



WyWSF Board Meeting on May 12, 2026.

- President Braley Clifford called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00 PM on May 12, 2026; Board Member Jaden Bales was absent.
- Motions passed unanimously to approve the April 8 minutes after brief review (John moved, Greg seconded) Vote was unanimous
  - All checks reviewed and discussed (John moved, Kathy seconded).Vote was unanimous
  - All reported credit card transactions reviewed and discussed (Scott moved, John seconded).Vote was unanimous

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**## Consolidated Action Items (Chronological)**

- Move the April Capital One statement into the April 2026 financials folder (Dean – ASAP).
- Prepare a concise written explanation of the “cash available” snapshot and keep it updated as figures change (President & Dean – ASAP).
- Review all current GIA proposals (~\$479K) and bring funding ideas, including potential conservation and life-member fund use (All Board – by May 19).
- Attend the special GIA meeting on May 19 at 7:00 PM to evaluate eight GIA proposals and payout timing (All Board – May 19).
- Finalize bylaws and ethics redlines plus brief explanations; post member PDFs and send an e-blast linking documents and noting discussion/vote at the annual meeting (Officers & Dean – before June membership meeting).
- Prepare member-friendly financial visuals (net-assets trend and summarized cash-available slide) for in-person presentation; full packets available on request (Mike/Finance lead – before June membership meeting).
- Schedule a mid-June Zoom with Epic Outdoors to review advertising, social media, and website rebuild options (President & marketing leads – mid-June).
- Continue outreach to 1876 and other potential \$5,000 gold sponsors using the new firearm benefit; track underwriting and sponsorship against last year (Kathy/Bruce/Dean – pre-convention).
- Monitor weekly raffle performance (~\$4–5K/week), adjust projections, and update the cash-available sheet (Dean & committee leads – pre- and post-convention).
- Finalize live auction, raffles, and related inventories; coordinate shipping, insurance, and timing with the auction house for high-value firearms (Convention volunteers – pre-convention).
- Maintain and refine the cash-available spreadsheet, integrating raffle projections, GIA schedules, convention receivables/payables, and major commitments (Dean – ongoing).
- Coordinate federal project work on grazing policy, buyout mapping, feral horses, Sweetwater Rocks, Grand Targhee, Seminole, and Jackson-area buyouts (Katie & partners – ongoing).
- Pursue Game & Fish point-holder emails via FOIA, then clean, de-duplicate, and import lists with privacy and opt-out safeguards (President, Dean, Jimmy – ongoing).
- Refine the long-term communications/marketing position concept after convention, comparing firm proposals and sample job descriptions (President & Dean – post-convention).
- Coordinate a “Steve’s Project” planning call for Whiskey/Jackson-Darby herd projects that match donor intent and realistic timing (Katie, Zach, Sarah, Game & Fish – summer).
- Obtain Sweetwater Rocks well performance data and update the board on final design, timing, and cost (Billy, Zach, Matt – when available).



- Confirm that Mary Owens will reach out to brand inspectors regarding Pedro/Marton domestic sheep movements and that messaging remains collaborative and non-punitive (Greg & Jimmy – soon).
- Draft brand-inspector talking points and landowner messaging for Pedro emphasizing cooperation, mapping, and tools such as fencing, testing, and GPS collars (Katie, Greg, Jimmy – after Mary’s outreach).
- Complete a partner MOU with Craig and allies so implementation can begin promptly after convention (Katie – after June).
- Track and report on Seminole Pumped Storage pint night outcomes, Grand Targhee EIS release, Jackson allotment progress, and Sweetwater Rocks legislative developments (Katie & partners – ongoing). Federal and conservation work continues grazing MOU and vacant allotments mapping in the BT, Sweetwater Rocks water project and legislation, Pedro/Marton brand inspector outreach, Red Desert feral horses, Grand Targhee, Seminole Pumped Storage, and Jackson-area domestic allotment buyouts.
- Report post-event on raffle profitability and convention net (target  $\approx$  \$150,000), including performance of new raffle elements (Dean & finance team – after convention).
- Finalize and circulate the convention staffing plan to committee chairs and volunteers (Dean & operations – pre-convention).
- Decide on timing, format (online vs. live), sewing funding, and display/modeling for the donated coyote pelts, or defer to a future event (Live auction committee & auction chair – pre- or post-convention).
- Evaluate Gearheart Outdoors/Total Outdoors Adventures materials and recommend whether to use their trips at future banquets (Fundraising/Events committee – future planning).
- Confirm whether Tony Mong is currently a member; if not, arrange a complimentary life membership presentation at Burgess Junction (Board secretary/membership chair – before June 24).
- If challenge coins are reconsidered, develop a detailed business and marketing plan (events/raffles, pricing, projected net) before purchase (Fundraising chair – as needed).
- Distribute information and virtual access details for the May 27–28 Seminole Pump Storage pint night and TRW Committee meeting (Board chair/staff – before May 27).
- Conduct the May 19 GIA meeting with brief convention updates and keep May 27 pre-convention meeting reserved, cancelling only if unnecessary (Board chair – May).

### **## Treasurer / Financials**

- After roughly \$90,000 in Q1 GIA payments, total liabilities are about \$244,000; current GIA requests total approximately \$479,475.
- Dean’s “cash available” sheet:
  - Includes current cash and investments (all but two restricted corpuses).
  - Shows booked liabilities and major committed but unbooked obligations (GIAs, hunts, large invoices) in blue.
  - Shows anticipated gross raffle income ( $\sim$ \$441,000) in yellow, based on weekly sales of about \$4–5K and assuming sellouts.

Finance discussion centered on Dean’s “cash available” tool, projected raffle gross ( $\sim$ \$441,000), current liabilities ( $\sim$ \$244,000), and GIA requests ( $\sim$ \$479,475), showing a conservative “end-of-days” shortfall ( $\sim$ \$153,000) that roughly equals the expected banquet net ( $\sim$ \$150,000). Discussion on using General, Conservation and life member funding to maintain a positive cash flow.



- An “end-of-days” scenario assuming immediate payment of all liabilities and full GIA requests while retaining a \$120,000 reserve indicates a deficit near \$153,000, roughly the conservative forecast banquet net.
  - Many GIAs and hunt/raffle obligations extend into future years, so the blue band is a worst-case timing picture; likely GIA outflow this year is closer to \$100,000.
  - Accountant Dirk recommended continuing a modified-accrual approach: do not book long-range commitments as QuickBooks liabilities; track them in Dean’s separate planning tool and record expenses when actually paid.
  - The board agreed to withhold detailed financial packets from the pre-meeting e-blast due to ongoing convention changes; instead, high-level visuals (net-assets, cash-available summary) will be shown at the membership meeting, with full financials available on request.
- Kurt moved, Scott seconded, and the board vote was unanimous to pledged \$50,000 to Chapters & Affiliates to match Wild Sheep Foundation’s \$50,000 for the Mullen Fire Cheatgrass Treatment project, with the pledge subject to membership approval.

### **## Convention / Fundraising**

- Weekly raffles generate roughly \$4–5K in sales with an estimated 10–15% net, effectively covering ongoing operating costs and providing flexible cash flow.
- Registration stands at 349 (vs. 337 at the same point in 2025); full curl tables (20 vs. 22 last year) and Friday night ticket sales are like last year.
- Underwriting is slightly ahead of last year, while sponsorship revenue is about \$8,000 behind; strong gold sponsors such as 1876 are important for starting the event “in the black.”
- Gold Sponsorship Discussion: The board approved adding one firearm (not to exceed \$500 in value) to the \$5,000 gold sponsor package, which also includes a full curl table, advertising, online recognition, social posts, and a plaque or certificate. Bruce moved, Jimmy seconded, and the board unanimously approved adding one firearm (value not to exceed \$500; “firearm” replacing “rifle”) to the standard \$5,000 gold sponsor package.

Convention planning highlighted strong raffles (~\$4–5K/week), a live auction catalog of roughly \$700,000, new gold sponsor firearm benefit, sponsorship shortfall (~ \$8,000 behind last year), and insured shipment of premier Townsend firearms to an August auction.

- Dean reported a strong live auction lineup with an estimated catalog value near \$700,000, not including new elements such as the four-wheeler raffle, 50-50, and pay-to-play, which could add significant net revenue.
- Premier firearms were insured for \$25,000 and shipped for about \$680 to the auction house for an August premier sale; items are fully insured and tracked.

### **## Marketing & Communications**

Marketing and communications discussions recognized a social media capacity gap with Lauren leaving after convention; the board will compare a contracted firm (e.g., Epic Outdoors) against a part-time staffer, also pursuing low-cost reach via Game & Fish FOIA email lists.

- Current staffing (Lauren on social, Kendra on newsletter, Brandy on website, Dean on occasional video) cannot sustain the growing communications load, especially once Lauren departs after convention.
- Epic Outdoors has indicated willingness to work with WWSF, offering:
  - Magazine ads (nine issues, ~6,000 subscribers, ~ \$1,500/issue with potential nonprofit discounts).
  - E-blasts to about 120,000 recipients (~ \$5,000 per blast), suitable for high-value raffles.



- Social media management (~\$1,000/month) and a possible website rebuild (~\$3,000).
- Hunting Fool has not yet responded to outreach from President Clifford.
- Directors discussed that investing in professional communications (firm or part-time staff) is likely necessary to continue growth in raffles, membership, and overall reach.
- A low-cost list-building strategy will seek Wyoming Game & Fish point-holder email lists via FOIA, potentially adding over 150,000 addresses; these will be cleaned, de-duplicated, and imported with clear privacy and opt-out language.

### **## Governance: Bylaws & Ethics**

- Bylaws changes approved for member consideration include:
  - Removing "North American" language so the chapter can participate in international projects aligned with WSF; directors expect this may be controversial and will prepare careful explanations.
  - Clarifying membership lists for chapter business only, adding privacy protections.
  - Cleaning up quorum language to define those members present at the annual meeting as constituting the quorum; expressly allowing electronic member meetings and broadening notice from "email" to "electronic."
  - Explicitly setting the fiscal year as January 1–December 31 and replacing "bookkeeper" with "board designee."
  - Allowing electronic or mail balloting with one ballot per member and permitting vote counting by a three-director committee (not on the ballot) or a professional firm.
  - Requiring that changes to board size be made by members on recommendation of the board.
  - Clarifying that officers (president, vice president, treasurer, secretary) are elected internally by the board by majority vote and announced at or after the annual meeting.
  - Removing the requirement for an immediate post-annual board meeting and confirming that regular and special meetings may be held electronically or outside Wyoming.
  - Adding a Responsible AI Use section requiring board oversight, mission alignment, human review of significant AI-assisted decisions, and protection of privacy.
  - Updating director role language to emphasize guiding policy and membership wishes in coordination with officers and expanding conflict-of-interest coverage to the deputy director and all staff and contractors.

Bruce moved, John seconded, and the board voted unanimously to approve presenting bylaws revisions as the board's recommendation to membership and distributing redlines and explanations by e-blast before the annual meeting.

### **- Ethics policy revisions:**

- Clarify that sanctions occur only after a conviction (guilty plea, court finding, or acceptance of a ticket that results in conviction).
- Explicitly cover any temporary or permanent suspension related to fish, game, or wildlife-conservation violations.
- Preserve the ethics committee's role in investigating and recommending actions while confirming that the board retains final authority.
- Require that any board modification of ethics committee recommendations be documented in the minutes and communicated back to the committee.

Kurt moved, Bruce seconded, and the board voted unanimously to approve presenting the recommended ethics policy amendments to the membership for final adoption at the annual meeting.



### **## Fundraising / Auction Items**

- Challenge coins:
  - Proposal to buy ~100 coins (\$1,300–\$1,500) and pair them with a raffle drawing (e.g., rifle) was discussed; potential net could be several thousand dollars.
  - Directors expressed mixed support about \$\$ donated and used on trinkets vs. direct on the ground conservation spending; no motion was made. No further action required.
  - Any future consideration will require a specific business and marketing plan with projected revenue.
- Gearheart Outdoors (Total Outdoors Adventures):
  - Platform has sold over 11,000 trips and generated significant net revenue for charities; used by California Wild Sheep and Arizona Bighorn.
  - Offers a complimentary veterans hunt when used at banquets and provides domestic and international trips.
  - Considered better suited for a future banquet than the imminent convention; evaluation will continue.
- Donated coyote pelts:
  - Donor offered 30+ tanned pelts ( $\approx$  \$1,000 in tanning costs), enough for a medium coat; estimated finished value in the several-thousand-dollar range, with sewing costing about \$1,000.
  - Consensus favored a live auction coat with strong presentation (e.g., mannequin/model), possibly at Reno or a future event. Katie to relay to Bob the direction BOD discussed.
  - The live auction committee will decide whether to feature the item this year, move it online, or defer to a later event.

### **## Personnel**

- Tony Mong has submitted retirement paperwork to Wyoming Game & Fish; his final function as an employee will be at Burgess Junction.
- He is moving to a nonprofit habitat position near Cody.
- The board expressed appreciation and discussed recognizing Tony with a complimentary life membership; records indicate he is not currently a member, so status will be confirmed and a presentation planned if appropriate.

### **## Events and Deadlines**

- Chapters & Affiliates – May 14, Grand Junction (Mullen Fire appeal).
  - GIA meeting – May 19, 7:00 PM (special meeting; includes convention updates).
  - Seminole Pump Storage Pint Night / TRW Committee Meeting – May 27–28, Casper (virtual option).
  - Tentative pre-convention check-in – May 27, 6:00 PM (to be held or cancelled depending on conflicts and need).
  - WGFD Special Commission Meeting – May 29 (virtual), including Goshen County land acquisition.
  - Summer Convention – June 5–6, Casper.
  - Burgess Junction – June 24–25 (includes Tony's final Game & Fish event).
  - Conservation Roundtable – June 25, Gillette.
  - Governor Sportsman's Conservation Forum – June 26, Gillette.
- Motion to adjourn by John Harris with second by Jimmy. Approved.

Respectfully submitted by



Bruce Perryman, Secretary