

**MONTANA WILDSHEEP FOUNDATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Minutes- September 3, 2013**

**Location: Telephone Conference Call**

**Board Members Present:** Mike Menke (President), Jack Chambers (Vice President), Doug Dreeszen (Secretary), Brian Solan (Treasurer), Shane Clouse, Glenn Erickson, Jeff Mortensen, Jim Weatherly (Executive Director)

**Board Members Absent:** Mike Colpo (Called in, but lost connection), Steve Kline

**Newly Elected Board Members Present:** Max Bauer, Tom Carlson, Bruce Sterling

**Members Present:** None

**Call to Order:** The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Menke at 6:34 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The Minutes of the June 19, 2013, Board Meeting, a telephone conference call. The Minutes of the July 11, 2013, a Special Board of Directors Nomination Meeting, a telephone conference call.

**Motion: It was moved and seconded the June 19 and July 11 minutes are approved, as written.**

**Motion Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** J. Weatherly reported that cash on hand is \$96,404.95. Accounts payable include two Grant in Aids for \$10,000.00. 1-Lazy J Cross for \$5,000.00 and 2- Plains Controlled Burn for \$5,000.00.

**Membership:** We currently have 291 members including 159 life members. J. Weatherly reported that we have picked up six new members resulting from the mailing to the 2013 bighorn sheep license holders.

**Informational:**

- **Missouri Breaks Access:** The FWP has obtained access for bighorn sheep hunters in H.D. 680 on two ranches located on the north side of the Missouri River. The ranches providing access with certain restrictions are the Sanford and Brewer Ranches.
- **Vinkey/Boccardori Funding for Youth Education Project:** Biologist's Ray Vinkey and Vanna Boccardori, MT FWP sent out a request for funding from other conservation organizations for a project they are working on. They are not necessarily looking for funding from us; however, we are open to assist them if needed. Their project is printing the books and DVD's, "Montana's Wildlife Legacy" and "Back From The Brink", and making them available in Montana Schools.
- **Cherry Creek Road Access south of Big Timber, MT:** This road has been closed for years and with the cooperation of the Landowner, the Forest Service and local Sportsman's Group's, the road will provide access into a portion of Gallatin National Forest.

**Montana Wildsheep Foundation**

**Board of Directors Meeting- September 3, 2013**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

- Blue Eyed Nellie Wildlife Management Area Sign Installation: We provided funding for a sign to be erected by an Eagle Scout at Blue Eyed Nellie. The sign was installed by the Eagle Scout on August 24 and 25. After further discussion, it was decided that we would extend our appreciation to the Eagle Scout, Jackson Servheen and his younger brother, Boy Scout Calvin Servheen and give them Youth Memberships to MT WSF.
- Anaconda Fence Project: The Sestrich family is a landowner near Anaconda, MT, where bighorn sheep have been observed and tangled in an old fence on their property. Through the efforts of Ray Vinkey, the local FWP biologist, and the Anaconda Sportsman Club a project is scheduled for September 26 to remove this dangerous fence and erect a new fence. The new fencing material will be provided by the landowner. They could use some help from us on this project.
- Booth at Kalispell Cabela's Grand Opening: M. Menke reported that the new Cabela's Store in Kalispell is scheduled for grand opening in the fall of 2013 and they are offering free booth space to us during their grand opening. M.Menke will follow up on this.
- Bear Trust International Educational Project: Tom Carson reported that he has been in contact with this organization and that they provide conservation education for schools with emphasis towards science, technology and math. National WSF has provided \$10,000.00, towards funding. Part of the study plan is Montana bighorn sheep and the dangers of interaction of domestic sheep with bighorn sheep. This is a good way to get the word out and inform people of this situation. We look forward being a part of this and after they put together a funding proposal, will be in contact with them.
- Future MT WSF Summer Meeting/Picnic: S. Clouse reported that he and Tom Powers have been involved with the recent Youth Educational Project and that part of this was a field day spent at the Boone & Crockett Ranch near Dupuyor, MT. Resulting from this association there might be an opportunity to have a summer get together at the B & C Ranch. S. Clouse will follow up on this and report back to the Board.

**Old Business:**

- Lazy J Cross Conservation Easement-East Fork of the Bitterroot: J. Weatherly reported that in checking with Bitterroot Land Trust, regards to the agreement of not having domestic goats or sheep on the easement, it appears that they will make the necessary modification to clear the way for our \$5,000.00 funding support. **Motion: It was moved and seconded that we would continue to provide funding support for \$5,000.00, if BLT will draw up a 30 year contract prohibiting domestic goats and sheep on the property in the conservation easement. Motion Passed.**

**Montana Wild Sheep Foundation**

**Board of Directors Meeting- September 3, 2013**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

- Pryor Mountains Meeting with Wyoming WSF and Wyoming Game and Fish, Cody, Wyoming : D. Dreeszen reported that he and Shawn Stewart, biologist, MT FWP, met with Kevin Hurley, Executive Director of Wyoming WSF, also Conservation Director with National WSF, Doug McWhriter of the Wyoming Game and Fish, Cody, WY, and Tim Woolley, Wildlife Management Coordinator, Wyoming Game and Fish, Cody, WY, on August 27, 2013, to explore the possibility for the Wyoming officials to assist us and MT FWP in contacting a Wyoming landowner, Tim Woods, who lives on the south side of the Pryor Mountains, just inside the Wyoming state line about a ¼ of a mile. Mr. Woods's domestic goats are within a short distance of bighorn sheep in the Pryor Mountains and because of their close proximity they are preventing an augmentation of bighorns into the West Pryor Mountain area. The augmentation was first explored in 2008. D. Dreeszen reported that the meeting was very positive and it appears the Wyoming officials will intervene and report back to us on their findings.

**New Business:**

- Dr. Sri funding for research at Washington State University: Dr. Sri is conducting research on bighorn sheep diseases as related to contact with domestic goats and sheep and is requesting additional funding for his research. **Motion: It was moved and seconded to fund \$6,000.00 for this research. Motion Passed.**
- Additional funding for St. Regis Cutoff & Pricilla Peak sheep habitat by the U.S. Forest Service: The U.S. Forest Service is requesting funding for some more controlled burn activity in bighorn sheep habitat in H.D. 122, Lolo National Forest. Both J. Weatherly and B. Sterling state that this is a good project and the burns in these areas will benefit bighorn sheep. **Motion: It was moved and seconded to fund \$5,000.00 for this project. Motion Passed.**
- Disposition of bighorn sheep mounts from the Barkac Estate: J. Weatherly reported that he had been contacted by an attorney who is handling the will/estate for Dorothy Barkac (Pennington). Dorothy recently passed away and willed her two bighorn sheep mounts to the MT WSF. After a discussion there was a **Motion: That we, the MT WSF, are not in a position to accept these bighorn sheep mounts. Motion Passed.**
- **Installation of New Directors:**  
The three new Directors who were recently nominated for Director Position are Max Bauer, Tom Carlson, and Bruce Sterling. They replace outgoing President M. Menke, who chose not to re-run for director, D. Dreeszen, who is termed out, and Glenn Erickson, who also chose not to re-run. The Montana WSF welcomes these new Directors.

**Board of Directors Meeting- September 3, 2013**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Montana Wild Sheep Foundation**

- **Election of Officers**

The Board of Directors nominated the following for officer positions.

Jack Chambers, President; Brian Solan, Vice President; Jeff Mortensen, Secretary; and Max Bauer, Treasurer. **Motion: It was moved and seconded to elect these individuals for their respective positions. Motion Passed.** The Montana WSF congratulates these men and looks forward to working with them.

- **2014 Fundraiser Progress Report:**

S. Clouse reported that the contract is signed with the Missoula Hilton Garden Inn. The Banquet/Fundraiser is set for February 28-March 1, 2014. He is having a meeting next week with the planning committee and they will have meetings every month until time for the function. The Friday evening event is dedicated to Youth. M. Menke reported that he is working on the Custom Rifle Project. We are in need of donations.

**Newsletter:**

The deadline for the Fall Newsletter is September 18, 2013. We are in need of material for the Newsletter.

**Next Board Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 6:30 PM. This will be a telephone conference call.

**Adjourned:** The Board of Directors Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Doug Dreeszen*

Doug Dreeszen, Secretary  
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation