



USAWE Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes



Meeting Date: Wednesday, 05.13.2026

Meeting Time: 4:00 p.m. Pacific, 5:00 p.m. Mountain, 6:00 p.m. Central, 7:00 p.m. Eastern

Meeting Frequency/Modality: 2nd Wednesday each Month held virtually via Zoom

Agenda: Sent 3.9.2026 and posted to USAWE.org > Corporate > Records > Meeting Minutes > Elected Board Minutes and filed in USAWE G-Drive > Board of Directors (BOD) > Board Meetings folder

Minutes: 4.8.2026 Minutes were e-approved by the BOD and posted to the USAWE.org > Corporate > Records > Meeting Minutes > Elected Board Minutes and filed in USAWE G-Drive > Board of Directors

NEXT BOD MEETING – 6.10.2026, virtually via Zoom. Submit Agenda items using the online [Board Agenda Item Request Form](#) located on the usawe.org website > Corporate > Records page.

Board of Directors		Attendance at Roll Call		
Executive Committee		Present	Present After Roll Call	Absent
President	Robin Bond	X		
Vice President	Glynn Hoekstra	X		
Secretary	Julie Alonzo	X		
Treasurer	Leesa Nero	X		
At Large Director 1	Amy Star	X		
At Large Director 2	Holly Linz	X		
Regional Directors				
R1 Director	Chesna Klimek	X		
R2 Director	Jerry Beatty		X (arrived at 4:02)	
R3 Director	Cyndi Harris	X		
R4 Director	Kiki Pantaze	X		
R5 Director	Sara Barnwell	X		
R6 Director	Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	X		
R7 Director	Maria Blackstone	X		

Current # of Board members = 13 | 7 BOD members required for Quorum.

BOD members in attendance at roll call = 12 | Quorum was established | BOD Meeting Attendance Log was updated.

Excused = notified Secretary and President in advance director (or chair) was unable to attend meeting.

Non-Voting USAWE Committee Chairs in attendance for all or part of the meeting					
Affiliate Organizations	Stephanie Dobiss	X	Licensed Officials	Christy Reich	X
Awards	TBA		Marketing and Promotion	Mary Young	X
Competitions	Laurie Ridgeway	X	Membership	Tracey Erway	
Elections	TBA		Professional Development	Nicole Chastain	X
Ethics	Dan Dahlke	X	Rules	Amy Star	X
Financial Oversight	Rita Edman	X	Website	Tracey Erway	X
Horse Recording	Mindy Finelli		Youth Development	Kasey Riddle	X
International Competition	Barbara Price	X			
Volunteer Coordinator	Emily Osborne	X			
Task Force Leads in attendance for all or part of the meeting					
Bylaw Review	After P&P reviews		Strategic Planning	Tracey Erway	X

Current # of Committee Chairs/Task Force Leads = 13; 12 in attendance.

Additional USAWE Members in attendance for all or part of the meeting: Alexa Maine, R2; Lynn Maloney, R6; Kenton Wright, R1; Heather Higgins, R1; Rita Edman; Derrick Richardson, R5; Rita Edman, R?

Call to Order: President Robin Bond called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM Pacific time. The Board went into Executive Session and returned to the regular Board meeting at 4:43 PM Pacific.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Newsletter submissions are due May 15, 2026.
- The Board has approved the recommendations of the International Committee for the team to represent the U.S. and USAWE at the 2026 World Championships. A public announcement of team members and alternates will be made as soon as all candidates have been informed of the decision.
- Congratulations to Doreen Atkinson, who has been recognized as a WAVE International Judge.
- We need to recruit a new Elections Chair and Committee and find a new Membership Chair and Committee. Jerry Beatty expressed interest in serving on Elections Committee, Stephanie Dobiss indicated she might be interested in serving as the Membership Committee. Derrick Richardson indicated he might be interested in serving as well. Robin will pass these names along to Emily Osborne.
- Reminder to committee chairs and Board members to review the USAWE website for areas related to their work for USAWE to ensure the information is complete and accurate.
- LOC still needs a judge willing to serve on the LOC.
- WAVE Qualifiers – Qualifying scores are accepted for two years prior to the World Championship Shows. Europe holds Qualifiers every year as they use those scores for the European Championship, Jr and Young Riders, and Masters. There has been discussion regarding the necessity of holding Qualifiers for the remainder of this year and for 2027. Show managers that are interested in hosting Qualifiers should contact the Competitions Committee for scheduling and preliminary steps. Please do not contact WAVE. WAVE has repeatedly asked that communication come from USAWE and not individuals.
- The Board thanked Lynn Maloney for her years of service as Awards Chair and accepted her resignation, effective May 15, 2026.

The following motion was voted on during the Executive Session:

INTERNATIONAL TEAM SELECTION

The Board has approved the International Committee’s unanimous selection recommendations and have named the following people to the U.S. Team to compete at the 2026 World Championships. The Board will make the formal announcement of team members and alternates as soon as the International Committee has had the opportunity to contact all candidates.

BARBARA PRICE, CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE, made a motion; JERRY BEATTY, R2 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #1 (in Closed Session) : Approve the International Committee’s recommendation of appointing the following people to the U.S. Team to compete at the 2026 World Championships: **Team Members:** Kenton Wright, Kimberlee Barker, Matt French, Robin Bond, (listed in alphabetical order by first name, not in any ranking). **Team Alternates:** Pati Pierucci – Alternate #1; Stephanie Hayes – Alternate #2. The Board will make the formal announcement of team members and alternates as soon as the International Committee has had the opportunity to contact all candidates with a uniform email (the announcement is expected to go out tomorrow morning).

→ **Motion passed by roll call vote with 9 in favor (A), 3 opposed, 0 abstained, 1 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	Opposed	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	Opposed	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynn Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	Recused
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	Opposed		



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TREASURER'S REPORT

In advance of the meeting, Treasurer Leesa Nero had provided the Board with a financial report. The Board discussed briefly.

GLYNNA HOEKSTRA, VICE PRESIDENT, made a motion; SARA BARNWELL, R5 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #1: Approve renewal of CD with 3.30% for 6 months.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

AMY STAR, AT-LARGE DIRECTOR 1, made a motion; CYNDI HARRIS, R3 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #2: Approve the 05.13.26 Treasurer's Report, as submitted by Treasurer Leesa Nero.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		



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USAWE TREASURERS REPORT
Report for May 13, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting

Cash Assets as of April 30, 2026 are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Name and Amount. Rows include Chase Bank Checking, Chase Bank Savings, Chase Bank CD #1 Capital Reserves, and Chase Bank CD #2 Emergency Reserves.

Previous Months Cash Funds Reported:

Table with 4 columns: Month, Amount, Month, Amount. Rows list months from December 2025 to January 2027 with corresponding dollar amounts.

NOTE = Due to submitting these reports in time for each BOD Meeting Agenda, cash on hand and any additional financial reports (quarterly), are based on the latest monthly reconciled bank statement.

- (1) Chase CDs are earning interest on the matured CD totals. They do not create monthly bank statements for reconciliation for these accounts. The interest earned to date will not show in QuickBooks, or the above cash on hand amounts, until after the maturity date noted to the side. CD #2 matures on May 10, 2026. Treasurer checked Chase current CD rates on May 8th and recommends renewing it for 6 months at 3.30%.
(2) Majority of expenses during April were for CPA Tax Return, Website, LOC Ringside Intensive #1 and #2, WAWE Competitor Declaration Fees, U.S. Bank Credit Card payment and additional 2025 Awards Expenses. Th U.S. Bank Credit Card shows a current balance of \$192.55 for April MailChimp, Adobe Acrobat Pro, Bannerbuzz, and Google One Workspace which will be paid by May 24, 2026.

Reports:

- 2026 1st Quarter Financial Report
2026 Actuals vs. Budget for Month of April
2026 Actuals vs. Budget for January through April

Respectfully submitted,
Leesa Nero, Treasurer

AMY STAR, AT-LARGE DIRECTOR 1, made a motion; SARA BARNWELL, R5 DIRECTOR , seconded

Motion #3: Accept the Financial Oversight Report provided to the Board.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

STOREFRONT

JULIE ALONZO, SECRETARY, made a motion; AMY STAR, AT-LARGE DIRECTOR 1, seconded

Motion #4: Approve the storefront proposal from Another Turn Tack for a one-year commitment.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

SARA BARNWELL, R5 DIRECTOR, made a motion; CHESNA KLIMEK, R1 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #5: Appoint Beth Harrison, R6, as Chair of the Professional Development Committee, effective immediately.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

JULIE ALONZO, SECRETARY, made a motion; CHESNA KLIMEK, R1 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #6: Appoint Dawnn Repp to the Youth Development Committee, effective immediately.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

JUDGE ADVANCEMENTS

GLYNNA HOEKSTRA, VICE PRESIDENT made a motion; CYNDI HARRIS, R3 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #7: Accept the recommendation of the LOC to approve the advancement of judges Tracey Erway and Lydia Taylor from “r” to “R”, effective immediately.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE EXPENSE REQUEST TO PAY FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEES

The International Committee has successfully raised over \$15,000 toward expenses, which is substantially more than estimated in their original budget planning.

AMY STAR, AT-LARGE DIRECTOR 1, made a motion; SARA BARNWELL, R5 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #8: Approve adding \$2,600 (2,200 Euro) to the International Committee 2026 budget to cover show entry fees for the International Team at the WAVE World Championship.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		



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AWARDS COMMITTEE EXPENSE REQUEST TO PAY LIFETIME AWARD MEDALS AND PINS

AMY STAR, AT-LARGE DIRECTOR 1, made a motion; SARA BARNWELL, R5 DIRECTOR, seconded

Motion #9: Approve adding \$3000 to the Awards Committee 2026 budget to cover Lifetime Award medals and pins.

→ **Motion passed by voice vote with 13 in favor (A), 0 opposed, 0 abstained, 0 recused, 0 absent.**

Director	Vote	Director	Vote
R1 Director – Chesna Klimek	A	At Large Director 1 – Amy Star	A
R2 Director – Jerry Beatty	A	At Large Director 2 – Holly Linz	A
R3 Director – Cyndi Harris	A	Treasurer – Leesa Nero	A
R4 Director – Kiki Pantaze	A	Secretary – Julie Alonzo	A
R5 Director – Sara Barnwell	A	Vice President – Glynna Hoekstra	A
R6 Director – Rebecca Stankiewicz Gabel	A	President – Robin Bond	A
R7 Director – Maria Blackstone	A		

The Board meeting was adjourned at 5:38 PM, Pacific.

Minutes submitted by USAWE Secretary Julie Alonzo

The next Board meeting will be June 10, at 4:00 pm Pacific.