

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes – January 25, 2018
Location – Conference Call**

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

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Shane Clouse at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of the December 1, 2017 and December 21, 2017 Board Meeting minutes. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the December 1, 2017 & December 21, 2017 minutes are approved, as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals \$168,644. 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 \$3,000.00 dedicated to a donation to Wild Horse Island State Park. Review of the Stimson Lumber project is on-going, with President Clouse to meet with Stimson and RMEF land acquisition official Mike Mueller on January 26, 2018. If this transaction occurs, the anticipated cost is \$40,000.00.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 418 including 257 Life Members and 161 Regular Members.

Informational:

- Kurt Alt summarized his recent activities: Revision of the Grant-In- Aid application, FWP Wild Sheep quotas, Tendoy transplant prospects & source of sheep, SCC issues, and the Gallatin Wildlife lawsuit against the Forest Service regarding the Gravelly Range. Kurt will draft an op-ed defining the MT WSF position on this for review by the Board. Kurt is also working with FWP to have the three Wildhorse Island rams at the March 9 & 10 Fundraiser upcoming.

Open/Old Issues:

- 2018 Sheep Show. Considerable interest in Montana Wild Sheep is being generated by the Wildhorse rams. The Governors tag was sold for \$335,000.00 to a German buyer.
- Fundraiser update. The 26th annual fundraiser will be held at the Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman on March 9 and 10. The schedule has been tentatively set, with the fundraiser registration flyer to mail this week and the on-line registration link will go live on February 5, 2018. Donors to underwrite the fundraiser are being sought, with a handful of commitments received to date. An Ibex hunt with a cost of \$5,500.00 will be offered, with the option to declare a no-sale if it does not hit the minimum. Mr. Spring has arranged a commitment for free beer from Blue Moon. Several vendors have committed to set up booths including Dewey Wildlife, Sitka, Chase Hill Outfitters, Willies Distillery, Bozeman Distillery, and the Goat Alliance.

New Business:

- Wildlife Society GIA 18-1 requests \$500.00. After discussion and upon motion and second, the donation was approved.
 - NW Goat & Sheep Council GIA 18-2 requests \$4,000.00. The annual meeting of this organization will be held in Whitefish, Montana in 2018. This is an organization of professional biologists. Upon motion and second, the donation was approved.
 - Deadline for the newsletter is January 31, 2018, which will include a request for donations to underwrite the fundraiser, and a solicitation for help with the 2019 fundraiser in Billings at the Big Horn resort, including a local fundraiser Chair. A number of hunt stories and photos have been received.
 - Committee assignments were reviewed, including the Youth Committee to consist of President Clouse, Tom Powers, and Don Patterson.
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- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 15, 2018, with special fundraiser meetings set for February 8, 2018 and a second to be held in late February or early March.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation