



*Wyoming Section*  
*Society for Range Management*  
Business Meeting Agenda  
November 19, 2014 - Evanston, WY

The Annual Business Meeting of the Wyoming Section Society for Range Management was called to session at 12:40 pm on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Session was recorded upon unanimous agreement of delegation. Opening Remarks to Business Meeting provided by Brian Mealor. The Counsel extends their appreciation

Secretary, Marji Patz, presented the minutes from the 2013 Annual Business meeting for approval. John Tanaka moved to accept the minutes with minor corrections, Chuck Butterfield seconded the motion, and minutes were approved as corrected.

Patz then presented the Treasurer Report to the delegation. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter statements were read due to the fiscal year is not complete. Clay Wood moved to accept the Treasurers report as stated, Windy Kelley seconded that motion. Motion passed and the Treasurers Report was approved.

Joe Hicks, the area representative on the Parent Society's Board of Directors (BOD), provided a report of the current items before the BOD's. The items of most concern is the membership and revenues of the Society. Jenny Pluhar (current President) provided a budget to show the revenues and expenses to the General Membership. The task is for the Society to live within its means. A task force on membership recruitment and retention are bringing good ideas forward and will be implementing these items during the 2014 Meeting. The concern or comments that our membership is bringing forward is that they feel that they are not being heard. They provide the following statement: If you don't like what you see, don't get discouraged, be involved and work from the ground up in the local sections and then move it forward to the BOD. Hicks comments that it is not all doom and gloom, they are working to improve and are making slow progress. He encourages each of us to stay active.

Question/answer session: Brian Mealor asked – What attendance is expected to be at Sacramento this year? - The BOD expects to see and increase as agencies have stepped up to meet the needs to get people there.

Committee Reports were offered by each chairman, and follow as such:

Awards – Michelle apologized for the delay in nomination notifications being sent forward. This year we have 2 Award of Merits, 1 Trailboss award, and 1 Sustained Lifetime Achievement. The council asks that each member think of one person to recommend or nominate under the long list of possible awards. The Society needs nominations to recognize the hard work that is being done. The delegation requests a recipient's list to be posted and kept as a working document to track and assist in nominations. We are working on this list and will work to retrieve records from the heritage center in Laramie.

Meetings – Windy Kelley provided an update on the current meeting. She reports that there are 80 people registered online, and a few on site. Students from multiple universities present and we are excited to have them. It was stated that the delegation, especially for the students, to have the website with all items posted with online registration. We had Southern University of Utah, Utah State University, Colorado State University, University of Wyoming in attendance this year.

Budget – The Budget was presented as reviewed by the council with the council's recommendations. Blaine Horn provided clarification in representation for the Committee. Rex Lockman, Mike Smith and

Blaine Horn are the active committee members at this time. The Range School clarification: Grant money was available to help initiate the program from the start and this money has continued to grow and has not been depleted. The Big Horn National Forest donated the paper and printing – completed and in thanks to Bill Bass and David Beard. Joe Hicks instigated the School and it continues to carry forward, so this is why there is still a significant budget. UW Range Club is raising their own funds and the Council is excited to see the efforts put forward. We do not want to discourage their efforts, and will support them as necessary but at this time they have agreed to withdraw their request. The council has determined that it is necessary to continue to support the Excellence in Stewardship award and travel funds when nominations are awarded. The Section needs to slow down and be careful of the spending and increase the fundraising for individual events as well as for the Section as a whole. The Budget is presented to the membership for approval. Mae Smith moves to approve the budget as presented by the council. Windy Kelley seconds it, and the Budget stands as approved.

Historian – Mike Smith requests the minutes, awards lists and other pertinent items of history from the section to put in the archives. Paper copies are requested as electronic are not accepted by the archive.

Information/Education – Windy Kelley reported that Brenda Yoankin is still interested in being the chairman of the committee. The display was checked and it is in need of updating. The display is currently housed at the Douglas Forest Service office. There is an interactive plant board at the UW campus. If have ideas or other display items please forward them to Brenda.

Outreach:

Website - The website is still under management/care of Amanda Stith. If any items need updated, added or corrected she can be contacted and the items completed quickly.

Newsletter - Brian Sebade is our newsletter editor, and he has had trouble getting the information necessary to complete the newsletter. Send items to [wysrmeditor@gmail.com](mailto:wysrmeditor@gmail.com).

Fundraising – Clay Wood extends a thank you to all those who provided items. If anyone would like to assist he is in need of committee members as well as assistance during the auction.

Membership – Chuck Butterfield reported that membership is declining both nationally and locally. Joe reported more on this. The strategic plan has action items focused just for this task. There is a redesign of the website occurring to make it more user friendly. They are working to improve the membership database and it is moving in the right direction. A recruiting plan has been put in place and working to get a tool or product to get membership up. There is discussion of doing a membership drive seminar at the national meetings to help in recruitment. There used to be incentives to get recruitment going, but there has not been these “carrots” recently. National is looking at what they can do to help encourage recruitment and retention. Currently there are about 171 members; database is not up to date. He has a delinquent list as of September and will be touching base with these members as he can. The associate memberships could be one avenue to get members in and would help get producers involved. Need to get the federal land managers involved as well as community colleges.

Nominations – Terry Booth was able to provide a great slate of Nominees for officers this year, He is in need of help or would like to find someone to take over. Brian Mealor stated, that we all should want to serve and be active in the Society.

Public Affairs

ESD – Mike Henn reported on the first ESD workshop held in Farson Wyoming. 40 participants participated in classroom and field activities. 2 conservation districts sponsored the event and so the committee did not use any of the requested SRM funds. The group is looking to start planning another workshop in the Rawlins/Casper area. The committee is looking for Members in the area to assist in finding sites, providing data, as well as facilitators to lead discussions. Presentations and information will

be posted to the website as well as materials that were provided for the class. The session was filmed and this will be available shortly. The group feedback suggested looking at expanding and doing some brown bag seminars to learn more on web soil survey and soil.

Range Schools – The school was originally modeled after the Colorado schools. In 2004/5 started the first schools, and then in 2013 did the first multiday session. They had 20 people who attended this session. Tried to repeat this in Kemmerer in 2014, but only had 2 or 3 registrations. Comments made the point that most people want the training localized, the classroom and field both. Extension has help pay for and support the range schools as well as provide funds for rooms and meals for educators. The committee poses the question as to do we want to continue? How do we continue? Joe is interested in getting involved again, as well as others. The group stated that they need to rely on conservation districts to host the event. This helps to fill the needs of the producers and constituents rather than trying to sell them a “product”.

Handbook Committee – John Likins is working to get all sections of the Handbook up to date. Please make sure all sections are sent to him as soon as possible.

#### Student Activities

WYRED was held at Pinedale, WY this past June with an excellent slate of students. 2014 will be in Uinta County. Working budget was presented.

HSYF has a great group of students who presented and we thank them for their participation in this year’s meetings. We look forward to supporting our winner’s attendance to Sacramento.

URME, Plant ID, Rangeland Cup, Public Speaking Contest, and PRO-AM are under way, please take the challenge to participate or support those who are. Updates will be given during the awards ceremony during the banquet.

#### Old Business:

By-Law Review and updates – By-laws were reviewed, and minor grammatical edits made. Updated the sections to allow electronic forms of business to be conducted. Mae Smith moves to make the recommended changes including leaving the Rangeland Management Handbook in as a publication, but to remove the University Newsletter publication. Larry Bently seconded the motion. Discussion occurred and Blaine Horn moves to amend the motion to include a parenthesized statement so that it is noted that the Rangeland Management Handbook is the official handbook for WyRED . Chuck Butterfield seconds the amended motion, the delegation voted to approve the amendment, and carried to vote for main motion as amended. Motion passes with amendments. The corrected document will be signed and posted.

Long Range Planning; Vision / Purpose of SRM – Each committee needs to make the effort to determine their plan and 5 year budgets. We as a Section need to determine our vision, and purpose as members and then what we expect as a whole. Membership Participation – Brian again states: “We need to be involved in the section. “You get out of it, what you put in to it.”

Election results are as followed:

2015 President Elect: Jessica Crowder

2015 Southwest Area Representative: Bryan Christensen (replacing Mae Smith)

2015 Northeast Area Representative: Kassie Bales (replacing Mark Lambert)

No further new business was presented and no membership items of business were brought forward. Blaine Horn moved to adjourn the Annual Business Meeting, Karen Clause seconded it, and motion was approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:20 pm.