



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management

Council Meeting
Conference Call
3/29/08

Those on the conference call were Andi Meyer, Bob Sprentall, Donna Dinwiddie, Marji Patz, Misty Hays, Charlie Fifield, Dan Rodgers, Mae Peterson, and Ginger Paige.

Climate Change Workshop: The date for this workshop is now set for September 4, 2008. The Parent society has expressed an interest to co-sponsor and help with registration. They have not really responded on what this group needs from us. The workshop will be in Cheyenne and there will be a field tour on the second day. Marji moved to help co-sponsor and Charlie second. This was approved. The next question was how the Section can assist in either providing person power or by some funding. There is also the possibility to apply for a grant to help with costs. Charlie, Misty and Ginger will develop a proposal and sent to the Parent society, Center for Professional and Educational Development. This was based on a call from this group for potential proposals. The Section will provide assistance either through grant or operational funds or people power. There should also be a call out to the membership to help with this workshop. There are other possibilities for grant proposals such as WYRED and Range Management School. Ginger, Misty and Charlie will make one proposal.

WYRED: WYRED is going to be held the first week of June in KayCee. The committee will be meeting in May and do site review. Things are coming together quickly and several Conservation Districts are stepping up to help. One thing the membership can do is market this activity. The Livestock Roundup is going to help promote. Marji will do articles and submit to the Roundup and our Newsletter. Marji is also looking for someone to be with the display at the FFA Conference in Cheyenne on April 4 through 6. We need to start to look for funding for 2009. Misty is working with Matt Hoobler on a Commissioners License. In 2009 the site for WYRED is looking at someplace in the Greybull area and the committee is working with the private sector to help with sponsorship.

Old West Range Judging: Laramie County Community College has agreed to let us display the education board for Old West Range Judging in Cheyenne. Laramie County Conservation District is going to run registration. The Conservation District is really trying to make this event fun and educational.

Web Site: It will be a couple of week before the Parent society is ready to host our web site.

The minutes from the last Council meeting were read and approved.

The treasure report was read and approved.

Section Annual Meeting: The meeting is going to be held at the Hitching Post in Cheyenne from 11/17 through 11/20. It will be a joint meeting with the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The theme is “Changes across the Wyoming Landscape, Challenges and Opportunities in the New Millennium”. There will be sessions on wind energy, Biofuels, Carbon sequestration. The Soil and Water Conservation Society has already lined up speakers for their portion. There will also be sessions on Workforce, changes, and careers. Student activities will be plant identification, URME, and Rangeland Cup. There will be a Trade Show and there have been eleven vendors who have expressed interest.

Rangeland Magazine Summary: Advisory Council wanted to poll members on the proposal to change the publication. All 21 Sections provided input including Mexico. Members like Rangeland and would not mind going to 4 issues. They are not willing to raise the dues to cover additional costs. They like the publication to be in color and do not want to charge authors to submit articles. The Board will take this into consideration on April 1, 2008.

Commissioner License: Matt has had an offer of \$9,000.00. Misty indicated that we should go ahead and sell. This may be on E-Bay but for a limited time. Matt is taking the lead on getting this sold. On the distribution of the funds, Mae had a question on the 10% that was to stay in the operating fund of the Section. It was stated that these funds would be used for educational purposes and to help sponsor educational events such as the Climate Change Workshop. She also asked how the Section would track the funds allocated to the Univ. WY Range Club. Bob stated that a separate line item in the Treasure Report would be created and the funds would then be tracked in this manner. The interest accrued from these funds would be allocated on the percentage basis to the Range Club. The addition of these funds would not negate the need for fund raising by the Range Club as they have done in the past.

National Awards: The nominations are due April 30th. We can look at the recipients of the past year Section Awards and submit for National Awards. It was asked what was decided to align the Section with National Awards. Bob will check the past minutes to see what was decided. Misty and Charlie will put together the National Award nominations. (Bob checked the past minutes and it was decided during the Annual Meeting to add the “Young Professional” and “Sustainable Lifetime Achievement” Awards to our existing list of Awards to be in line with the National Awards).

Information and Education: Charlie has turned over the display to Brett Burgers in his office. Charlie is in the process of updating the display and needs to include HSYF, Range School, and Stewardship Awards. It would also include membership accomplishments. The display would fit on an 8 foot long table and stands 3 feet tall. It contains 8 panels.

Newsletter Deadline: The deadline is May 16 for articles. Ginger will do the next article. Charlie will provide an update for the annual meeting. Donna is trying to make it interactive and would like feedback to see if you think it is working. Those folks on a dial up internet connection have a difficult time in downloading the document. If it is put

on the new web site this may change. Tom Thurow and Ginger will still make sure it is mailed to those without an e-mail address.

Mae gave Misty a letter of appreciation from those students who participated at the National meeting in Louisville.

Charlie would like to do some pre-planning for out-year Section annual meetings. Charlie will put together a guide for Section annual meeting planning.

It looks like the National meeting for 2011 will be in Billings, Montana. The Wyoming Section might be approached to help in putting this meeting on.

The next Council meeting is usually held during WYRED. However, WYRED is being held in early June this year. It was suggested to have a Council meeting in conjunction with a tour of the Johnson Ranch who was the Excellence in Range Management recipient this past year. Marji will work with the Johnson Ranch to hold a simple tour with a date sometime in the middle part of July. The Conservation District would be approached to provide a lunch for a fee to the members who would attend this tour.

Meeting Adjourned

Bob Sprentall
Secretary/Treasure