

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Minutes – April 11, 2018

Location – Conference Call

Board Members present: Shane Clouse (President), D.J. Berg (Vice President), Max Bauer (Treasurer), Jeff Mortensen (Secretary), Justin Spring, Ray Vinkey, & Levi Bowler. Also present were Brian Solan, Montana Wild Sheep Foundation Executive Director, & Kurt Alt. Directors absent: Tom Grimes & Grant Winn II

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Shane Clouse at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of February 15, 2018 Minutes. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the February 15, 2018 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals \$236,678. Accounts payable include Grants In Aid (GIA) of \$19,000.00: GIA 15-11 South Dakota Disease Study \$10,000.00 over 2017, 2018, & 2018 Life Member Sheep Hunt \$6,000.00; and GIA 18-9 \$3,000.00 dedicated to a donation to Wild Horse Island State Park. Review of the Stimson Lumber project is on-going, with assistance to be provided by Mike Mueller of RMEF. A date is to be set to walk the property. If this transaction occurs, the anticipated cost is \$40,000.00.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 437 including 280 Life Members and 157 Regular Members.

Informational:

- Kurt Alt summarized his recent activities: Kurt is working with MSU relative to generating a program to include Agricultural interests in research on domestic disease. This effort would likely include WSF down the road. Meeting with Rob Harper, the USFS Wildlife Chief. Harper is aware and supportive of MT WSF's initiatives. Mr. Alt attended three meetings regarding resolution of WSA's, including various interested parties such as Senator Tester's office, with a draft letter to be drafted regarding MT WSF's position on the issue. The letter is to be reviewed by the Board prior to release. Kurt also outlined the status of the Gravelly MOU lawsuit and objections, with the proposal floated to draft a letter authored by Volunteer Executive Director Brian Solan and Kurt. The Board discussed participation as an "interested party" and upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved participation and letter.
- Brian Solan reviewed the Garrity WMA acquisition, with approval of the last piece of funding on the MT FWP Commission agenda on April 19. Solan plans to attend the meeting in support. Upon approval, MT WSF will be asked to approve funding for a footbridge to provide access to the parcel.
- MOGA is working to re-start the Sportman's Caucus and has approached MT WSF for involvement. As more information is received, the Board will be updated.

Open/Old Issues:

- Fundraiser recap. Gross revenue is in the \$130,000 range and net income roughly \$60,000, with final numbers to be determined after all funds are in the account. Treasurer Max Bauer indicates that all expenses and splits submitted to him have been paid.

New Business:

- GIA 18-4 MT Biocontrol Project request. After discussion and upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$1,000 donation.
- GIA 18-5 Missoula County Weed District. After discussion and upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$1,000 donation.
- Chapter & Affiliates Meeting June 21 – 24, 2018 in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The Board discussed a sponsorship for the event in the amount of \$2,000. Upon motion and second, the sponsorship was approved under GIA 18-6. Director Tom Grimes is planning to attend, with other Board Members to be polled by D.J. Berg.
- Booth contract 2019 Sheep Show Feb. 7 – 9, 2019, Reno NV. Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved funding the \$1,750 booth fee.
- Trade show booth display/projector display purchase, as an up-grade to the current booth equipment. Following discussion, and upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$3,000 budget.
- Gray Thornton of WSF is working with MT FWP to arrange for replicas of the 216 B&C Wild-horse ram. Cost and number to be produced is not yet determined.
- 2019 Fundraiser at the Bighorn Resort in Billings. Riley Pearson has tentatively volunteered as Banquet Chair. Mike Colpo has agreed to provide another sheep hunt at roughly \$12,000 for the Life Member drawing. Jeff Chad of Forsyth, an AK outfitter has also expressed interest with his cost at \$21,000.
- GIA 18-7 Youth Program for 2018 coordinated by past President Tom Powers. Upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$4,000 donation, with Director Justin Spring abstaining.
- GIA 18-8 Montana Mule Deer Foundation request for funding to fund travel expenses relative to holding Youth events. Upon motion and second, the Board approved a \$250 donation.
- GIA 18-9 Montana State Parks Foundation to benefit Wildhorse Island State Park. Upon motion and second, the Board confirmed a \$3,000 donation initially sanctioned in 2017.
- Timmer Reeves suggestions were discussed, including a MT Sheep tag for auction, newsletter revision, merchandise advertising, and ram awards. It was noted that WSF magazine with print Reeves Montana Sheep Overview in an upcoming Wild Sheep publication.
- Sheep & Goat Symposium to be held in Whitefish, Montana in May. Director Vinkey is to approach for complimentary registration for interested Board members.
- Committee assignments were reviewed, with no changes suggested at this time.

- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 14, 2018.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation

