

Membership Meeting 12/4/2021 5:00 pm

Attendees: Katie, Scott, Pat, Zach, Joni, Scott S., Mack, Bruce, Kurt, Greg, Dean, JW

Absentees: Jimmy,

Guests: Members

Kurt- Discussion regarding the board not knowing exactly how much money was available to fund projects prior to discussing them. This allowed the board the chance to look at a project and really discuss impact, importance, and funding instead of just approving projects because there are funds for them.

Kurt- approval of previous minutes. Motion: Ryan Amundson Second: Tera Butler

Joni- Treasurer's report. Discussed total amounts available in all funds, profit & loss, liabilities. No questions from members.

Katie thanked everyone that attended the Sybille Wildlife Research Center tour this afternoon. There was a great turnout. Nice to see everyone, learn about the research they are doing, and see what the WY-WSF funds have been used for.

1. Katie- GIA Project Updates and Board Recommendations- 6 traditional GIA requests were received equaling \$73,750. Board Recommendation of \$49,500.
 - a) West Side Story- UW Coop, Kevin Monteith: Requested \$20,000 to continue to explore pneumonia affects on WMBS, specifically Hunt Area 8 non migratory population. Tracking lamb mortality, summer range, predation, and nutrition. Lots of other partners are helping fund the project. *Recommendation by board for \$20,000 and to fund out of Life Member Funds.* No questions from members.
 - b) NBSC Education Programs & Clinic Operation – NBSC Education Programs & Critical Operation- Sarah Bridge: Requested \$15,000 to expand educational programs statewide and nationwide and to gain additional support for BHS conservation. Funds will be used for: staff, museum maintenance, expand marketing and outreach. *Recommendation by board for \$7,500 and to fund out of Conservation Funds.* Steve Kilpatrick- who else should the NBSC reach out to for funds? JW Harris suggested reaching out to other BHS chapters. Expand the education.
 - c) Dynamic Messaging Signs- WGFD, Martin Hicks: Requested \$11,000 for purchasing of two dynamic messaging signs for Hwy 34 (Sybille Canyon) to alert drivers of wildlife on roads. BHS are concentrating on road due to salting. Good discussion was done at the Sybille Tour with WYDOT, WGFD, and members. A lot of good ideas were recommended. Will be looking into some additional interventions as well as signs. *Recommendation by board made for \$11,000.* No questions from members.
 - d) Teton BHS Winter Recreation Education & Stewardship Campaign- Teton Working Group, Aly Courtemanch/Sarah Dewey: Requested \$12,500 for successful completion of Teton Collaborative process with report/recommendation for winter recreation closures that would help protect BHS winter habitat. There are mixed feelings with ski groups. Funds would be used for education and a stewardship campaign to for these

groups (etc. interactive maps, smartphone habitat apps, educational signs). Had final meeting, need one or two additional meetings for input from community. *Recommendation by board made for \$10,000.* Steve Kilpatrick- addressed that Federal Agencies can not ask for money from businesses unless they have a grant program. The work on this collaboration has been ongoing for years, but intensively for the last 2 ½ years. Katie- questioned if the WY-WSF could ask for funds from those businesses and then provide the funds.

- e) WY Chapter of Wildlife Society Conference Sponsorship- WT-TWS, Aly Courtemanch- Requested \$250 for annual conference in April 2022 in Jackson, WY. Around 200 participants. Provides one free registration and an opportunity to promote WY-WSF at the conference including verbal recognition during banquet, logo on conference program, website, and on PowerPoint during breaks. Platinum sponsorship gives 4 memberships. *Recommendation by board made for \$1000.* No questions from members.

- f) In Wild Company- Orijin Media, Zach Montes, Josh Metten: Requested \$15,000 for a high-quality film project illustrating the complexity and collaboration necessary for conserving wild sheep across the western United State. The last project “Denizens of the Steep” created a narrative about Teton Bighorn Sheep Herd and backcountry skiing. Sensitive subject currently with focus on Whiskey and talks regarding Sweetwater Rocks. Not right time to start this project. Need to sit down and hash out a plan for all players involved. *Recommendation by board to place on hold, not reject.* Steve Kilpatrick- Film will be used to highlight western bighorn sheep herds. Needs to include partnerships with the Forest Service, BLM, Native Reservations, University of Wyoming, Ag Department, and WGFD. WGFD has concerns regarding the film. Film would be around 20 minutes.

Motion made to approve by Jim Collins, seconded by Dan Hinze, Membership Attendees unanimously approve all board GIA funding recommendations specified above, totaling \$49,500.

New Business:

National Bighorn Sheep Week: Reno, NV January 12-15th.

2022 Annual WYWSF Convention- Lander, WY June 3-4

Jim Collins- thanked the NBSC on collaborating with WYWSF and for expanding into a national center and for collaborating with other organizations.

Steve Kilpatrick- Butch Townsend National Youth Award- discussion to be had regarding appropriate age group, recognition at all chapters at the beginning of conventions, what they get other than a plaque at the NBSC, and what they will be asked to be involved in. Working group will be put together to help decide who will win. Zoom meeting will be set up to discuss these questions.

Pat Pace, Secretary