

Montana Wild Sheep Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes-May 1, 2019
Location: Conference Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT : Shane Clouse, Ray Vinkey, Max Bauer, DJ Berg, Don Patterson,
Grant Winn II.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT : Levi Bowler, Cory Piersol and Justin Spring

CALL TO ORDER : The meeting was called to order by Shane Clouse at 7:30 PM

Minutes: Max made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting on January 30, 2019.
DJ seconded the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT : Cash on hand = \$248,000

- A. We took in \$1300 on a square reader at the Friday night event for the fundraiser. Square sent the money to the wrong account and are very hard to deal with. Glacier bank is helping in trying to recover the money.
- B. Our Fiscal year ends in June so some expenditures done in the first half of 2019 will be on the 2018 books.
- C. Grant in aid and Outstanding: 2019 life member sheep hunt \$7000 to Lazy J Bar O outfitters

SECRETARY'S REPORT: 168 regular members and 318 life members. 486 total members. We will be linking our website to nationals and Marci will send us a monthly report on membership. We have not received any funds from national at this time. Grant will coordinate a meeting with Marci to iron out the details.

- B. Shane would like to replace the print given to life members with something more usable. Item's from Sitka, Stone glacier, leatherman and coffee cups were discussed as options. DJ made a motion to spend \$50 on life members an \$10 for regular members for their welcome gift. Don seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL: A. Chapter & Affiliates Meeting May 16-18, 2019 in Las Vegas- Grant Winn will attend.

- B. MTWSF 2020 banquet- February 28-29, 2020 at the Billings Hotel
- C. The 2020 life member sheep hunt was discussed and we decided to contact other outfitters to change it up. Grant contacted Matt Thoft and Matt was willing to give us the hunt for \$19,000. He initially thought we were going to auction the hunt but when I told him what we were doing, he said he would get back to me with another price. Grant will contact some other outfitters he knows along with looking into a possible snow sheep hunt in Russia. Corey might be able to contact Dustin Rowe about a possible Desert Sheep hunt. DJ said Don Martin might be able to donate something, he is with California Wild Sheep.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Life Member Fund – discussed putting some of our money into interest bearing accounts. Grant can get the short term money into an account earning 2-3% with no charges to get in or out. There is also no time requirements on this fund. We should also invest some of our money for 10 years + to keep up with inflation and get a higher return. Grant would not personally invest the money as it is a conflict of interest. He does have a friend that will do it and donate any fees back to MTWSF. Grant, Shane and Max will meet with our CPA a Wipfli to discuss tax issues in non-profits and if there are any restrictions or regulations. Max will call and arrange a meeting.

OPEN/OLD BUSINESS

Bill and Weston Brown domestic sheep/goats issue – Kurt said Quentin had talked with Dave McEwan about having a meeting with BB. Local Warden and Biologist should meet face to face with BB next week. Bill does have dogs, a herder and would consider fencing. National is getting a lot of pressure to get something done. MTWSF cannot mishandle this issue as it would ruin the relationship we are fostering with the Montana Woolgrowers.

FWP needs to be front and center in addressing this problem. BB will probably not get rid of his sheep and goats so we need to monitor our efforts on separation and see what works and what doesn't.

Brian spoke with Dave McEwan and the Woolgrowers attorney. They indicated that they had no allegiance to BB and that he was a small producer in their world. Quentin is trying to facilitate a meeting with BB and get an agreement on paper right away.

MOGA contacted BB and told him to get rid of the sheep, or he would be kicked out of MOGA. Bill voluntarily resigned. He had other issues with MOGA regarding charging additional fees to donated hunts. Does not sound like his outfitting business is doing well.

BB's son, Weston, is the one primarily responsible for buying goats and sheep. He is young and just graduated from MSU's Ag school. Brian does not think they are looking for a payday and Bill's initial reaction was to get rid of the sheep. After talking with the woolgrowers, he decided to keep them.

This issue has the potential to blow up for either MTWSF or the Woolgrowers. We need to work cooperatively to find a way to separate the wild and domestic sheep. Max wondered if some of the national conservation groups might sue BB if there is a die off. Bill would not have the resources to fight them. Kurt mentioned that they had discussed buying out BB, but it would be opening Pandora's Box and we would end up trying to pay off all the hobby farmers and commercial ranches in the area.

Don made a motion that we send the letter to BB that Brian had written. The letter was well thought out and no one thought it was inflammatory. Max seconded the motion and Kurt asked that the letter not be made public and just sent to BB. The letter will also be sent to the Woolgrowers and FWP.

Ray moved that we adjourn the meeting and Grant Seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Winn II
Recording Secretary