<u>M I N U T E S</u>

IGRA Board of Directors
January 16, 2026
10:00 AM
The Flamingo Hotel – Convention Center
Third Floor – Virginia City II

The meeting was called to order at 1000am by President Brian Helander.
Secretary Gene Fraikes conducted a roll call and advised a quorum was present.
Chuck Browning made a motion and was seconded to approve the meeting minutes from the November 13, 2025, November 16, 2025 and December 2, 2025 as received. Motion carried.

<u>OFFICER REPORTS</u>

President Brian Helander gave a verbal report starting with congratulating Chuck Browning for being inducted to the Compete Mag Hall of Legends. Brian thanked everyone who has been working in the background to keep things moving forward in all areas. Brian also welcomed Kami Boles as the incoming Vice President and Steve Housley the new Trustee from UGRA. Brian reported that lunch will be on your own.

Vice President Kami Boles read a written report. See attached report

Secretary Gene Fraikes gave a verbal report asking that any associations that have not already sent a current membership list in the proper format do so as soon as possible as these will be needed for the AGRA rodeo in February. Gene reported that all minutes from 2025 meetings, including minutes from Convention 2025 have been distributed via email. It was also reported that all governing documents for IGRA have been updated with the new information from convention. Gene reported that he could email them to anyone that wanted them, but we were still having challenges getting them posted to IGRA.Com. Gene reported that the new IGRA Rodeo Rule books were ordered and that he had received word that they were finished and would be picked up on Monday when he returned home from this meeting.

Treasurer David Hill reported that he was having email issues and therefore no financials were available for December. David reported on account balances and various numbers he had access to from the November 2025 financials. David also reported that we did receive the $5000 grant from city of Reno.

Executive Director Tommy Channel was unable to attend the meeting. President Brian Helander advised that we are still waiting for the quote for the insurance. David Hill advised that he did know that the D&O will be same as last year but was still working on the liability portion. Guy Puglisi made the motion and seconded by Chuck Browning to use the same point system as in previous years to distribute the cost of the insurance and proceed with the insurance cost distribution to associations. Executive Director was called on the phone for questions concerning the insurance quote. It was noted during discussion that the point system would access an association 1 point per rodeo (with or without an accompanying rodeo school) ¼ point for a stand-alone rodeo schools and ½ point each for Convention, University and other events. Motion carried.

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Committee Reports No Action

President reported the Hall of Fame chair for 2026 will be Michael Vrooman. The previous chair Roger Bergman advised that nominations for 2026 inductees would be due no later than 3/1/2026.

Thom Sloan 2026 Public Relations chair gave an overview of his written report which is attached. He also reported that we do have some interest from a UK film company in doing some work with one of our Cowgirls.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

External Professional Audit

Brian Helander talked about the idea of doing a professional external audit and wanted to know if we might want to do that. He talked about how this was common among 501c3 organizations and would look good to the public. A motion was made by Chuck Browning to secure bids to do the external audit and seconded by Sherry Mullen. Brian asked for a volunteer to lead this search. It was determined that Michael Lentz would take the lead getting these quotes. Motion carried.

Chuck Browning made a motion and was second by Steve Housley to have the Executive Board of of Directors select the auditor with a $5000 cap on the cost without additional board approval. Motion carried.

Corporate Auditor selection

President Brian Helander requested names of people to do the IGRA internal audits for 2026. It was discussed that Tom Truitt had done the audits for the past 3 years and the past practice is to not allow anyone to do the audits more than 3 years in a row. David Hill advised that he could reach out to Ed Barry to see if he would be interested. Motion was made by Steve Housley and seconded by Chuck Browning to ask Ed Barry to be the 2026 Corporate Auditor for 2026. Motion carried.

RMS Re-Factoring Project

Brian Helander asked Guy Puglisi for a report on where things stand with this project. Guy advised that the auditors were planning to get together and document the requirements for the vendor in the near future.

WGRF Rodeo Director Selection Process

Brian Helander reported that we have an assistant rodeo director vacancy and that he felt we did not have a process to fill vacancies. Brian asked Robert Thurtell to present a draft proposal for a way to make these selections. Robert presented his suggestions. Brian stated he did not feel we should rush into appointing someone to the vacancy. Brian opened the meeting up for discussion concerning the process. After much discussion, Chris Tobin made a motion second by Weston Crow-Tucker to open applications for the Assistant Rodeo Director position for WGRF and fill the position with our current

process while the new process is being developed. At this time the chair called for a 10 min break at 1120am. Reconvened at 1130am.
Without objection. Michael Lentz requested that the date of March 1, 2026 be set as a deadline for the applications requested through the Board of Directors and social media. and then call a special meeting to fill the position. Motion passed.

<u>2026 Committee Chairs</u>
Brian Helander advised that the list of chairs was sent out. There are a few chairs that still need to be filled and will update the list as we move forward. The current list is attached to these minutes. The Board of Directors are required to approve the appointment of the WGRF Committee Chair. Robert Thurtell moved to approve Sammy VanGalder as WGRF committee chair and second by Chuck Browning. Motion carried.

<u>WGRF 2026 Report</u>
Sammy Van Galder reviewed his report which is attached. Sammy also presented the WGRF 2026 stock contract for approval. As this is a recommendation from a committee it comes to the board as a motion to approve the contract. Motion carried.

<u>Cultural Sponge Guest</u>
Trustee Chuck Browning introduced a special guest Heather Brown with Cultural Sponge. Heather made a PowerPoint presentation concerning the consolidation of all of our domains.

<u>Compete Sports Network</u>
Brian Helander introduced Trayer from Compete Sports Network who spoke to the IGRA Boad of Directors concerning what Compete Sports Network could do for IGRA and individual associations.

<u>IMG Special Guest</u>
Mary from IMG introduced herself to the Board of Directors.

Brian recessed the meeting at 1230pm
Reconvened at 130pm

<u>Presentation for Convention 2027</u>
Doug Graff presented a proposal for convention 2027. The proposal was to hold it at The Golden Nugget in Las Vegas. Highlighted items were parking fee waived as well as resort fee waived. Proposal attached. Chris Tobin moved to have 2027 convention in Las Vegas and seconded. Motion carried.

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Brian Helander asked for voluntaries to work with Robert Thurtell to develop the process for filing future vacancies in the WGRF rodeo directors team. Those Trustees were Daniel Brison, Weston Crow-Tucker, Chris Tobin, Dave Henzel, Chuck Browning and Steven Housley.

David Hill advised that he heard back from Ed Barry and he was willing to be the Corporate Auditor. David Hill made a motion and was seconded that Ed Barry be the Corporate Auditor for 2026. Motion carried.

Donation to Sundance Organization

Roger Bergmann gave a review of the attached report concerning the success of the partnership between IGRA and the Sundance organization. After some discussion Chuck Browning made a motion, seconded by Tony Valdez, that IGRA donate $3,000 to the Sundance Association. Michael Lentz requested it be $10,000 and without objection. Motion passed.

Sponsorship Report

Thom Sloan gave an overview of his report which is attached concerning the IMG partnership. We will send out the contract to the Board of Directors and to voted on at the next board meeting. This contract is included in these minutes.

IGRA.COM update

Brian Helander gave a verbal update highlighting the issues. It was discovered when trying to get Alexander Saites the required permissions to take over IGRA.com that the owner of those permissions was Larry Linstrom who is no longer associated with IGRA. It was reported that this has been recently resolved but it could take up to 30 days for everything to be processed. A discussion was had to determine what we might be able to do to make things available to people online. It was decided that the Secretary would forward the governing documents to Scott Korff to post on gay-rodeo.net.

ASGRA Rodeo School Support

President Brian Helander asked the VP Kami Boles to conduct the business concerning this Rodeo School. Michael Lentz advised that they were planning to hold their rodeo school in conjunction with the Keystone State Rodeo which would result in a date change. Chuck Browning made a motion to approve the rodeo school support and was seconded by Steve Housley. There was discussion concerning some past issues with Keystone State Rodeo producers and Michael Lentz advised that he feels those issues were resolved. Michael Lentz advised that the date has changed to August 19th instead of August 19-20, and the location has changed. Motion passed.

Conflict of Interest statements

Secretary Gene Fraikes advised that the conflict-of-interest statements were sent out with the agenda. It was reported that most people did not receive them. They were resent at that time. Gene sent around a sheet to be signed by the members that they had received them and if they had conflicts of interest they would need to disclose. Gene Fraikes and Brian Helander both advised that their conflicts of interest that had been addressed in previous years had not changed this year.

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<u>Strategic Planning/Capital Campaign</u>

Mark Arnold presented the possibility of IGRA creating a strategic plan and capital campaign. The plan attached was sent out to the BOD and will be addressed at the April board meeting. Brian asked for volunteers to help with the Strategic Planning and Capital Campaign. Those volunteering for the Capital Campaign committee were David Hill, Chuck Browning, Robert Thurtell, Sherry Mullen and Thom Sloan. For the Strategic Planning committee, Ben Birkner, Weston Crow-Tucker, Ken Hall and Kami Boles. These people will assist Mark Arnold.

Announcements were made by each association Trustee.

Meeting was adjourned at 305pm