



WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

BOD Meeting October 2026

Attendance

Present: Bralli Clifford (President), John Harris, Scott Butler / Zach McDermott, Kurt Eisenach, Cathy Keene, Bruce Perryman, Matt Hoobler, Tera Butler, Greg Pope (joined in progress)

Staff: Katie Cheesbrough (Executive Director), present for the open session; excused prior to Executive Session

Absent/Excused: Jayden, Jimmy, Dean DiJenno

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 p.m.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the prior meeting minutes, previously circulated with no issues raised.

Motion by John Harris to approve the prior meeting minutes, seconded by Zach McDermott. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Cathy Keene (incoming Treasurer), working from data prepared by outgoing Treasurer Dean DiJenno, reviewed the profit and loss statement, balance sheet, bank statement, and credit card statement.

- Current financials reflect no net income/loss out of the ordinary; most negative variance relates to unrealized investment losses and end-of-quarter GIA (Grant-in-Aid) payments.
- Reimbursement from Wild Sheep Foundation (National) for the D.C. trip is still outstanding and was discussed as a receivable item to track going forward.
- The Board discussed improving tracking of reimbursements as accounts receivable and clarifying the frequency (monthly vs. quarterly) of investment account reconciliation.
- Cathy Keene confirmed the Chapter's new Lander, WY post office box has been reported to the bank (Mandy).
- Credit card and check detail were reviewed, including charges for the TRW Committee meetings (Katie Cheesbrough's lodging/travel), D.C. Fly-In expenses, UPS, Wyoming Nonprofit Network annual renewal, the new Lander P.O. Box, and checks to Newcastle Lodge & Convention Center (winter meeting), Lammers Media, Weatherby, the National Bighorn Sheep Center (~\$2,500), and J. Eric Kincaid (Cody mural).

Motion by Scott Butler to approve the checks and credit card statement as presented, seconded by Kurt Eisenach. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Katie Cheesbrough provided a detailed report of her activities over the past month, summarized below.

- Testified at the Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife & Cultural Resources Legislative Committee meeting in Jackson; monitored a gaming bill of interest to WWSF partners.
- Worked with the Hunt Fish Partners Coalition on gubernatorial candidate outreach regarding the Governor's Big Game License Coalition MOU and Seminole Pump Storage Project (SPSP) priorities.



- Attended a strategy meeting convened by Commissioner Masterson in Casper regarding the SPSP BLM process, and drafted WWSF comments on the BLM Notice of Intent (still unsent; considering joining a Trout Unlimited comment letter instead).
- Submitted comments on the Roadless Rule travel management rulemaking, focused on the cheatgrass/fire-risk issue.
- Represented WWSF at the federal D.C. Fly-In, including meetings with Representative Hageman's, Senator Barrasso's, and Senator (Torrey) P. Garden's offices, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service International Affairs; raised concerns that state agencies were not designated cooperating agencies in the BLM SPSP scoping process.
- Participated in Wild Sheep Foundation's national Legislative Affairs Committee, submitting Wyoming's legislative and regulatory priorities.
- Testified (virtually) at the Grand Targhee expansion objection resolution meeting on behalf of WWSF, National Wild Sheep Foundation, and other coalition partners; attended a Bridger-Teton Forest Plan coalition meeting in Jackson.
- Continued coordination on the Kilpatrick allotment buyout and cross-border bighorn sheep management issues with Wyoming Game and Fish.
- Reviewed Governor's Big Game License Investigative Committee project extensions and grant closeout documentation.
- Reported receiving only one response (from Kurt Eisenach) to the draft strategic plan; a strategic planning committee meeting will be scheduled.
- Reported continued negotiation of the Wyoming Sports Ranch contract for the 2027 Friday Night Rendezvous, including a potential catering donation from Eddington's.
- Noted Rampage Magazine article submissions and ongoing merchandise coordination with Kurt Eisenach.

SPSP / BLM Process Discussion

Bruce Perryman asked whether WWSF risks losing standing by not submitting its own comments on the SPSP. Katie Cheesbrough explained the distinction between the BLM NOI scoping process and the FERC comment process, and confirmed a WWSF comment letter is in draft as a potential addendum. Discussion followed regarding Representative Hageman's office's receptiveness to WWSF's concerns about state agency involvement and states' rights, and regarding the Martin's Cove (Mormon Church) land exchange, on which Bralli Clifford reported a separate, productive site visit with four congressional offices.

Kilpatrick Allotment Buyout

Bralli Clifford reported discussions with Jim Collins and Martin Hicks (Interaction Working Group chair) regarding WWSF's potential involvement in and funding support for the Kilpatrick allotment buyout, honoring Steve Kilpatrick's legacy. Martin Hicks will inform the Wyoming Game & Fish Big Game Management Group. Cathy Keene relayed positive feedback from the Kilpatrick family regarding WWSF's involvement.

Raffle Update

Bruce Perryman reported three raffles currently ongoing, with two additional raffles (a custom build-your-own rifle, \$20/ticket, and a Midwest-rules hunt raffle) launching October 15, plus Jayden's red stag hunt-for-two raffle beginning December 1 — six raffles total heading into the winter meeting.

Marketing Update



The Board discussed Lammers Media's shift from a raffle-ticket-focused push toward broader organizational storytelling and mission-based marketing. The Board agreed this is a wise strategy, noting the goal of informing supporters how their contributions are used rather than focusing solely on fundraising asks.

Winter Meeting Planning

- Matt Hoobler reported a speaker/invitee planning committee meeting will be scheduled; confirmed a hotel room block exists at the Convention Center under "Wyoming Wild Sheep" (no associated discount).
- Tera Butler reported approximately nine attendees expected for a dedication/thank-you event honoring Cathy Townsend on Saturday night, and that 10–12 items are ready for the silent auction; GiveSmart admin access issues with Dean DiJenno are ongoing.
- The Board discussed the Whoop-Up Canyon tour: True Ranches, through Greg Pope's efforts, has agreed to waive the \$500-per-vehicle trespass fee for approximately 10–15 vehicles. The BLM's Lucas will serve as tour guide and give a presentation; no honorarium is required.
- The Board discussed recognizing True Ranches as an in-kind donor/sponsor (via a donation form prepared by Greg Pope) and via social media, while being mindful of True Ranches' preferences regarding how publicly the trespass-fee waiver itself is described.
- Bralli Clifford advised the Board that Dean DiJenno will likely be unable to attend the winter meeting due to planned knee surgery.

Deputy Director Transition

Bralli Clifford reminded the Board that Cathy Keene has taken on bookkeeping/accounting and GIA tracking duties previously handled by Dean DiJenno. The Board was encouraged to take on additional pieces of Dean's day-to-day responsibilities over the next six months to properly evaluate whether, and at what level, a replacement hire may be needed.

Governance Documents

Katie Cheesbrough presented four board governance documents (adapted from Wild Sheep Foundation national templates, including conflict-of-interest and whistleblower policies), reviewed and redlined by outside counsel, who indicated the substance of the documents was sound.

Motion by John Harris to approve the governance documents, seconded by Cathy Keene, to approve all four documents with the attorney's redline changes as presented. Motion passed.

The Board discussed drafting a bylaws amendment referencing these governance documents and requiring annual Board review and signature, to be presented at the winter meeting, and posting the approved documents to the WWSF website in advance of the winter meeting.

Other Reports and Updates

- Roadless Rule: Katie Cheesbrough's comments focused on the cheatgrass/fire-access issue; no further Board questions.
- Tribal Partner Meeting: Katie Cheesbrough has not yet connected with Art or Pat Nillica; will follow up.
- National Bighorn Sheep Center Fundraiser (November 7): A table of eight confirmed, including John Harris & Mary Mason, Dean DiJenno & spouse, Katie Cheesbrough's family, and Cathy Keene & Gary; children will be included without separate seats.
- Commissioner Candidate Support: The Board discussed a potential letter of support for a Hot Springs County commissioner candidate recommended by Jim Collins, as well as a possible second candidate



(Bill Aldrich). Bruce Perryman raised concern about diluting WWSF's credibility by supporting multiple candidates; the Board noted it has not previously issued commissioner candidate letters of support. The Board agreed to have Katie Cheesbrough gather further candidate information through the Hunt Fish Partners Coalition before finalizing any letter, being mindful of 501(c)(3) compliance considerations.

- Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition: John Harris drafted a letter of support to gubernatorial candidate Eric Barlow; Mary Mason to hand-deliver it at the Wyoming Women Antelope Hunt this weekend.
- Interaction Working Group: The November 17 meeting is likely to be postponed pending transitions in state leadership (including the retirement of Director Miyamoto and a change in DEQ leadership).
- Tera Butler reported on an LCCC/Kenzie-led youth gear fundraiser (October 10–11 and 17–18) benefiting WWSF; Bralli Clifford requested the event's social media information for cross-promotion via Lammers Media and the newsletter.
- Sponsorship Development Committee: Cathy Keene requested Board input on potential sponsor companies; current committee members are Cathy Keene, Bralli Clifford, Dean DiJenno, and Katie Cheesbrough. A committee meeting will be scheduled after Dean DiJenno returns on the 16th.
- Bruce Perryman raised the Wyoming Farm Bureau annual meeting (Casper, registration deadline October 9) as a possible partnership opportunity on the Seminoe Pump Storage Project. The Board agreed Katie Cheesbrough should first consult with Allison at the Wyoming Wool Growers Association before engaging with the Farm Bureau.
- Katie Cheesbrough noted a pending invitation for Bill Berninger to present to the Board at a future meeting, and offered to share a legislative/policy strategy presentation; the Board opted to hear the presentation before moving into Executive Session.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting was set for November 11, 2026.

Motion to Enter Executive Session

Motion by John Harris to move into Executive Session, seconded by Bruce Perryman. Motion passed. Katie Cheesbrough was excused from the meeting at this time.

[The Board convened in Executive Session to discuss personnel and contract matters. Executive Session proceedings are not reflected in these minutes.]

Action Following Executive Session

Motion by Kurt Eisenach, with second by Bruce Perryman, to approve Katie's contract as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by John Harris, with second by Zach McDermott, to approve Dean's contract as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Cathy Keene:

- Continue transition of bookkeeping, GIA tracking, and reconciliation duties from Dean DiJenno; clarify investment account reconciliation frequency and reimbursement/receivable tracking.
- Compile sponsorship committee input and schedule a sponsorship development committee meeting after Dean DiJenno returns (Oct. 16).



Katie Cheesbrough:

- Finalize and send WWSF comments on the BLM SPSP Notice of Intent, or confirm joining the Trout Unlimited comment letter.
- Follow up with Art and Pat Nillica regarding the tribal partner meeting.
- Gather additional candidate information through the Hunt Fish Partners Coalition before the Board finalizes any commissioner candidate letter of support.
- Contact Allison at the Wyoming Wool Growers Association regarding potential Farm Bureau/SPSP partnership before engaging the Farm Bureau directly.
- Coordinate scheduling for Bill Berninger's presentation to the Board at a future meeting.

Matt Hoobler:

- Schedule winter meeting speaker/invitee committee meeting.
- Continue coordinating with the BLM's Lucas on the Whoop-Up Canyon tour presentation.

Tera Butler:

- Send Cathy Townsend's attendee list (name, email, phone) to Bralli Clifford for GiveSmart registration.
- Send LCCC/Kenzie fundraiser Facebook page/post information to Bralli Clifford for cross-promotion.

Greg Pope:

- Prepare an in-kind donation form recognizing True Ranches for the Whoop-Up Canyon tour trespass-fee waiver.

Bralli Clifford:

- Draft bylaws amendment paragraph referencing the Board governance documents and annual review/signature requirement; circulate to the Board and prepare for the winter meeting.
- Coordinate posting of approved governance documents to the WWSF website ahead of the winter meeting.

All Board Members:

- Identify and take on portions of Dean DiJenno's day-to-day responsibilities over the next six months to help evaluate future staffing needs.
- Submit photos, hunt stories, and recipes to Kendra for the upcoming newsletter.
- Provide sponsorship committee with potential sponsor company suggestions.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.