

**Orinda Horse Association
Board Meeting Agenda**

**Monday, April 6, 2026 5:30 - 7:00 pm
via Zoom**

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm

Board members in attendance: Kusia, Mark, Holly, Sylvie; Elise joined at 5:40

Members in attendance: Linnea, Eddie, and Erica, Nichole' joined around 5:50pm

1. Adoption of Agenda
 - Add item about group willing to install tie-posts at Pavillion to new business.
 - Add item about leak at Pavillion to EBMUD report.
 - Kusia moved to adopt agenda with additions. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Kusia moved to adopt agenda. Mark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Appreciations / Accomplishments
 - To everyone at OHA for continuing to improve our organization and facilities.
 - To the dieting group for maneuvering their horses quickly and in a coordinated manner.
4. Consent Calendar
 - No items.
5. Member Comment
 - Nichole' asked board to consider dog rule revision discussion for future meeting.
6. 2025-2026 Projects
 - No discussion of this item.
7. AGP Status
 - Planned projects & completed projects for which we hope to get AGP credit this year; status of proposal prepared for EBMUD
 - Still waiting on EBMUD to schedule the AGP meeting.
8. Planning Grid (https://orindahorsemen.org/?page_id=14063)
 - a. March – *follow-up*
 - i. Dues Status: Proprietary and Associate
 1. A few folks with unpaid dues. All in process of working out payment.

- ii. Develop weed abatement plan
 - 1. We need to give EBMUD a heads up that we want to do mowing via this plan - mainly so EBMUD can advise on sensitive species and fire danger (need for a pumper truck).
 - 2. This plan has to do with invasives and overgrowth that is bad for horses.
 - 3. Erica thinks we need to keep this on the calendar. She also thinks the board announcements and reminders
 - 4. The thing to do right now is get in touch with Jackie and mow. Also as soon as horses are out of the forest meadow we should also mow.
 - 5. Wakean typically does the mowing and at the same time up to three other people could do weed-whacking. Wakean will send an email out to members asking for help.
 - 6. Board will help with recruiting once Wakean has secured dates with EBMUD.
 - iii. Mow Forest Meadow Hemlock - covered under previous item on weed abatement plan.
 - iv. Spring vet clinics - all complete and information submitted.
 - b. April - *current*
 - i. Review Pasture Calendar upcoming herd moves
 - 1. 4/11-12 In-hand, Upper Sullivan to Lower Pasture, point person: Michael Bowen - message sent to remind Michael.
 - 2. 4/19 - through gate to Beer Can
 - 3. 4/23 - through gate to Lower Sullivan
 - 4. 4/25-26 In-hand, Lower Pasture to Plateau, point person: Heather Armstrong - message sent to remind Heather.
 - ii. Rototill ring-weather permitting - scheduled for April 17, 2026
 - c. May - *look ahead*
 - i. Review Pasture Calendar upcoming herd moves
 - 1. 5/30-31 through gate, Plateau to FM/MM
 - ii. Begin hay order
 - 1. Theresa looking into additional vendors. We're aiming for better quality hay this year, possibly with a third party vendor work party to move the hay from El Toyonal into the pastures.
 - iii. Mow hemlock - see earlier item on Forest Meadow.
 - iv. Fuel reduction to meet county weed abatement deadline of 6/1.
 - 1. Esp. Ring Pasture, Red Barn area, Pavilion - will be discussed at the next board meeting in May.
9. Rules Revision - see status here https://orindahorsemen.org/?page_id=22157

- a. Work Hours Rules and Procedures - status: Heather M - 30 day review period complete April 25.
- b. Arena - status: **waiting for Board** to approve the draft for 30 day review.
- c. Use of Stalls, Paddocks and Ring Pasture - status: initially Cheryl, now Holly - comments provided by members - **board to integrate comments** and send out for another review period.
- d. Change of Horses - status: initial draft of revision.
- e. Horse Health Care (add BCS requirement) - status: Holly, Kusia, Linnea - initial draft of revision.
- f. Membership Procedures - status: Holly, Membership Committee - initial draft of revision.
- g. Herd Feeding - status: initial draft of revision.
- h. Honorary Membership - status: pending
- i. Safety - status: pending
- j. Dogs - status: pending
- k. Trailers - status: Heather A, Elise - pending
- l. Manure Management - status: Nichole' and Paul are current Taj managers and should weigh in on the draft when available.
- m. Leasing horse spaces - status: board recommended temporary suspension pending permanent suspension through the rules revision process
 - i. Kusia motioned to adopt a temporary (60 days) rule change (per bylaws section ii.02.b) that removes rule vii.e because of a concern of violation of OHA bylaws and state corporation law. Sylvie seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Plan Worming Procedure

- o Wormers purchased, distribution planned the third week of April, 2026 or earlier - pay attention to OHA email

11. Committee Updates

- a. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Need to update Wells Fargo key executive, add new president
 - ii. Capitol One Remuda Fund - set up, some donors have funded the account, accepting checks if anyone else wants to donate. Checks can be sent to the OHA mailbox made payable to OHA with "Remuda Fund" in the memo line.
- b. Legal Committee - no discussion.
- c. Membership Recruitment Advisory Committee - no discussion.
- d. Board Liaison Report - no discussion.
- e. EBMUD Liaison Report
 - i. Leak at Pavillion
 - ii. Message from Jackie at EBMUD 4/6/26. She will get back to us with a plan for the leak fix, new spring box lid replacement, and timing of AGP meeting. She thinks a lockbox with a key is a great idea. No reply yet on the request for a new hay shed in the Lower Lower.

- f. Communications Report
- g. Pasture Reports/Herd Feeding/Rotation Committee Report
 - i. Hay Shed in Lower Pasture - materials are ready - we should plan to build between the last week in April or in May.
 - ii. Dieting rotation - debrief this year's experience with the dieting rotation and discuss options for next year.
 - Kusia suggested there is currently a management gap related to the diet group. OHA as an organization offers a dieting option as part of the rotation plan; however because the program is optional, participation fluctuates based on horse health and climate conditions. If no members opt in, as happened twice this spring, the "dieting pastures" were in danger of being left ungrazed, disrupting the OHA's master rotation schedule.
 - Solutions could include either not having the dieters group a part of the rotation plan. Or alternatively, at the beginning of each year all members who think they will require dieting must meet and agree to do the work required to manage the dieting herd, even if they end up not needing their own horses to utilize the dieting arrangement.
 - Erica agreed that pre-season planning would be helpful and is a good idea. Also, having a herdlet available to graze or not graze specific areas is useful for pasture management.
 - Elise agreed the dieters can be good for pasture management and vegetation management/fire abatement. Proposed that daily dieting herd care tasks continue to be ineligible for work hour credit; but there should be some OHA work hours available to manage the dieting group & diet spaces to support appropriate pasture management.
 - Heather McHugh and Carla likely have good input on managing dieters better, Elise to reach out to them.
 - Kusia in favor of having a task item for planning and managing the diet group.
 - Board to discuss further at next board meeting.

12. New Business

- a. Install tie-posts at Pavillion. Paul has volunteered to put in new posts. Please contact Kusia with any input on placement.
- b. During the meeting Mark saw an email from Kim from yesterday asking to add the new hay shed door at the Pav as an agenda item - this will be added to the May agenda.

13. Announcements

- a. Pull fiddleneck

- b. Elise hosting her daughter's Girl Scout troop in the arena and pavilion Sunday 4/12 10-12am - ***addendum: rescheduled due to rain to Sunday April 19, 3-5pm.***

14. Executive Session

- Started 6:46pm
- Adjourned 6:57pm

15. Next Meeting

- 5/5/25 5:30-7pm: Post this date on the members website