Kusia seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- d. Board Liaison Report - no report.
- e. EBMUD Liaison Report - no report.
- f. Communications Report - no report.
- g. Pasture Reports / Herd Feeding - no report.

12. New Business: No new business.

13. Notifications:

- a. Continue cutting teasel and pulling fiddleneck.
- b. [OHA Tasks 2024-25](#), Pasture Teams. There have been some changes to both, with membership changes. Please take time to review your task assignment, and connect with your pasture team lead. As always, if members have any questions or concerns regarding task assignments and pasture team assignments, please reach out to the Board.
- c. Release and Waiver of Liability- [Link to Waiver](#) with a reiteration of our procedures for filing the waiver with the Board Secretary, which then gets stored on the shared drive and recorded in a spreadsheet. (board and members will consider if a Google Form where waivers can be uploaded, which will automatically create a tracking spreadsheet, would be a worthwhile improvement to our current system.)
- d. There are still a few [Membership Agreements](#) that have not been submitted. Carla will be reaching out to those individuals to collect signed agreements.
- e. Although the Board strives to respond to emails promptly, if there are outstanding questions you have brought to the Board but have not received an email response and still need one, please feel free to reach out to us again. If a topic might benefit from a longer discussion, time can be set aside during the Board meeting to give it more attention.

14. Next Meeting

- a. Agenda - items deferred from this meeting will go on to the next meeting's agenda.
- b. Date - Thursday August 7, 2025 at 6pm.

Regular meeting adjourned at 736pm.

15. Executive Session - Board discussion of member issues. Executive session adjourned at 753pm.