

**MONTANA WILDSHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes-September 5, 2012
Location-Telephone Conference Call**

Board Members Present: Mike Menke (President), Doug Dreeszen (Secretary), Tom Grimes (Treasurer), Jack Chambers, Steve Kline, Brian Solan. Bruce Sterling, Jim Weatherly (Executive Director)

Board Members Absent: Glenn Erickson (Vice President), Mike Colpo
Members Present: Shane Clouse

Call to Order: The Board of Director's Meeting was called to order by President Menke at 6:34 PM.

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the July 19, 2012, Board Meeting, in Butte, MT.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the July 19, 2012, Minutes be approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: J. Weatherly reported that the current balance is \$90,085.77. Accounts payable is the GIA Skalkaho Weed Control Project at \$6,300.00. The MT WSF Specialty License Plate account shows \$3,025.00 income and a \$4,252.12 expense to date. We have three (3) sample license plates left.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report be approved as written.

Membership: We currently have 281 members, including 22 that are past due. The total memberships include 144 Life Members. J. Weatherly stated that he sent out a list of expired members to the directors. Several directors stated that they will follow-up and contact the expired members in their area and try to get them to re- up.

Informational:

- **2013 Taxidermy Contest:** J. Weatherly reported that he sent out letters to everyone that drew a bighorn sheep license to consider joining our organization and entering their bighorn in the contest. There will be follow up on this getting closer to the Fundraiser. J. Weatherly also said that he had past Bighorn Sheep harvest quota information and two people responded for this information.
- **Bridger Mountains Proposed Transplant Study Update:** J. Weatherly reported that the FWP is still working on this and that there are three landowners in the area that are not responding. Local FWP Biologist Julie Cunningham states there are three domestic sheep issues in the area. The FWP is in the process of writing the EA on the matter in the near future and if everything proceeds, it will be at least November before this is approved. There will be a comment period to support this or not.
- **Tom Carlsen's Retirement from MT FWP:** J. Weatherly reported that Tom Carlsen will be retiring from the MT FWP in the near future with approximately 30 years of service. Tom was the primary author and contributor and was on special assignment to head the effort to develop the Montana Bighorn Sheep Conservation Strategy. Tom also was the department's representative to WAFWA (Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies), concerning bighorn sheep issues in the state of Montana. After discussion, it was felt that MT FWP will still need to have someone involved with not only bighorn sheep issues, but to be involved with WAFWA. J. Weatherly will send a letter to MT FWP regards to these issues.
- **GIA Proposal from Plains Ranger District, US Forest Service:** This proposal arrived shortly before the Board meeting. This GIA is in regards to controlled burns in bighorn sheep habitat. It was decided that we will make a decision on this matter at the next Board Meeting in December.
- **Anaconda donation for bighorn sheep by Safari Club International:** B. Solan reported that National SCI, has an interest in helping the Anaconda bighorn sheep herd (H.D, 213). They apparently have conservation funds available for a conservation project in this area and are considering funding a project. Three potential projects have come to mind. 1) Partial funding for a wildlife underpass on MT Highway #1, near Anaconda. 2) Funding a Mountain Goat transplant in the Anaconda Pintler Mountains, 3) the purchase of land near the Blue Eyed Nelly property for bighorn sheep habitat. Apparently local wildlife sculptor Fred Boyer, of Anaconda, is involved in this and will do a sculptor to assist in the funding of the project. B. Solan will monitor this and report back to the Board on this matter.

Old Business:

- **Bylaw Changes:** The last revision to the bylaws was in 2002. J. Weatherly reported that there were changes previously from a past committee of himself, Tom Powers and Jack Chambers in 2011. J. Weatherly will circulate the bylaws again for input from the Board. The Bylaws need to be updated.
- **Mission Statement:** J. Chambers reported that our Mission Statement is the same as National's. We don't have our own and it should be posted on our Web site. Board members are requested to make comments and submit to Committee of J. Weatherly, J. Chambers, and S. Kline regards to this issue.
- **Domestic/Wild Sheep Interaction Education:** No activity.
- **Liddle domestic sheep issue in H. D. 680:** This is a fencing issue. J. Weatherly reported that he has traded e-mails on the matter with MT FWT biologist Scott Hemmer and the two of them are still working on the issue.

New Business:

- **Final Election Results:** The new Board Members for 2013 will be Jack Chambers with 64 votes, Shane Clouse 62 votes, and Jeff Mortensen 65 votes. Outgoing Board Members are Tom Grimes and Bruce Sterling.
- **Election of Officers for 2013:** The Board conducted the nomination and election of officers and the results are as follows: President, Mike Menke; Vice President, Jack Chambers; Secretary, Doug Dreeszen; Treasurer, Brian Solan. Other Board members will be Glenn Erickson, Shane Clouse, Jeff Mortensen, Steve Kline, Mike Colpo, and Jim Weatherly, Executive Director.
- **Special Thank You: The Board expressed a Thank you to outgoing Board Members Tom Grimes and Bruce Sterling for their many years of dedication, enthusiasm, hard work and many contributions to the Montana Wild Sheep Foundation.**
- **2013 Fundraiser Updates:** It will be held at the Butte Copper King, March 8 & 9, 2013. M. Menke reported that he is working on the custom rifle raffle. J. Weatherly reported that he has visited with Mike Flanick (Butte fundraiser committee), and they are looking into business sponsorships, cash sponsorships and women's raffle items. There was a discussion on finding speakers for the Friday evening function and the Saturday Brunch. J. Weatherly has new 2013 Pledge forms and will be sending them out for everyone to start soliciting auction items, door prizes, etc.
- **Next Newsletter:** The dead line for the next newsletter is September 15, 2012. We need material for the newsletter. Please submit as soon as possible.
- **Next Meeting:** The next meeting is set for Wednesday, December 5, 2012, at 6:30 PM. This will be a telephone conference call.
- **Adjourned: Motion: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Dreeszen, Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation