

**Montana Board of Horse Racing**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Via Zoom**

**Roll Call of Board Members:**

John Hayes - Present

Janis Calton - Present

Jody Smith – Absent

Austin (Bo) Bevis – Present

Buckshot Nelson - Present

Corey Jones – Present

Cindy Johnson - Present

Gary Koeplin (Executive Secretary) – Present

**Montana Department of Commerce Staff Present:**

Patrick Quinn, Legal Counsel

Brenda Elias, Chief Legal Counsel

Jada Maynor, Paralegal

**Public Present:**

Justin McPherson

Chad Swift

Kelly Manzer

Bill Schmitt

**Notice of Audio/ Visual Recording/ Roll Call/ Introduction**

0:57    Presenter: John Hayes

**Approval of July Meeting Minutes**

4:00    Motion: Cindy Johnson – Approval of July Meeting Minutes

Second: Corey Jones

          Motion passed

**Approval of November Meeting Minutes**

5:15    Motion: Cindy Johnson – Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Second: Janis Calton

          Motion passed

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

6:15    No public comment

**Miles City Bucking Horse Sale**

6:43    Presenter: Justin McPherson

**Great Falls Turf Club**

9:59    Presenter: Mr. Hayes

          With collaboration from board members and DOC Legal staff

**Montana Board of Horse Racing  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Via Zoom**

**Split Test Procedure**

36:29 Motion: Buckshot Nelson – If you request a split test, it needs to be done within 3 business working days from the time/date you were notified and **NOT** the 24-hour time limit.

Second: Janis Calton

Collaboration with board members. Motion passed.

Further discussion with board members.

51:00 Motion: Janis Calton – Give permission to the executive secretary to explore possible administration costs associated with sample testing.

Second: Cindy Johnson

Motion passed

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

53:43 No public comment

**Adjourned Public Board Meeting**

59:35 Adjourned at 10:31a.m.

Montana Board of Horse Racing  
Record of Motion and Vote

Date: 2/25/2026

Meeting location: Zoom Only

Text of Motion: Approval of July Meeting Minutes

Motion made by: Cindy Johnson

Seconded by: Corey Jones

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Corey Jones	X		
Buckshot Nelson	X		
Jody Smith	Absent		
Bo Belvis	X		
Cindy Johnson	X		
Janis Calton	X		
<b>Vote Total</b>	5		

Circle One:  
Motion

Passes

Fails

Motion and vote recorded by: Jada Maynor

Montana Board of Horse Racing  
Record of Motion and Vote

Date: 2/25/2026

Meeting location: Zoom Only

Text of Motion: Approval of Nov. Meeting Minutes

Motion made by: Cindy Johnson

Seconded by: Janis Calton

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Corey Jones	X		
Buckshot Nelson	X		
Jody Smith	Absent		
Bo Belvis	X		
Cindy Johnson	X		
Janis Calton	X		
<b>Vote Total</b>	5		

Circle One:  
Motion

Passes

Fails

Motion and vote recorded by: Jada Maynor

Montana Board of Horse Racing  
Record of Motion and Vote

Date: 2/25/2026

Meeting location: Zoom Only

Text of Motion: If you request a split test, it needs to be done within 3 business working days from the time/date you were notified and **NOT** the 24-hour time limit.

Motion made by: Buckshot Nelson

Seconded by: Janis Calton

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Corey Jones	X		
Buckshot Nelson	X		
Jody Smith	Absent		
Bo Bevis	X		
Cindy Johnson	X		
Janis Calton	X		
<b>Vote Total</b>	5		

Circle One:  
Motion

Passes

Fails

Motion and vote recorded by: Jada Maynor

Montana Board of Horse Racing  
Record of Motion and Vote

Date: 2/25/2026

Meeting location: Zoom Only

Text of Motion: Give permission to the executive secretary to explore possible administration costs associated with sample testing.

Motion made by: Janis Calton

Seconded by: Cindy Johnson

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Corey Jones	X		
Buckshot Nelson	X		
Jody Smith	Absent		
Bo Belvis	X		
Cindy Johnson	X		
Janis Calton	X		
<b>Vote Total</b>	5		

Circle One:  
Motion

Passes

Fails

Motion and vote recorded by: Jada Maynor