

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes –September 8, 2016
Location – Telephone Conference Call**

Board Members present: Brian Solan (President), Max Bauer, Jr. (Treasurer), Jeff Mortensen (Secretary), Tom Grimes, Grant Winn, & Shane Clouse. Directors absent: Justin Spring, Mike Colpo, & Bruce Sterling

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Brian Solan at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of the June 16, 2016 Board Meeting minutes, held via telephone conference call.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the June 16, 2016 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals \$123,836.00. Accounts payable include Grants In Aid (GIA) of \$24,075.00: GIA 15-11 South Dakota Disease Study \$10,000 over 2016 & 2017, 2017, Life Member Raffle Sheep Hunt \$11,725.00, GIA 16-9 Youth Camps \$1,350.00, and GIA 16-6 WSF Chapter Summit \$1,000.00.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 405 including 234 Life Members.

Informational:

- Board Election – Grant Winn, Max Bauer, and Bruce Sterling terms are up. Sterling is term limited out. Members expressing interest include Levi Bowler, Kalispell; DJ Berg, Helena; and Luke Coccoli. Upon a motion and second, Winn, Bauer, Bowler, Berg, and Coccoli were nominated for the upcoming Board election.
- Brian Solan attended the recent Sporting Organization Meeting. RMEF continues to work on legislation to allow credit card usage for benefit raffles.

Old Business:

- GIA 16-4 Weed Funding Proposal. The Board, upon motion and second approved \$500 for each of the two requests, for a total of \$1,000.00.
- GIA 16-5 Anaconda fencing proposal. The Board again discussed mustering volunteers from the Board and Membership to complete this project. Brian Solan is to follow up, including a discussion with the Anaconda Sportsmen.

New Business:

- Brian Solan presented an outline for future interaction with MTWGA, proposing quarterly meetings. As well, a list of prospective groups and agencies to be invited was presented. Brian will forward to the Wool Growers for review. Tom Grimes and Shane Clouse volunteered to sit on the Committee, along with Mr. Solan.
- GIA -16-7 MT Trappers Association I-177 funding request. Consensus is that the trapping initiative has negative implications for all wildlife organizations. It was noted that WSF opposes I-177. Upon Motion and Second the amount of \$2,500.00 was approved, with the requirement

that MTWSF needs to register with Montana Elections Officials in connection with the contribution.

- The Board discussed hiring a paid executive director to assist with membership, fundraising, social media, and mailings; with the intent to free up the Chairs and Board to act in a more strategic role. Brian will take a look at Tracy's existing contract and contact WSF staff.
 - The potential for WSF to handle membership was floated, however the consensus of the Board was to pass on the partnership at this time. Specifically MTWSF would need to continue to handle non-WSF members on an ongoing basis.
 - The 10th Annual Chapter and Affiliate Summit is scheduled for June 22 – 24, 2017 in Polson, Montana. Brian Solan will visit KwaTaqNuk Resort and the Red Lion with Jim Weatherly shortly.
 - MTWSF will hold its 25th Annual Fundraiser March 3 – 4, 2017 at the Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman. The Board was reminded to work on donations well in advance.
 - President Solan proposed Board Committees to handle fundraising, education, membership, finance, and the Wild/Domestic sheep Working Group. No decisions were made at this time.
 - Proposal for funding for the multi-year Petty Creek project is in the works. Shane Clouse attended an early meeting with the various stakeholders, with a positive report.
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- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is proposed for October 19, 2016, time and location to be determined.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation