



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management

Annual Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2006
Sheridan, Wyoming

In the absence of minutes from the Annual meeting in 2005 the Treasurer report was read. See attachment for the 4th quarter and final year reports. Motion to accept the report and second was noted. Membership approved.

Monte Bush reported on the results of the election. Misty Hays was elected as the President elect, Andi Myer was elected as the Northeast Council member and Marji Patz was elected as the Southwest Council member. There will be a short Council meeting on November 30th at 11:00am.

Projects

Quilt Raffle: The quilt is on display and really should sell itself. We have not sold enough tickets to raffle the quilt off at the meeting. Need to meet a goal of \$2,000.00. People with raffle tickets and money should send them to Bob Sprentall who is the Sec./Treas. He will inform Monte when the goal of \$2,000.00 is met and a drawing will be held.

Seed Law: Rick Dunn is tracking a weed free seed law that has moved through the State committee. This will then have to go through the Dept. of Agriculture as they will be the determining body to add or remove noxious weeds from this list.

Awards

There was a proposal for a change in the Wyoming Section Awards to add the Young Professional and Sustained Lifetime Achievement Awards. The Section would also retain the current Awards. This would put us on equal footing with the National Awards. Jerry Jasmer moved to accept this proposal and it was second by Misty Hays. Motion approved.

Crazy Auction Items: These items need to be separated out by SRM and SWCS items.

Young Professional: Summer gave an update on the Young Professional Conclave. This is for those individuals who are young or young in their career. This group was initiated at the National level. There needs to be involvement and to give this group assignments to keep them involved and interested in SRM.

John Tanaka: John gave an update on what is happening at the National level of SRM. We currently have 3,500 members and membership is declining. John is forming a task

force on why this is happening and to report to the Board and Advisory Council at Reno. There are some possible activities to improve membership from providing monetary incentives to Section to increase and maintain membership and to have the International Chapter membership dues at \$25.00. Also, there would be a check off box to assist those who want to be a member of the International Section. There is a task group on the accreditation of Universities. Universities must maintain Civil Servant requirements. There are currently 9 schools on the accredited list. John is also taking on a review of the Rangeland Periodical. The Board has asked John to develop a Task group to address this review. At present, the Rangeland News does not contain much news. This also needs to be reviewed of its purpose. There is also a proposal to develop a Rangeland Institute. This would be an educational group to establish and present programs. The Bureau of Land Management has placed on its Staff a Liaison and the Forest Service is currently working establishing a position. The NRCS has a position established but was not renewed. This is being re-addressed. The USFWS has stated that it is looking at have such a position. The Young Professional Conclave is long overdue and there is a need for it at the National level. This Conclave started at the grass roots level. There is a strong need to get nominations for the National level awards in.

Annual Meeting Proposal: There is a three tier proposal for conducting National Annual meetings. There has been a lot of discussion on the proposal by all Chapters. Due to the flux in the meeting proposal, Sections have been reluctant to submit bids for the meetings. The three tier proposal is as follows:

1. Re-establish the Summer meeting. This would be for Council and Committee members and the Board along with general membership. A tour would be established.
2. Regional Workshops on local issues
3. Annual meeting – based on a 3 to 4 city rotation

There was discussion by the membership on the electronic newsletter and the ease of use. It was the general concensus that it is a good use of the electronic age. There was discussion on the 3 tier proposal for conducting the National Annual meeting.

Since the Annual meeting issue is going to be discussed at the National Annual meeting in Reno, Rick made a motion to present the Wyoming Section resolution to not limit the annual meeting to a 3 to 4 city rotation. So moved by Marji and second by Monte. Question was raised that the real meaning to this is that the Sections not in the 3 to 4 city rotation would not be able to benefit from the monetary proceeds of the Annual meeting. Why not present to the Board that to look at ways to distribute the proceeds in an equitable fashion to all Sections.

Resolution was passed by the Membership.

Meeting Adjourned.



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Charlie Fifield presented what has come in for the budget. Council is to review and Charlie is to send out a summary statement. There will be a conf. call in January to approve the budget.

Introduction of Andi, Marji and Misty. Introductions of those present who are currently on the Council.

Rick asked the question of what the general impression of the Section to those who are leaving their positions. The biggest frustration is motivating individuals and getting responses to e-mails. What is working are the telephone conference calls in between the face-to-face Council meetings.

The current Council needs to outline goals for the 2007 calendar year.

We need to track past decisions.

Need to review and update handbook.

Pattly Slack is taking the lead of the Information and Education committee. New Council members need to review the committee list and take active roles in providing direction to the committees.

Dave Beard will do an article for the next Newsletter on the Range Schools.

Monte Bush took the gavel over as the President of the Wyoming Section.

Council Members need to rotate on doing Newsletter articles. The President elect is in charge of the annual meeting for 2007. We will have 4 Council meetings. One will be in the spring to correspond with the University of Wyoming Range Club symposia in Laramie and the other will be when WYRED is held in Medicine Bow. The other Council meetings will be telephone conferences. Budgets for the following year need to be submitted prior to the Annual meeting so approval can take place. The general membership really needs to work on getting award nominations in. There will be an issue on who is going to take over the Rangeland Cup since Brian and Rachel will be graduating.

Rick Dunn made a motion to fund the Rangeland Cup to the 1st place team for \$500.00 and to the 2nd place team in the amount of \$250.00 to off set travel costs to the National Meetings. Misty made a second to the motion. Approved by Council.

The Section Young Professional Conclave will probably approach the Council to a representation position on the Council.

Marji stated that she will develop a Website security policy for the Council to review.

“The Bronze” – Rick stated that we need to price the Bronze to sell it. It is over priced now and we need to price it accordingly.