

## National BOD Minutes January 6, 2026

Call to order by President John Zeliff, 6:30 p.m., January 6, 2026 via Zoom.

Roll Call. Angie Meroshnekoff, Maria Pilgrim, Kandace French Contreras, Alternate Bob Insko, Linda Johnson-Conne, Dayna Morgan, Fran Muench, Mollie Kelly, Kris Gray, Sherry Garnes, John Zeliff, Marilyn Marston, Alternate Mary Alice Braun, Management and Data Chair Ruth Mesimer, Alex Braun Tech Chair. Catherine McCord excused.

### NATRC Goals for 2026

1. Complete Technology Phase Two
2. Schedule two or more clinics per region
3. Add additional national sponsors
4. Expand membership benefits
5. Focus on marketing efforts
6. Offer free fan membership for youth
7. Increase judging pool

### Old Business

Technology Phase Two. Alex Braun. The website go live will wait until Braun is back. We have met the Phase two fundraising goal. Meeting is set with Shineforth to visit about the next steps. The webinar about the technology plan went really well and we had a lot of great questions.

National Convention update. Muench. 37 people are currently signed up but we really need 75. 50 should be break even on the food and beverage. Interested vendors due to AERC not having a convention. Hotel deadline is January 17.

2026 Budget. Gray. We need to approve what we have and we can do a reforecast in March. Encouraging paid advertising as we need to get more people to the rides. **Motion to approve the 2026 budget by Gray, second by Muench. Motion carried.**

### Committee Reports

Management Report. Ruth Mesimer. Mesimer needs people to be considering who the RMS people will be in each region, and who should be getting quarterly audit reports in the regions for review.

### New Business

Judges Committee. Debbie McCullough has completed the requirements to become a LeD Judge and is being recommended by the Judges Committee. **Motion by Morgan to approve the 2026 Judges Committee appointments, seconded by Meroshnekoff. Motion carried. Motion by Meroshnekoff to approve Debbie McCullough as a Leisure Division judge, second by Muench. Motion carried.**

Equisure policy review update. Rates will remain the same despite the potential for increase due to heightened liability in similar entities such as AERC. Our focus on safety and written rules that promote equine safety helped keep our rates down.

### Regional Reports

R1. Meroshnekoff. Having two clinics on the Fridays before LeD rides. Mini convention is in March.

R2. French-Contreras. Rides are posted on the R2 website. Working to market rides and get more people attending. Six rides scheduled for the year. California has become very difficult to hold rights due to permits. Focusing on new ridership and getting them to come back.

R3. Johnson-Conne. Six rides are confirmed and working on two more potential rides. Two rides are having clinics. Regional convention is in March.

R4. Muench. Ten rides scheduled. No clinics scheduled yet for the season. Two new ride managers which is great.

R5. Gray. Ten events scheduled, but first ride cancelled due to EHV outbreak. Two clinics are scheduled and one is a ride manager clinic specifically. Another clinic with a LeD is planned. Mini convention will be in conjunction with a LeD ride to try to introduce people to the sport.

R6. Six full rides scheduled and three stand-alone LeD rides with a buckle series for the three stand-alone rides. Three clinics are scheduled. Equifest booth is planned to draw new members.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:30 a.m. CST in Austin, TX at our national convention.