



Vermont Horse Council Board of Directors and Members Meeting
March 10, 2026
7:00pm via Zoom

Attending: Michelle Brewster (P), Jeannette Cole (VP), Emma O'Neill (S), Mikayla Pick (T), Monica Raymond (BOD), Laurie Baird (BOD), Robin Severy (BOD), Kerrie Garvey (BOD), Linsey Williams (BOD), Lisa Lafont (BOD), Ryne Kessler (BOD)

Absent:

Agenda:

7:05pm - Call to Order - Michelle

7:06pm - Secretary Report - Emma

- Meeting minutes from January 13, 2026, and February 10, 2026, were approved without corrections.

7:12pm - Treasurer Report - Mikayla

- Current balances as of the meeting:
 - Checking account: \$20,790.05
 - Savings account: \$6,122.32
- Mikayla has several membership/renewal checks to deposit.
- Mikayla is still working on determining different insurance options and what coverage is needed based on contracts with FPR. Mikayla will send the information she has to Monica, who can also reach out to a few agencies to prepare for the upcoming retreat.
- Financials accepted as presented.

Old Business

7:16pm - Volunteer Tracking Hours + Admin Folder - Monica

- A template spreadsheet for tracking volunteer hours exists, but is stored in multiple locations; need to determine a single location in the shared drive.
- Most members keep their logs on their personal computers, but it is important to have all volunteer hours in the same place in case of an audit or similar situation.
- Carla uses an app called Clockify (free, automated, calculates hours automatically); Jeannette will add a demonstration to the March retreat agenda because this could be an easier way for consistent tracking.

- A "Volunteer Tracking" folder will be added to the shared drive under the BoD/Board Members folder. BoD members should add their 2025 and 2026 volunteer hours here asap.

7:20pm - Administrative Documents - Monica

- Monica reviewed the administrative files while showing Ryne around the shared drive and noticed a few documents were missing/mis-filed.
- Jeannette and Mikayla will make sure that those documents are uploaded to the correct folders in the shared drive.

New Business

7:22pm - March Retreat Agenda - Everyone

- Michelle has created an agenda and a potluck sign-up sheet in the shared drive where everyone can start adding their ideas/topics to discuss.
- Jeannette will send out the 2026 goals scorecard via email before the retreat for everyone to review.
- Proposed agenda items include:
 - Northeast Kingdom Equine Expo (May 30-31)
 - Guided rides discussion (insurance dependent)
 - Addison County Field Days
 - February Outdoor Rec Day at State House (annual event for next year)
 - Moosalamoo primitive campsites
 - Trail system updates (will cover at retreat instead of a separate trail meeting this month)
 - Trail mapping discussion
 - Membership involvement/engagement strategies
 - Social media strategies - public vs. members-only
- Ryne is happy to help with any financial or policy research
- Kelsey will be available via Zoom at the retreat for 30 minutes if there are any tech issues/questions

7:35pm - Safety Committee + NEIMA Fire Department Training - Michelle

- Michelle is still working on going through the fire department list on the VHC website
 - Contacting departments about large animal rescue: who has equipment, who is trained, how many calls have been responded to (so far, all zeros)
 - Talking to VLAC about what vets recommend for barn emergency supplies
- Also working with Steve Perkins on NEIMA training
 - Never received an official press release from NEIMA, but did have "save the date" and they did a direct mailing to email list with course description and sign-up link.
 - Posted on VHC website front page (as blog) and on events page, as well as on Facebook page. Posted as "partially hosted by Vermont Horse Council."
- The class is being held on the last weekend in April, and will primarily be horse-focused (using a life-size horse dummy). \$60 cost per attendee for any interested fire departments.
- No official motion was made at the February BoD meeting regarding VHC donation or fundraising; only discussion of \$150-\$200 donation for one VHC board member to audit class or doing a donor-matching fundraiser.

- 7:53pm - Zoom Account - Jeannette**

- ### 8:01pm - Other - Everyone

- 8:10pm - Adjournment**

- Monthly Zoom Link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/join/ztZckd-ihriMuGd1Dlt08XsQ0S443vJlIf0zc?ics?icsToken=DPyY_M6FtHSXSGsneDAQALAAALSAkTkwTp4J7pElqOv9Pr8hn51UsRLCVNzndBtIRcR3ZZ-4Oahhg6MDuCiXO8gf-WdkB_Q5qifko2Idb5zAwMDAwMQ&meetingMasterEventId=rBeuGYfRT_KFbZ-vKzxH1w

Proposed Minute Corrections:

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Monica	4/12/26 6:15 pm	Under 7:53 Zoom account, first bullet, change "vhc.org" to "vthorsecouncil.org"	Yes