

Montana LMSC

Board conference call meeting - Monday, August 31, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. Present were Jeanne Ensign (Chair), Dick Weber (Vice-chair), Keegan Witt (Treasurer), Phillip Luebke (Top times recorder), Donn Livoni (Immediate past chair), Audrey Wooding (Club rep) and Mark Johnston (Club rep). Three members were absent. It was established that a quorum was present.

1. **MSA the minutes of the 7/20/2015 conference call with no changes.**
2. **MSA to appoint Christina Angell to fill the position of Registrar until the next election.**
3. **MSA to appoint Phillip Luebke to be the Montana LMSC delegate to USAS convention.** Phillip will replace Craig Jourdonnais who is unable to go.
4. The bylaws subcommittee (Dick, Donn and Jeanne) following their initial review recommended that the MT LMSC be incorporated. Dick presented a summary of the memo that was distributed to the board prior to the meeting detailing the pros and cons of incorporation. The primary reasons are 1) governance and how decisions are made. Currently all actions of the board are required to be ratified by the membership at the annual meeting. Incorporation would improve the way we do business, allowing the board to make decisions and act between annual meetings. 2) Would clarify that this group is not just an unincorporated group under state law, but a non-profit corporation and the board, officers and members have less risk of personal liability. It would also clarify the duties of board, officers and members under both state law and (USMS') LMSC requirements.
MSA to proceed with incorporation of the MT LMSC. A voice vote was taken and the vote was four in favor, one opposed. The chair did not vote (and votes only in case of a tie).
The process going forward was discussed – whether to 1) go to members at the next annual meeting with Articles of Incorporation, bylaws ready to go, 2) ask for a vote now to approve incorporating, or 3) incorporate now and bring completed bylaws to next annual meeting for approval. The group felt the third option was allowed by the current bylaws and it was agreed upon. Jeanne will compose a memo (with help from the board) explaining the process to go to the membership as part of her next “Notes from the Chair” email to the membership.
5. Clinics: The board discussed the clinics summary distributed prior to the meeting. The board confirmed that we do want the LMSC to sponsor clinics, rather than having locally sponsored clinics suffice; there is \$1,000 in the 2015 budget for up to five clinics. Jeanne will check to see how many certified masters coaches we have in the LMSC [there are three Level 3, 13 Level 2 and one grandfathered]. The board agreed that the Coaches Chair should coordinate the clinics. Jeanne will contact the Coaches Chair.
6. Registration fees: Keegan noted that, as it is, we are not spending all of our budgeted funds. **MSA to maintain the level of the 2016 LMSC fee at \$10.** The 2016 full year fee for the USMS portion will increase \$2 to \$39. Prior to the registrar setting the fees for registration (which start 11/1/2015) we need to check with the clubs to confirm their fees. The club fees in 2015 were: MT Masters \$5, Kats \$5, Flathead Lake OW Swimmers \$0, and Bozeman \$0.
7. Jeanne shared an inquiry from Montana Senior Olympics (MSO) about possibly folding the 2016 MSO swim event into our state championship meet in March, as holding it in June in Helena with the other events would necessitate them swimming in the outdoor 50m pool. After correspondence with their director, Kay Newman, it appears that there would be too many obstacles for them. Board members from Bozeman noted that the meet next March will already be close to facility capacity.
8. **Next meetings:**
 - a. A special conference call board meeting was scheduled solely to discuss legislative proposals that will be considered at convention this year. The call will be **Monday, September 14, 2015, 7 pm**. An email reminder will be sent out soon with links to the legislative proposals and supporting documentation.
 - b. The next regular conference call board meeting will be held after convention and will include information about convention actions and other items relevant to the our LMSC. The call will be **Monday, October 19, 2015 at 7 pm**. An email reminder and agenda will be sent out in advance of the meeting.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.