WYOMING WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2026

- Call to Order: President Bralli Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM by video conference.

- Present: Bralli Clifford, President; Matt Hoobler, Vice President; Bruce Perryman, Secretary; Cathy Keene, Treasurer; John Harris; Scott Butler; Jaden Bales; Greg Pope. Staff: Katie Cheesbrough, Executive Director; Dean DiJenno, Deputy Director. Guest: Bill Brinegar, Executive Director, Hunting with Heroes Wyoming.

- Absent: Zach McDermott, Past President; Jimmy Owens; Kurt Eisenach.

- Presentation – Hunting with Heroes: Bill Brinegar reviewed the program's history and reforms. He now reviews every donated license, uses an internal drawing for sheep and moose tags, and builds guide tips into hunt costs. The WGFD Commission has made donated sheep and moose licenses once-in-a-lifetime and limited recipients to two full-price licenses in five years. He proposed a partnership in which WY-WSF helps fund an outfitted sheep hunt in exchange for publicity and auction donations. Board members questioned whether a partnership fits the chapter's mission and would require bylaws or membership review. The committee will evaluate the proposal and report back to the Board.

- Approval of Minutes (October 7, 2026): Motion by John Harris, second by Jaden Bales, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

- Treasurer's Report: Dean DiJenno reviewed the balance sheet, which now shows accounts receivable and payable, and explained where supporting documents are in the finance folder. Cash available on November 1 was –$14,498.50, reflecting raffle obligations not payable until spring. Cathy Keene suggested showing the endowment separately on the balance sheet and noted the books are presented on an accrual basis while taxes are filed on a cash basis; Dean will connect her with accountant Dirk.
    - Motion: Scott Butler moved, and Bruce Perryman seconded, to approve the past month's income and expenses. At Greg Pope's request, the motion was amended to include checks and credit card statements. Amended motion carried.

- Executive Director's Report (Katie Cheesbrough):
    - SPSP: Coalition comments and a bighorn sheep addendum co-signed by WSF were submitted to BLM on October 13.
    - Grand Targhee: The Forest Service objection response (October 26) did not stop the South Bowl expansion but agreed bighorn viability findings must be resolved. A Record of Decision is expected in the new year.
    - Gaming legislation: One bill failed in committee. Bill 27LSO-0098 would make online sweepstakes a felony; properly run charitable raffles are exempt.
    - TRW Committee (November 9–10): A long-term WGFD funding bill passed committee.
    - Commissioner candidates: TU and WWF advised against formal letters of support. The next open seats are for residences located in Platte, Uinta, and HOt Sproings Counties

  - GIA and projects: Three fall GIA proposals were received (deadline extended to November 11). Unspent grant balances will be rolled back with proponents' approval. A letter supporting BLM conifer removal is due November 18, with WSF signing on. An allotment buyout funded by Steve's legacy gift is in progress; details are confidential until it closes.
  - Other: Tribal partner meeting expected later in November. Katie presented WY-WSF's GIA tracking system to WSF chapters and affiliates on November 5. Life members Jack Welch and Scott Talbot were inducted into the Wildlife Hall of Fame.

- Deputy Director's Report (Dean DiJenno): Bralli noted Dean will continue volunteering after his paid role ends March 31, 2027. Dean reported on raffle sales, website security, winter meeting registration and GiveSmart setup, Reno silent auction work and GIA postings. He asked that new GIAs be funded from the Life Member or Conservation Fund rather than the General Fund, and will present a year-end fund transfer list.

- Old Business:
  - Action items: October 7 action items were reviewed; most are complete or in progress.
  - Strategic planning: Deferred; Zach was absent.
  - Raffle update: Sales have improved, helped by interest in the Marco Polo hunt. A red stag hunt is being added, and the committee is focusing on more affordable hunts.
  - Marketing: $500 in Meta advertising generated about 50,700 ad views, 860 landing page views and 193 new followers. The Board will continue the monthly media contract. Bruce and Katie will gather WYDOT wildlife overpass data for a newsletter and Rampage feature.
  - Newsletter / Rampage: Strong reader feedback was reported. Annie Weiss of Peak to Plate will provide recipes. Board members are encouraged to submit articles and photos.
  - Winter meeting: WGFD will present the harvest report and Commissioner Fonzie Haskell will speak. True Ranches will be recognized as a sponsor. Registration closes November 24.
  - Governance documents: Motion by Greg Pope, second by John Harris, to approve the proposed bylaws amendment (new Section 10) requiring annual review and signature of governance documents. Motion carried. It will be presented to the membership in December with the whistleblower policy.
  - Sponsorship Committee: Cathy will schedule a committee meeting.
  - Summer Banquet – Sports Ranch contract: The venue dropped its commercial auto insurance requirement and approved firearms as raffle items. Motion by John Harris, second by Bruce Perryman, to authorize Katie to sign the contract. Motion carried.
  - Reno: Nevada law prohibits cash raffle sales, so all booth sales will be by card through Zeffy and QR codes. Dean will share a booth staffing sheet.
  - Commissioner candidate support: Motion by John Harris, second by Bruce Perryman, that WY-WSF not formally endorse a commission candidate. Motion carried. Support will be shown through relationships and conversations. Bralli will speak with Jim Collins. John Harris is considering applying for the Platte County seat.
  - Tribal partners: Cathy noted new tribal council members and proposed federal changes to tribal consultation, and urged meeting soon.
  - WGBGLC: 2027 secondary sellers are Midwest, Eastern, Iowa, National WSF and Grand Slam/Ovis; WY-WSF plans to skip selling in 2027.

- Bighorn Bash (November 7): Attended by Katie, John Harris and Dean; a group photo was sent to Kendra.

- New Business:
  - Commission / Roundtable / TRW: WGFD projects a funding shortfall of about $20 million a year and is pursuing a trust funded by severance tax revenue. Katie will send meeting summaries.
  - USNI funding opportunity: Through its partnership with WWF, WY-WSF was invited as a named partner in a multi-year campaign. The proposal could provide roughly $90,000–$160,000 in capacity funding over four years. No action needed.
  - Monthly giving: Bralli proposed promoting recurring donations before the December newsletter, featuring long-time monthly donor Scott Withers if he agrees. The Board supported the idea; Jaden suggested a perk for monthly donors.
  - Board size: The Board has had 11 members since 2000. Members will consider whether to reduce to nine, with a decision at the December board meeting before the membership meeting.
  - GIA proposals: Three proposals totaling $51,000: Ryan Brock S.H.E.E.P. program ($10,000), Lori Sincavage children's books ($1,000) and Dr. Kevin Monteith research ($40,000). Katie will send them out; the Board will vote at the December 4 meeting.

- Upcoming Events: The November 17 Interaction Working Group meeting was canceled. The WY-WSF Winter Meeting is December 4–5; Dean, Jaden and likely Jimmy will not attend.

- Next Board Meeting: December 4, 2026, at 1:00 PM at the winter meeting hotel.

- Action Items:
  - Bill Brinegar proposal – Committee to evaluate and report to the Board
  - Katie – Send GIA proposals, TRW and roundtable summaries, and the conifer removal letter to the Board
  - Katie – Draft commissioner tag commitment letters for John Harris (Fonzie Haskell) and Greg Pope to deliver
  - Katie – Sign the Sports Ranch contract
  - Bralli – Speak with Jim Collins about the commissioner candidate decision
  - Bralli – Send Bob Jocelyn the governance documents and bylaws amendment; post governance documents to the website with Dean
  - Bralli and Scott Butler – Contact Scott Withers and launch the monthly giving promotion
  - Bruce and Katie – Gather WYDOT wildlife overpass data for a newsletter feature
  - Greg Pope – Ask for a commissioner tag in person
  - Jaden – Return signed governance documents
  - Cathy – Schedule the Sponsorship Committee meeting
  - Dean – Share the Reno booth staffing sheet and Zeffy invites; prepare year-end fund transfer list
  - All Board members – Register for the winter meeting by November 24; review GIA proposals; consider board size

- Meeting Adjournment – Motion by Scott Butler, second by Greg Pope, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted by



Bruce Perryman, Secretary