

## **MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Minutes –December 16, 2016**

**Location – Wild Sheep Foundation headquarters, Bozeman Montana**

**Board Members present:** Brian Solan (President), Max Bauer, Jr. (Treasurer) – by phone, Jeff Mortensen (Secretary), Tom Grimes, Grant Winn II, & D.J. Berg. Directors absent: Mike Colpo, Justin Spring, and Shane Clouse. Also present was Cory Peirsol, and by phone Kurt Alt.

**Call to Order:** The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Brian Solan at 11:15 a.m.

**Minutes:** Approval of the November 2, 2016 Board Meeting minutes, held via telephone conference call. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the November 2, 2016 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cash on hand totals \$121,000.00. Accounts payable include Grants In Aid (GIA) of \$21,725.00: GIA 15-11 South Dakota Disease Study \$10,000 over 2016 & 2017, 2017, & Life Member Raffle Sheep Hunt \$11,725.00

**Secretary's Report of Membership:** Current membership is 409 including 238 Life Members and 171 Regular Members.

#### **Informational:**

- The Wild Sheep die-off at the National Bison Range was discussed, with Kurt Alt indicating that there is no history of an all-age die-off. As well there are no documented instances of contact with domestics. Currently approximately 90% tested for MOvi. Research is planned.
- USFS provided an update of the success of the Paradise habitat burn, which was partially funded by MTWSF. Results were positive, with before and after photos provided.

#### **Open/Old Issues:**

- GIA 16-5 Anaconda fencing proposal is to be re-visited in mid-2017.
- GIA 16-15 "Giving Back" TV show funding request. A general discussion took place with no commitment for funding at this time.
- GIA 16-16 Sportmen's Alliance funding request. Historically has been funded. Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved a \$2,000.00 donation.
- Garrity WMA land purchase near Anaconda. Per Mr. Solan, FWP Biologist is supporting a re-start of this proposal, with potential funding to come from NRD and the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Fund. Future MTWSF funding is likely to be requested.
- Sportmen's Coalition Social is to be held January 10 at 6:00 p.m. at the Brewhouse in Helena. The Board is welcome to attend.
- MOGA Convention to be held January 13 & 14, 2017 in Helena. MT WSF has arranged to set up the booth, with the registration fee previously approved by the Board on November 2, 2016.
- WSF Sheep Show January 19 – 21, 2017 in Reno. Board members Solan, Winn, Bauer, and Mortensen plan to attend.

- Sportsmen’s Coalition Legislative Lunch is set for February 1, 2017 in the Capitol Rotunda in Helena, with the MTWSF booth to be in place.
- Wild/Domestic Sheep Expert Symposium is planned for February 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> in Helena, with MTWGA, MT FWP, WSF, and MTWSF involved. Kurt Alt, Kevin Hurley of WSF are to attend.
- MTWSF/MTWGA Working Group. Kurt Alt is preparing a draft comment for the Gravelly Range MOU proposal. MTFWP is to be approached to re-establish a Sheep and Goat Working Group, which had previously been disbanded.
- Executive Secretary/Director task list. A lengthy discussion took place regarding disseminating tasks currently handled by President Solan, including responsibilities to be assigned to Traci Ulberg on a contract basis. As well, Kurt Alt’s dual role with WSF and MTWSF as discussed. Upon motion and second, the amount of \$20,000.00 was approved by the Board to fund a portion of Mr. Alt’s work. No forward commitment was approved.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Chapter and Affiliate Summit scheduled for June 22 – 24, 2017 at KwaTaqNuk Resort, Polson, Montana. A permit has been obtained from State Parks to visit Wild Horse Island.
- 25th Annual MTWSF Banquet and Fundraiser is March 3 & 4, 2017 at the Gran Tree Inn, Bozeman, MT. Tom Grimes is Fundraiser Chair, with Volunteers including Cory Piersol and Erika Putnam, along with the MTWSF Board.
  
- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is proposed for Monday, January 16, 2017.

**Adjourned:** The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Mortensen*

Secretary  
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation