

Wyoming Wild Sheep Foundation- Membership Meeting Minutes for December 5, 2015

In attendance were: Jerry Galles, Scott Butler, Joni Miller, Jim Collins, Kurt Eisenach, Dean DiJenno, Mike Porter and Meade Dominick, and Executive Director Steve Kilpatrick. We had 13 members attend the meeting at the Rustic Pine Steakhouse in Dubois, WY.

President Galles opened the meeting at 3:45 Pm and welcomed our guests.

A motion was made by Fritz Meyer and seconded by Daryl Tiltrum to approve the June minutes as they appeared on our website- Motion was approved.

Joni Miller conducted the treasurers report including an in depth review of our current balance sheet, Profit/Loss statement, and outstanding items.

Kevin Hurley made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report which was seconded by Dave Bishop and approved by the members.

Joni was then asked to address the agenda item of outstanding Gia funds. She went over each of our GIAs where money had not all been used and reported which we planned to rollback and which we planned to leave for future use.

Next agenda item- Status of WGBGLC governor's license MOU- The governor has not yet signed the MOU which will allow for selling 2016 Governor's licenses. The selling agents have all been selected and we are just waiting for final approval.

Jerry Galles told everyone to mark June 23/24 on their calendar for the Wyoming BHS summit at Burgess Junction. Steve will get together with Cole Benton to discuss the logistics of planning this meeting.

Projects

Court Case- We have spent about \$4000 of the original \$5000 approved to participate in this case. Everyone is waiting for the judge to take up and case and make his ruling. [Steve will check on the status of this case and ask not to receive continued correspondence on the "Wolf" case.](#)

Frank Robbins- Jim Collins reported on the progress with the Robbins ranch and our efforts to help provide temporary water sources for their domestic sheep at lower elevations in an attempt to keep them from mixing with Wild Sheep at higher elevations. The BLM should make a decision by fall of 2016 regarding the sheep/cattle lease issues on this property. Meanwhile we have helped avoid Domestic and Wild Sheep contact. To date we have not paid any expenses and a letter of agreement between the parties is pending. [Steve will check on the status of the BLM allotment analysis.](#)

IWG update- Next meeting in Lander on Dec 8. Jim Collins, Joni Miller, Jerry Galles, and Steve Kilpatrick will represent us.

WGFD Funding/Blue ribbon committee- Both Mike Porter and Steve Kilpatrick are serving on this panel. Steve reported that there have been several meetings to discuss both short and long term non-traditional funding for the department. [The Wildlife Management Institute- is conducting a program audit which should be completed in April, 2016.](#) ~~An audit has been started of the department's projects and pending the results of this audit during the spring of 2016, The committee~~ Task Force will reconvene at that time to review the audit and make recommendations for long-term nontraditional funding. ~~will make recommendations to the governor and the legislature on how to ensure the G&F department receives adequate funding.~~ Our chapter has contributed \$1000 to help with this panel's expenses.

By-Law Amendments- The two proposed changes which are posted on line and in the fall 2015 issue of the RamPage were approved upon a motion from Kevin Hurley with a second from Dan Clifton.

A new amendment to add the word "Present" after the word "majority" was presented to the membership. The reason for the change is to allow the board to act more quickly when it is impossible to pull together a majority of the board. After much discussion a motion to adopt the proposal was made by Fritz Meyer, it was seconded by Daryl Tiltrum and approved by the members after a friendly amendment was offered by Kevin Hurley to require at least three members to be present in order to conduct any business. The official by-laws are published online at our website: Wyomingwildsheep.org.

Conservation Fund- We discussed the fund without making any decisions regarding incentives to contribute. Mike states that the investment portion of the program requires proposals to be received and a decision on where and how to invest our fund to be made by spring. Steve Kilpatrick stressed that there would still be a project named after Ron Lockwood and that meanwhile his memorial donations have been rolled into the conservation fund with his family's approval.

Life member awards- The members agreed to award just the plaque to new life members effective June, 1, 2016 based upon a motion by Daryl Tiltrum which was seconded by Fritz Meyer.

Hunting with Heroes- Dean reported that he has a donor to sponsor a full curl table for the 2 hunters, the two licenses donors, and the two Hunting with Heroes founders. We will find a suitable way to reward the two men who donated their sheep licenses to make these hunts happen. Hunting with Heroes will also be a seminar participant to help explain the donation program, the landowner element, and the hunt itself to our members at Casper in June 2016. Fritz Meyer discussed the two hunters that he took out under this program this fall. Fritz was commended for partially donating his services to our two disabled veterans. [Dean and Steve will contact the folks above folks for the full curl table.](#)

GIA Results

The Elk Mt Water project was reviewed by Ryan Amundson and after discussion regarding water, private land owner issues, and upkeep issues, Jim Collins made a motion to authorize \$10,000 to this project. A second was made by Dean DiJenno and the motion was approved by the board.

The NBSIC requested \$8,000 to remake a video which depicts a year in the life of a big horn sheep and which is shown to thousands of people annually at the interpretive center. NBSIC Executive Director,

Sara Domek explained her request for funding and how the funds would be used. After extensive questioning from the board regarding other sources of funding, possible leads for BH sheep footage, and the possible benefits of this project, a motion was made by Scott Butler to award \$8000 to this project. A second was made by Jim Collins and the matter was approved by the board.

Temple Peak Disease Assessment and tracking request. Doug McWhirter led a discussion of the request which will be used to [deploy GPS collars and](#) study the few remaining sheep at the south end of the Wind Rivers. It is felt that this herd must be assessed prior to any future transplant work occurring. Kurt Eisenach made a motion to approve \$29,200, a second was made by Dean DiJenno and the motion was approved by the board.

Hunting with Heroes requested any funds that we had available to assist with their non-profit mission of assisting disabled veteran hunters to make their hunt of a lifetime in Wyoming. Steve Kilpatrick [and Dean DiJenno](#) led this discussion on how their program works and how our participation will benefit our organization. Jim Collins made a motion to approve \$10,000 and after a second by Joni Miller, the motion was approved by the board.

The Custer State Park BHS shedder disease assessment project was discussed with info provided by Kevin Hurley. Dean DiJenno made a motion to approve \$7500 with a second from Kurt Eisenach, this motion was approved..

The NBSIC requested funding to establish a summer intern program in their center. This proposal would allow the existing staff to concentrate on long range plans, and fund raising with the young intern benefiting from a summers worth of outreach to center visitors. The board questioned E.D. Sara Domek at length regarding her efforts to secure other sources of funds before Kurt Eisenach motioned to approve \$2000 of the requested \$8400. Scott Butler made a second and this motion was approved. Then Sara was told to come back to us at any time [for additional funds](#) once she has some other outside funding sources located.

Total funds approved are \$66,700 from a total request amount of \$74,100.

John O'Brien made a motion to approve the GIA funding decisions which was seconded by Mack Miller and approved by the members.

With that our meeting was concluded. Next Membership meeting will be in Casper on Saturday, June 4, 2016

Respectfully

Dean DiJenno

Secretary

