

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes – April 23, 2017
Location – Conference call**

Board Members present: Brian Solan (President), Max Bauer, Jr. (Treasurer), Jeff Mortensen (Secretary), Tom Grimes, Grant Winn II, Mike Colpo, Shane Clouse, & D.J. Berg. Director absent: Justin Spring.

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Brian Solan at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of the December 16, 2016 Board Meeting minutes, held at Wild Sheep Foundation headquarters. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the December 16, 2016 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals \$173,000.00. Accounts payable include Grants In Aid (GIA) of \$30,000.00: GIA 15-11 South Dakota Disease Study \$10,000 over 2016 & 2017, 2018, & GIA 16-14 Kurt Alt's efforts.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 446 including 261 Life Members and 185 Regular Members.

Informational:

- Net income from the 25th Annual MT WSF Fundraiser is \$53,300.00 after all bills have been paid. Tom Grimes was thanked for his efforts as Fundraiser Chairman.
- Kurt Alt supplied a summary of recent activities. The Sheep Symposium was very successful.
- MSU updated the Board relative to the work of Dr. Garrott and his associates.
- A copy of the annual report to the Montana Secretary of State was shared with the Board.
- The final draft of the comment letter sent to the Beaverhead Forest regarding the MOA related to domestic sheep was discussed.
- Montana Biological Weed Control Project provided an update of activities and requested a donation for 2017. After discussion, and upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$1,000.00 donation under GIA 17-2.

Open/Old Issues:

- GIA 16-5 Anaconda fencing proposal was discussed, with Brian Solan to work on a date.
- Garrity WMA land purchase near Anaconda. Per Mr. Solan, the new FWP Biologist for the area is supporting a re-start of this proposal. Additional funding is being pursued.
- The ten-year Petty Creek project spearheaded by the USFS as discussed, with Shane Clouse and Justin Spring following closely as it develops. After discussion and upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$2,000.00 one-time donation for the project under GIA 17-3.
- A re-build of the MT WSF website was discussed, with ongoing discussions with Traci Ulberg regarding a budget. Shane Clouse will check into a potential for University students to work on the project. As well, Levi Bowler is a potential resource to assist or advise.

- Proposed dates for the 2018 Fundraiser are March 9 & 10, 2018 in Bozeman, with the Gran Tree and the Commons both saving the dates at this time. A face-to-face Board meeting was proposed for mid-May 2017 to tour the sites and make a final decision as to location. Discussion took place regarding a Life Member Sheep Hunt drawing for the 2018 Fundraiser. Mike Colpo has agreed to provide a dall sheep hunt for \$12,000.00. Board members were concerned that this drawing may be un-sustainable long-term depending on revenue from new Life Memberships. Following lengthy discussion, upon motion and second, the Board voted to proceed with the program for one more year, with review to take place after the 2018 event.
- The Chapter & Affiliates Summit is set for June 21 - 23, 2017 in Polson, Montana at the KwaTaqNuk Resort. Board members attending include Clouse, Bauer, Mortensen, Solan, and Berg. Lodging is to be funded by the Chapter. Boat transportation to Wild Horse Island is needed.
- The Board discussed a proposal to assist in the purchase of a parcel of wild sheep habitat near Plains, Montana. Purchase price is thought to be \$40,000.00 for 400 acres. Shane Clouse is to discuss with a Stimson Lumber representative. This is a possible project for the Chapter and Affiliates Summit.
- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is proposed for the week of May 15 – 19, 2017 to be held at Wild Sheep Foundation headquarters.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation