

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Minutes – February 12, 2014  
Location – Telephone Conference Call**

**Board Members present:** Jack Chambers (President), Brian Solan (Vice President), Max Bauer, Jr. (Treasurer), Jeff Mortensen (Secretary), Shane Clouse, Steve Kline, Bruce Sterling, & Jim Weatherly (Executive Director).

**Board Member absent:** Mike Colpo, Tom Carlsen

**Members present:** Doug Dreeszen, Tom Powers

**Call to Order:** The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Jack Chambers at 6:31 p.m.

**Minutes:** Approval of the December 10, 2013 Board Meeting minutes, conducted via a telephone conference call. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the December 10, 2013 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Max Bauer reported cash on hand of \$94,008.64. Accounts payable include Grant In Aids (GIA) of \$15,000.00: GIA 12-8 Cutoff herd habitat improvements \$5,000, GIA 13-12 Lazy J Cross Conservation Easement \$5,000, & GIA 13-14 Priscilla Peak Habitat Improvements \$5,000.

**Membership:** Current membership is 313 including 160 Life Members.

**Informational:**

- Bruce Sterling reported that the Wildhorse Island capture is behind schedule due to weather. Currently the Wildhorse Island capture is likely to occur in late February, 2014, with approximately 100 sheep to be captured and moved to augment the Bull River (Berray Mountain) and Kootenai Falls herds.
- The Montana FWP Commission meets on February 13, 2014. The Commission finalized regulations for 2014-2015 hunting seasons, including a chance of opening the Highlands (closed since 1994), and adding a permit for the Anaconda herd.
- The Board discussed a proposal by Commissioner Vermillion and others to establish an experimental wild sheep herd in the Bridger Mountains. The existing sheep strategy does not address this option and the consensus of the Board is to suggest a better location with fewer domestics if this were to be pursued.
- Jim Weatherly and several Board members were in Reno for the Sheep Show, and reported that the Montana tag auctioned for \$320,000.00, with a total gross for the event of \$5 million. Steve Kline suggested that the 2015 MT WSF include a detailed map showing Montana wild sheep herd ranges.
- The board was updated relative to the Bear Trust educational program, with the suggestion to refer to National to push the program in Montana schools.
- The Oregon chapter is seeking a cape or full body hide for a mount in their possession. Bruce Sterling will check with FWP regarding the potential to obtain one.

- Member Doug Dreezen pointed out a comment included in an article in the most recent National WSF magazine stating that auction tags allow residents to obtain licenses at a reduced level. Mr. Dreezen indicated that this was a false statement and suggested that National potentially retract or correct. Jim Weatherly indicated that he would visit with Gray Thornton.

#### **Old Business:**

- Bruce Sterling reported that the Madison transplant has been delayed for at least one year. Three sheep have died from pneumonia and others are symptomatic. FWP is uncertain of the impact to the herd and will monitor through the year to determine whether to go with the operation next winter.

#### **New Business:**

- Plans for the Missoula fundraiser continue with the following informational updates:

Approximately 170 Missoula school children will attend an educational event commencing at noon on Friday, February 28. The board discussed funding the bus transport fee of \$225.00.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the MT WSF fund the bus fee of \$225.00 if we are unable to get Beach Transportation to donate the cost of transportation. Motion passed.

Jim Weatherly reported that 60 banquet tickets have been sold to date. Further at this point there are 24 live auction items and less than 30 silent auction items.

Shane Clouse confirmed that television and radio ads have been arranged at cost of \$600.00, with the broadcasters matching that amount, with the ads to run the week of February 17 - 23. A youth elk hunt near Hall, Montana has been arranged for the fundraiser. Further Shane is arranging for an audio system.

Exhibitors will include Mike Colpo, Mountain Spirit Outfitters, Mrs. Gilcrest, and the sheep camp.

The Board discussed obtaining a drop camp caribou hunt in Alaska with Northern Air, to be included in the fundraiser live auction. The outfitter will donate a hunt if the Foundation purchases one, either a \$2,250.00 option with no camp provided, or a \$3,250.00 hunt with an outfitted camp. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the MT WSF purchase a hunt with an outfitted camp, with the second hunt be donated. Motion passed.

The next fundraiser committee meeting was set for February 19, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

- Member Tom Powers requested a \$450.00 scholarship for the Theodore Roosevelt youth summer camp to be held at the Boone and Crockett Ranch. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the MT WSF fund this scholarship. Motion passed.
- Discussion regarding a 2015 site for the fundraiser took place, with Helena tentatively selected. Brian Solan will investigate venues and dates and report back to the board.

**Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be Saturday, March 1, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in Missoula.

**Adjourned:** The Meeting of the Board of Directors as adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Mortensen*

Jeff Mortensen, Secretary  
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation