
Montana LMSC Board Meeting

Chair: Jeanne Ensign

Minutes Recorded By: Karen LeFebre

Attendees: Jeanne Ensign, Chair; Mark Brooke, Vice Chair; Karen LeFebre, Secretary; Donn Livoni, Immediate Past Chair; Bill Hughes, Club Rep BSMT; Josh Huckaby, Top Ten Recorder; Susan Huckleby, Officials Chair; Paul Landes, Coaches Chair

Absent: Susan Sue Harkin, BOZE Club Rep; Annie Kirklin, Webmaster; Bill Hughes, Club Rep BSMT; Gayle Phillips, Membership Coordinator.

Once a quorum was reached at 7:08p, MDT, Mark Brooke called the meeting to order on November 5, 2024, via Team conference call.

- A. Approved the September 9, 2024, Board meeting minutes.
- B. Jeanne attended the USMS Convention via Zoom. Currently, members and USMS National Office are considering different formats to hold the USMS Conventions. The general viewpoint from members is that attending in person is a great option for face-to-face conversations, while others who may not have the time may attend meeting by Zoom. Also, the USMS Board (National Office) also chose a format for USMS Board meetings. The USMS Board chose to have closed Board meetings even though members want transparency and participation. However, the USMS Board also chose to have an open meeting to answer questions from members once a month. The USMS Board anticipates a 1.7% membership growth: 2025 59,000 members; 2026 60,000 members; and 2027 61,000 members. Jeanne announced that the current MT LMSC membership is 207.
- C. Mark shared his screen and reviewed the 2024 budget and the proposed 2025 budget. A projected \$564 loss is projected for 2025. The 2025 budget was approved.

Following the 2025 budget proposal, a discussion followed by proposing to give \$5 per registered swimmer out of the \$12 (MT LMSC funds derived from the USMS membership dues) to each USMS registered club. These funds would help clubs purchase kickboards and other items for clubs to conduct their business. Other comments suggested that many swimmers simply sign up for a club and do not workout with the club or pay dues, and consequently, these are swimmers that have no benefit or gain from these funds. Unattached swimmers also do not benefit from the proposed funding. There needs to be a comprehensive conversation on how to involve swimmers who are signed up with a club, but not actually participating with a club or swim group in addition to involving UNAT swimmers. As a result, there exists a large disconnect within the LMSC to involve more swimmers in sanctioned events. A March 31st swimmer registration deadline was proposed for the \$5 funding given to each club. After this deadline, no funds for swimmers registering would be given to each respective club.

- D. Election Year: Mark discussed the appointment process or nominating committee and the need for more participation from each swim club.

- E. Montana State Swim Meet: The Montana State Swim Meet will be held on March 22-23, 2025 at the Butte YMCA. Jeanne will be the Meet Director and Susan Huckleby will be the Head Referee. A discussion was held regarding balancing sprints and distance events during the meet instead of having mostly distance or sprint events during each day.

- F. Board Member Updates: Board Updates: Gayle via email 207 members, 74 men, 133 women, BOZE has 70 members, BSMT has 106 members, UNAT has 34 members; Susan is looking forward to learning about sanctioning events; Karen has no update; Donn says water is wet and his swimming group is doing great; Bozeman Masters update via email they have a new coach, Hans Dersch, who placed second in the 1992 Olympic 100m and 200m Breaststroke events and will coach twice a month. Josh mentioned that the Teddy Bear Swim Meet will be a dual-sanctioned swim meet; Paul signed up for the peer-to-peer group and was looking forward to learning more from that group.

The next LMSC meeting will be held Monday, January 6th at 7pm MDT. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.