



Board of Directors Meeting on April 8, 2026 – 7 PM

- Meeting presided over by President Bralli Clifford.
- Directors absent: Cathy Keene and Zach McDermott.
- Staff/regular contractors referenced: Dean (admin/finance), Katie (ED), Kendra (Rampage/newsletter), Lauren (ads/graphics), Brandy (website/hosting), Tera (merchandise).

Financials

- Investment accounts are currently down; timing was difficult due to a large grant payout.
- Approximately \$110,000 in pending grants were paid in Q1, representing about 30% of outstanding GIA obligations; these grants had been delayed several years.
- Restricted GIA line reflects approved but unpaid commitments; pass-through of \$20,000 for the Cody mural split into two payments (half this quarter, half at project completion).
- Long-standing \$5,000 poaching reward fund retained as a restricted line item; board affirmed it remains appropriate and useful as a deterrent.
- Raffles have stabilized at \$8,000–\$10,000 gross per week, returning about \$0.29 per dollar; projected net for the year is over \$100,000, expected to cover two staff salaries.
- Notable payments: Carrying Capacity film Jackson venue (matched by a \$2,500 micro-grant from the Wildlife Fund), additional Cody venue invoice expected; down payment on four-wheeler raffle; convention merchandise; travel expenses; life member plaque shipping; QuickBooks and web processing fees.
- Payroll showed two runs in March due to timing overlap with February.

Motions

- Motion to approve checks as written was made by John Harris, seconded by Jimmy.
- Vote: Unanimous approval.
- Motion to approve the March credit card statement made by John Harris, seconded by Bruce.
- Vote: Unanimous approval.
- Finance Committee to meet to finalize cash-raffle handling procedures.

Staff & Operations

- Katie reported March travel to multiple regional conventions (Pennsylvania, Eastern, Midwest, Iowa), resulting in over \$1 million raised on governor's tags before Wyoming's own sale.
- Katie actively engaged in Carrying Capacity roadshow planning, education presentations (Cheyenne Sportsman's Expo, Casper College), and Seminole Pump Storage opposition meetings.
- Dean reported raffle performance, the Roy Roath gun online auction (running to April 30, proceeds to the conservation fund), and preparations to post the June live auction by about April 15.
- Dean and Katie demonstrated use of Google Calendar and Shared Drive:
- Shared board calendar for all meetings; board invites go to individual WWSF calendars.
- Agendas and financial folders can be attached directly to calendar invites.
- Dean created a table of contents and a simple search tool for the Shared Drive to help locate files (e.g., bios, board materials).
- Claude AI continues to streamline financial tracking, macros, and documentation.



Marketing & Communications

- Discussion on long-term marketing support and division of roles among Kendra (Rampage/newsletter), Lauren (ads/graphics), and Brandy (hosting/technical).
- Consensus:
- Retain Brandy for hosting, security, and plugin/technical maintenance.
- Engage Kendra more deeply for website content updates, e-blasts, and routine marketing at \$25/hour.
- Keep Lauren engaged for Facebook/social ads and creative design; encourage close collaboration between Kendra and Lauren on campaigns and messaging.
- Action: Dean, Katie, and Jayden will:
- Define 2–3 immediate marketing priorities.
- Draft a simple marketing plan and task list.
- Set and join a Zoom session with Kendra and Lauren to coordinate work, access, and responsibilities.
- WyooGives:
- Bralli enrolled the chapter in WyoGives for \$100 to increase statewide visibility and online giving.
- Donation “levels” set (Lamb, Ewe, Ram, Grant & Aid); board will identify potential “seed” donors to boost early visible support and momentum.

Projects & Conservation

- Carrying Capacity Roadshow
 - Upcoming dates: Dubois (Apr 11), Cody (Apr 23, Draper Museum), Jackson (May 7).
 - Cody and Jackson events are larger, donor-rich opportunities; NRA Foundation ED (Virginia) expressed interest in attending Cody with Wyoming donors.
 - The Film recently won People’s Choice at the Working for Wildlands festival, underscoring strong public reception.
- Seminoe Pump Storage
 - Katie attended the Natrona County Commissioners presentation, commissioners and public sentiment strongly negative.
 - The project is likely to proceed to FERC licensing but faces serious fundraising and public-relations challenges.
 - Topic adopted by the Travel, Recreation, Wildlife (TRW) Committee for a short interim discussion in May; WWSF will continue coordinated opposition, information-sharing, and tracking.
- Bridger–Teton Species of Conservation Concern
 - Ongoing conversations with the Forest Service and partners; process slowed by regional reorganization.
 - National partners (Oregon, NWF) coordinate broader bighorn treatment as a species of conservation concern on national forests and aligning messaging.
- Pedro / Sweetwater Rocks / NRCS Incentives
 - A coordinated landowner meeting is still being arranged; emphasis on locally driven invitations to avoid past tensions and build trust.
 - Katie coordinated with Wool Growers’ Allison; Game and Fish gathering information on current and potential domestic flocks.
 - Matt identified top EQIP/NRCS payment recipients in Fremont County overlapping key private lands and is working with NRCS contacts to design a Conservation Stewardship/EQIP approach that rewards bighorn-friendly practices.
 - The concept may provide a federal incentive talking point for Pedro and Sweetwater Rocks landowners and strengthen outreach efforts.
- Cheatgrass / Mowing Project
 - John coordinated with Sam Cunningham (WSF) to submit this project for the Chapter & Affiliates “big ask” in May (targeting \$100,000–\$200,000).



- Katie will secure slides/data from Game and Fish (Keaton/Ryan) to support the pitch, highlighting expansion of sheep use in treated burn areas and the precedent of cheatgrass control in wilderness.
- UW Outreach
 - Matt presented to the University of Wyoming Lamb Growers Club on parallels between domestic and wild sheep, Sweetwater Rocks work, and statewide bighorn issues.
 - The audience included students, faculty, and extension staff; focus on shared interests, practical examples, and policy disconnects.

Convention & Fundraising (June 6, 2026 – Casper)

- Venues & Lodging
 - Saturday banquet and expo locked in at Ford Wyoming Center; capacity around 500; can adjust seating until about 10 days prior.
 - Fire Rock Steakhouse reserved for Thursday board dinner; individual checks.
 - Sunday breakfast at The Hangar; no room fee, full menu, individual checks.
 - Life Member Breakfast remains at Ford Center; planning nearly complete and the program is largely finalized.
 - Ramkota continues to have communication issues (room block confusion, Friday night double-booking); Americinn/Hilton strongly recommended for rooms.
 - Forward planning: Board intends to consolidate all 2027 convention events (Friday rendezvous, Saturday expo/banquet, Life Member Breakfast, meetings) at Ford Center to streamline logistics.
- Friday Night Rendezvous
 - Ramkota double-booked Friday dinner; replacement venue City Works (historic downtown building) secured.
 - Catering costs comparable to the prior plan; Mike Porter/Ashton Thomas underwriting venue rental.
 - Program to include primary speaker, Hunting with Heroes segment, and a short student presentation on Sweetwater Rocks if suitable and ready.
- Auctions & Raffles
 - Live auction: ~36 items ready, estimated value about \$300,000 with roughly \$140,000 in costs; target posting by April 15 to qualify for Online Hunting Auctions email features.
 - Workflow: three-day “view only” period, then each donor receives a link to verify item details; after that, bidding opens.
 - Silent auction: ~46 items entered; target 50 slots, with a few held open for late high-value donations (e.g., coyote furs, FNAZ buckles, apparel package).
 - Life Member Breakfast: 11 high-quality live items; four silent slots left for final additions and special pieces.
 - Firearms: multiple discounted rifles have been secured from Browning and Rocky Mountain; Kathy’s New Castle rifles retrieved and in transfer; additional youth-support firearms donated.
 - Games & raffles: prize list and mechanics finalized; four-wheeler “scratch” pay-to-play game set; safe raffle image selected from custom art by Bill Sincavage.
 - Katie to coordinate with Saratoga Bob on Coyote pelts and then decide where to best place them for maximum value...live auction was suggested. Matt offer to haul up from Laramie if needed.
- Merchandise & Donor Items
 - Central “unassigned” folder created for donation forms and items awaiting placement (live, silent, games, expo).
 - Bonfire online store active; Dean ordered sample hats/shirts for physical display with QR codes linking to memberships, merchandise, and raffles.
 - Gun Safe wrap Option #1 was selected.
- Expo
 - Vendor booths mostly sold; about 10–12 still available.
 - Planned demos:



- Lee Livingston horse-packing (repeated through the day).
- Boone & Crockett scoring by TK Atkinson (plus handmade leather goods).
- Potential skull-aging/Type 2 education with Game and Fish (pending Ryan's coordination and materials).
- U-skull and additional heads for aging practice; board members may bring specimens.
- Marketing:
- Lauren is running targeted Facebook campaigns for the expo and banquet.
- Eastmans assisting with connected-TV/streaming ads (management donated; WWSF covers the ad buy).
- Jayden preparing event schedules and will coordinate demo times with vendors; messaging to clarify expo entry vs. banquet tickets and that the banquet includes expo access.
- Use of Give Smart and email blasts to communicate with all registered guests; additional pre-event email to banquet registrants promoting expo attendance and features.

Life Member Breakfast Policy

- Dean raised the issue of non-life-member spouses inadvertently registered for breakfast, especially when coupled with donations.
- The Board reaffirmed the "life member only" principle but acknowledged occasional edge cases (e.g., youth life members, guardians).
- Direction: Dean to handle current cases individually (offering life-membership purchase as primary remedy) and the board will standardize a clear written policy for future years.

Partner Relations & MOUs

- WWSF–Wyoming Wildlife Federation MOU:
- Katie met with WWF's Craig; first draft MOU written and under internal refinement.
- Draft will be circulated to the board for review; both organizations see strong mutual benefit and are optimistic about formal collaboration.

- Katie to review State Forestry Health Grant Application and determine if any Wild sheep project could be submitted or leverage the Steve project funds into a bigger project.

- Discussion on the Boone & Crockett Fellowship position with UW was had. More discussion and information to be gathered and provided.

Awards & Nominations

- Desert Sheep Conservationist Award
 - Eligible nominees narrowed to:
 - Tony Mong & Dr. Kevin Monteith
 - Confirmation obtained that Monteith's ewe harvest does not disqualify him.
 - Board vote conducted via hand-raise on Zoom:
 - Votes for Monteith: 5 & Votes for Mong: 4
 - Decision: Nominate Dr. Kevin Monteith.
 - Action: Bralli to draft nomination write-up and brief bio and submit by April 11; Katie and Dean to review before submission and suggest any refinements.



Policy & Season Setting

- Katie summarized internal Game and Fish justification for proposed 2026 Ferris–Seminoe tag changes (increase of 18 tags) and confirmed season-setting meetings generated minimal opposition on sheep quotas.
- Email summary and agency rationale were sent to the board for review.
- Action:
- Starting next year, March agendas will include a specific review of proposed season settings so WWSF can comment as needed and meet agency timelines.
- Board members are encouraged to contact regional biologists or Darrel directly with concerns, and to attend local season-setting meetings when possible.

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- Wyoming TWS Annual Meeting – April 7–10, Sheridan.
- Carrying Capacity Roadshow – Dubois Apr 11; Cody Apr 23; Jackson May 7.
- WY Game & Fish Commission – April 21–22, Riverton.
- Thin Horn Summit – May 5–7, Canada.
- WSF Chapter & Affiliates – May 14–16, Grand Junction.
- Summer Convention & Expo – June 6, Casper (Ford Wyoming Center).
- Burgess Junction Sheep Summit – June 24–25.
- Finance Committee cash-raffle meeting – April (date set internally).
- Executive session held at close of the meeting (details not recorded in open minutes).

Next Board Meeting: May 13, @ 7pm

Executive Session

- Bruce moved to go into Executive Session and Kurt E seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous
- A 45 minute discussion occurred.
- A motion by Bruce was made to proceed with a vote based on discussion per the by laws, Jayden B seconded. Role call to proceed with a vote was unanimous.
- A motion was made by John H and seconded by Bruce to return back to the regular Board meeting
- A motion was made by Matt and seconded by John H. to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Bruce Perryman, Secretary