

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes – July 24, 2018
Location – Conference Call**

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

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Shane Clouse at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of June 12, 2018 Minutes. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the June 12, 2018 minutes be approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals \$194,719. Accounts payable consist of the 2019 Life Member Sheep Hunt in the amount of \$12,500. Review of the Stimson Lumber project is on-going, with assistance to be provided by Mike Mueller of RMEF. A date has been set to walk the property, with Ray Vinkey and Shane Clouse to coordinate. If this transaction occurs, the anticipated cost is \$40,000.00.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 427 including 280 Life Members and 147 Regular Members.

Informational:

- With Kurt Alt out of the USA, Brian Solan summarized Kurt's activities, including involvement with a Congressional hearing with Rep. Gianforte, Gray Thornton, and John Helle in attendance. Brian met with John Helle recently regarding various subjects including an ad placed by WSF that Helle saw as non-productive. Kurt is also researching a non-chemical product to control cheatgrass, with the thought to employ on Wildhorse Island, and is visiting with a landowner in the Missouri Breaks relative to placing sheep there.
- Mr. Solan reported that USFS held a hearing on the Gravelly MOU relative to its effect on forest management, with a resolution to come out of it.
- President Clouse confirmed slow progress on the Stimson Sheep Shed acquisition, however Ray Vinkey reports that he has arranged on tour of the property on July 27 with a Stimson representative. Ray, Shane, and Grant confirmed that they can take part.
- Brian has been attempting to reach Bill Brown regarding domestic goats on his ranch. Brian will draft a letter requesting their removal.
- Help was solicited to assist in a wire pull (fence removal) in the East Fork near Sula on July 29, 2018. Shane will contact local MTWSF members for help.

Open/Old Issues:

- D.J. Berg presented an overview of the June Chapters & Affiliate Summit in Jackson, WY. The event concentrated on disease issues and habitat. Some Chapters have created endowment funds for long term funding purposes. Discussion took place about the Cheney amendment to the Farm Bill and its potential negative effects. WSF is planning a fall fly-in to Washington DC,

with a representative from MTWSF to be considered. The 216 ram replica for the Chapter is at WSF at a cost of \$1,500.00.

New Business:

- USFS Petty Creek burn GIA 18-10. USFS has provided information on the Petty Creek project to date with positive results. After discussion and upon Motion by D.J.Berg and Second by Grant Winn II, the amount of \$2,500 was approved for this project. Mr. Ray Vinkey abstained from discussion and the vote.
- 2019 Sheep Show Reno February 7 – 9. The MTWSF booth fee has been paid.
- Purchase of an upgraded Trade Show booth was discussed. A budget of \$3,000 was proposed, with Levi Bowler to work on the details. After further discussion and upon Motion and Second, the Board unanimously approved the \$3,000 expenditure.
- 2019 Annual Fundraiser in Billings, Montana at the Bighorn Inn. Potential Chair Riley Pearson moved out of state, therefore the Board is seeking help for the event in the Billings area.
- President Clouse proposed to work on a composite list of member emails to allow electronic notices and recruitment for projects.
- Timmer Reeves suggests that he draft a history of MTWSF. Doug Dreezen has previously authored one.
- Board of Director nominations are being sought, with a call for nominations included in the Spring newsletter. Shane Clouse, Jeff Mortensen, and Tom Grimes are up for re-election, however Mr. Grimes has voiced his intention not to run and Mortensen is un-decided.
- Committee assignments were reviewed, with no changes suggested at this time.

- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 21, 2018.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation