

Orinda Horse Association

Board Meeting Minutes

April 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 6:05 pm.

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

Members present: Lila Abdul-Rahim, Erica Braun, Wakean Maclean,

REMINDER TO MEMBERS: Please pull coyote brush & scotch broom. Also let Kim know if you can help her feed Cookie. Thank you!

1. Adoption of Agenda - Sylvie proposed adding discussion of maximum number of horses; Kusia proposed adding a moment of gratitude to membership; Elise motioned to adopt agenda as revised. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes - March 11. Elise motioned to adopt previous minutes. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Consent Calendar - associate membership for Joy Solis-Perry and Caroline Williams. Board approved.
4. Board Comment - Kusia expressed gratitude to members for all the supportive, kind, and thoughtful messages during the current and ongoing challenging period for OHA, and at the same time doing critically important work on OHA infrastructure.
5. Member Comment -
 - a. Erica isn't sure how much the lower pastures have been grazed by dieters, so is a little concerned about herd being moved to Lower Lower while the dieters are in the Pear. She advised that dieters could use the Beer Can or Lower Sullivan if neither has been grazed yet. Discussion of upcoming herd moves - Sylvie to send out a reminder email for people to sign up for the next move.
6. 2024-25 Projects

- a. AGP - Linnea summarized discussions between her, Eddie, and Erica. Eddie has said that Jackie is getting ready to schedule the AGP meeting. Details on projects continue to be collected.
7. Planning Grid (https://orindahorsemen.org/?page_id=14063)
- a. March - updates on status
 - i. Dues: proprietary and associate - Sylvie said we are in pretty good shape. Just a couple outstanding associates who have not paid and just one proprietary member who has not paid.
 - ii. Develop weed abatement plan - No status update.
 - iii. Mow Forest Meadow - Wakean said mowing will occur in two to three weeks.
 - iv. Spring Vet Clinics - O'Brien clinic happened. Ormond clinic coming up.
 - v. Fecal Egg Count - to be discussed later in the meeting.
 - b. April - current
 - i. Review pasture calendar upcoming herd moves - Erica is coordinating. Currently dieting group will be in Pear until April 26. May need to move to Lower Sullivan or Beer Can first.
 - a. 4/12-13: in-hand Upper Sullivan to Lower Pasture
 - b. 4/20: through gate Lower to Beer Can
 - c. 4/27 through gate Beer Can to Lower Sullivan
 - ii. Rototilling arena - weather permitting - Mark coordinating.
 - iii. Review emergency info and phone tree - Kusia to check in with Michael Bowen.
 - c. May - look-ahead
 - i. Review pasture calendar upcoming herd moves
 - 1. 5/3-4 In-hand Lower Sullivan to Plateau
 - ii. Begin hay order
 - 1. Finalizing the hay survey: Discussed adding context, adding a question about feeding start date (Do you want to start feeding two weeks or a month earlier? If yes, are you willing to separate your horse from the unfed herd for earlier feeding and do extra feedings?), and adjusting the response to choose one answer on hay type. Board to create official survey (likely using Google Forms) using OHA Board account and finalize before May board meeting. Erica noted that the rotation group was asked for input on how to manage hard keepers. Erica suggested we could move hard keepers into fresh pasture in January when the easy keepers go to unfed.
 - iii. Mow hemlock? Wakean advised doing so a little later and will coordinate.
 - iv. Review AGP projects. - Team working on AGP.
 - v. Complete fuel reduction to meet County weed abatement deadline of 6/1. Kusia to check in with Michael Bowen about his plan to complete this work on time. There is stacked dead brush on road up to Pond Pasture

and along El Toyonal near the gate. OHA can't chip until November due to nesting bird restrictions.

8. Rules Revision

- a. Status of rule revisions proposed at the December 11, 2024 Board meeting:
 - i. Dispute resolution draft has two member responses on the spreadsheet and others by email.
 - ii. Use of stalls, paddocks, and ring - Holly has taken this over from Cheryl and is working on a draft that responds to previous member comments.
 - iii. Work hour rules and procedures - draft available for Board review.
 - iv. Arena - draft is ready for Board review.
 - v. Herd feeding - Michael Bowen working on a draft.
 - vi. Vehicles and trailers - draft in progress but not yet ready for Board review.
 - vii. Membership - work in progress by Holly and team - not ready for Board review.
- b. Status of additional rule revisions now in progress:
 - i. Horse Health Care (addition of minimum BCS requirement) - draft in progress, not yet ready for Board review.
 - ii. Safety, Dogs, Changes of Horse - proposed as next in line for revision/updates.

9. Plan Fecal Egg Count(FEC), Worming Procedure

- a. Given the low shedder result from last test and the full list of urgent OHA tasks, Linnea motioned we skip fecal egg count testing this year. Kusia seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Wormers are available for Spring.

10. Committee Updates

- a. Treasurer - There is one "key executive" on OHA accounts. Minutes must reflect that the Board intends to update the key executives to current Board president and treasurer. Linnea motioned that OHA will change the key executive for our Wells Fargo account to current president and current treasurer. Sylvie seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- b. Legal Committee - no report.
- c. Membership Recruitment Advisory Committee - Linnea provided an update on conversations that have been happening about how prioritization of second horse spaces and new horse spaces gets done. OHA has accepted new members with two horses to start in the past, although this likely was done as a special Board exception. There has been an OHA discussion that only one horse can be brought in by a new member and a second horse could be brought in after probation period if spaces are available. OHA's maximum number of horses based on the Animal Management Units in our lease is 38. We are supposed to keep an average of 31.5 horses on pasture at all times. This likely means we should aim to keep the herd at 36 horses to account for horses being off pasture. Linnea motioned that we set OHA's maximum number of horses as 36, subject to future revision based on climate or other factors. Sylvie seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Review of the second horse rules indicates that a trial member can request a second horse space - therefore a new member can come in with

one horse and as soon as they want they can put their name on the second horse list.

- d. Board Liaison Report - no report.
 - e. EBMUD Liaison Report - no report.
 - f. Communications Report - no report.
 - g. Pasture Reports / Herd Feeding
- 11. New Business: No new business.
 - 12. Announcements: pull coyote brush and scotch broom
 - 13. Executive Session - Elise motioned to transition into executive session. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Open meeting session closed at 7:23 Executive session opened at 7:24.
 - 14. Executive Session - Discussion of OHA issues. Executive session ended at 8:25pm.
 - 15. Next Meeting
 - a. Agenda - items deferred from this meeting will go on to the next meeting's agenda.
 - b. Date - May 6, 6pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.