

**MONTANA WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes – September 25, 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 Tom Grimes. Also present was Brian Solan, Montana Wild Sheep Foundation Volunteer Executive Director, and Directors elect Don Patterson and Corey Piersol. Directors absent: Max Bauer, Jr. and Justin Spring

Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Shane Clouse at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of July 24, 2018 Minutes. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the July 24, 2018 minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Cash on hand totals approximately \$198,000.00. Accounts payable consist of the 2019 Life Member Sheep Hunt in the amount of \$12,500.

Secretary's Report of Membership: Current membership is 436 including 283 Life Members and 153 Regular Members.

Informational:

- With Kurt Alt out of the USA, Brian Solan summarized Kurt's activities. Contacts with Rep. Gianforte have been positive regarding WSA's, with the talks trending toward compromise. No action is expected until post-election.
- Mr. Solan reported that there is no resolution to date for the Gravelly/USFS lawsuit.
- Discussions are on-going with Dave Bergrum regarding a potential domestic sheep easement in HD482. Brian Solan will report to Board regarding future discussions and proposals.
- The Garrity WMA addition is in the MT FWP approval process. A time extension was granted.
- President Clouse confirmed that Board members inspected the Sheep Shed property recently, however Stimson is currently not responsive.
- Director Vinkey has finished a draft of the GIA form for the website for review.
- A travel plan for the Blue Joint area in the Bitterroot is under review, with involvement by Senator Daines office. The Board opted to avoid involvement at this time.
- Executive Director Solan drafted a letter to MT FWP to request a Bighorn Sheep Coordinator to further focus on wild sheep. FWP officials confirmed that funding for this is not available.
- The MT FWP Commission will hold a work session on Bighorns on November 15, 2018. Board participation is needed.
- The board was briefed on Habitat Montana, Montana Land Board, and Montana Sporting Coalition activities.
- Solan recapped the Washington DC fly-in, detailing meetings with the Montana Congressional Delegation and some of the Idaho Delegation.
- Brian has been working to reach Bill Brown regarding domestic goats on his ranch. Brian will meet with Mr. Brown in person in October to discuss.
- The Board reviewed the Legislative Affairs Committee brief.

Open/Old Issues:

- Sheep Show dates are February 7 – 9, 2019. A booth has been arranged with Directors Piersol, Clouse, Patterson, and Vinkey likely attendees.
- Director Bowler confirmed that he is working on an updated portable booth and expects the previously approved \$3,000.00 budget to be sufficient. A proposal will be presently shortly.
- MT WSF fundraiser will be held in Billings in March 2019. Director Piersol volunteered to take the Banquet Chair. Board members were reminded to start soliciting donations.

New Business:

- GIA 18-10 Sportsman's Alliance Donation \$2,000.00. After discussion, and upon motion and second, the donation was unanimously approved.
- GIA 18-11 Montana Advisory Council donation \$1,000.00. After discussion, and upon motion and second, the donation was unanimously approved.
- Director Berg discussed proposed changes to MT WSF bylaws regarding elections, to allow electronic balloting. The Board is to review and vote at the next meeting.
- Proposal to use 501c Auctions for the fundraiser and possibly membership. A proposal is to be presented at the next meeting.
- Results of the 2018 elections are final, with Shane Clouse re-elected and Don Patterson and Corey Piersol elected as new directors. Tom Grimes and Jeff Mortensen exited as directors. Officer nominations were solicited, with Shane Clouse nominated as President, D.J. Berg as Vice President, Grant Winn II as Secretary, and Max Bauer, Jr. as Treasurer. Upon motion and second, the nominees were unanimously elected to their respective positions.
- **Next Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 6, 2018.

Adjourned: The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mortensen

Recording Secretary
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation