

**Montana Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2025 | Virtual**

Call to Order, Roll Call: Executive Director Chaley Harney, on behalf of President Andy Kellom, called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m., welcomed attendees, and conducted roll call.

Members Present: Andy Kellom (President), Montana Cattle Feeders; Travis Choat (Vice President), Montana Stockgrowers Association; Wes Jensen, Montana Farm Bureau Federation; Charlie Hollenbeck, Montana Meat Processors Association; Corey Schultz, Montana Livestock Auction Market Association; Debbie Andersen, Montana Dairy Association; Jake Callantine, Montana Angus Association; Pamela Bilyeu, Montana CattleWomen Inc.; Justin Iverson, Montana Stockgrowers Association; Trent Stoltz, Montana Farmers Union Andy Tuss, Montana Food Distributors Association; Brett Dailey, ex-officio. Staff: Chaley Harney, Sue Broyles, Tammy Bridges, Al Koenig, Anna Sponheim. Kinley Hartman, USDA.

Not present- Ken Morris, Montana Cattlemen's Association; Ben Peterson, CBB; Verna Billedeaux, CBB.

Approval of Agenda: Executive Director Chaley Harney asked if there were any additions or amendments to the agenda. Jake Callantine moved to approve and Justin Iverson seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: Executive Director Chaley Harney asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made to the minutes from the July 14, 2025 meeting. Jake Callantine moved to approve the minutes as mailed and Justin Iverson seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Update: Business Manager Sue Broyles shared MBC's financial standing as of August 5, 2025 with the members.

Funding Request Preview, Scoring & Schedule

Chaley Harney reviewed the Project Funding Requests received for fiscal year 2026, schedule options for hearing the funding presentations, scoring instructions, and details for the in-person meeting on August 28-29. The board reviewed two schedule options for hearing funding requests since this will be the first time presentations are given to the full board and the high volume of requests. The board chose to hear all requests in one day. The Budget Committee and Board Business Meeting will be on the second day. All board members will receive hard copies of the funding requests and evaluations and will complete scoring of the funding requests before arriving at the August 28 presentation meeting.

MTN/Scripps Media Big Sky Football Presentation

MTN presented a special opportunity for the board's consideration that included being the Pregame Show Sponsor of Big Sky Football, including basketball and rodeo opportunities for \$114,000. The request included broadcast television and digital opportunities for eight months.

The board discussed the presentation. Andy Tuss called for a vote. Executive Director Chaley Harney called for a voice vote in favor of the sponsorship. The board unanimously voted against the sponsorship. Chaley Harney will share feedback with MTN thanking them for the opportunity but that the board was not comfortable making that large of a financial commitment.

Adjournment: Executive Director Chaley Harney asked if there was any further business to come before the board and seeing none he called for adjournment. Jake Callantine moved, and Wes Jensen seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

Next Meeting: August: 28-29: in-person