



## Wyoming Section Society for Range Management

Council Meeting – Annual Meeting November 15, 2016

Those in attendance were: Curtis Bryan, Kassie Bales, Blaine Horn, Windy Kelley, Shari Meeks, Chuck Butterfield, Brian Christenson, Mae Smith, Jessica Crowder, and Marji Patz. Haley and Justin Derner participating by phone.

Meeting called to order at 8:08 am. Introductions were made of all those present. Minutes were presented for approval. Mae moved to accept the minutes as submitted, Bryan C. seconded. Minutes were approved. Treasurer Report was then presented. Question was made on the variance between the report and the budget committee numbers, clarification will be provided the budget committee. Discussion on the report followed by a motion to approve the report as presented by Kassie, and Curtis seconded. Report approved.

Old Business – WYRED financial progress was reported. The committee is working to finalize a five year plan, but have implemented strategy for financial support and sustainability for the short term. They were able to save funding for this past camp that will help for 2017's camp costs. Kassie suggested looking into the Crystalix funding program. It was also suggested to look at ranch sponsorships and possibly use our producer affairs lead to assist with this. Camp will be at Mallo in Sundance on June 5-9<sup>th</sup>.

Marji presented an update on the tax exempt status, Wyoming Section, Society for Range Management is now officially tax exempt and a 501c3 organization again.

### Committee Updates:

Producer Affairs/Public Affairs: Dennis Sun is the current committee chair, but has not been active. Brian M. has approached about his desire to continue but have not heard the outcome. Possible new chairs to consider are Larry Bentley and Joe Budd. Both are willing and could act as co-chairs. The society needs to build a connection with more people for membership, and these folks can help bring ideas of how to improve/strengthen the committee and producer outreach. These can also do outreach as part of their jobs as well, making them an excellent fit. Mae mentioned that the annual meeting could benefit and asked how do we reach out to these people? The mention of needing a booth at stock growers, Eric Schacht would be a good member of the committee. And Gary Raymond would be a good member, as he is a producer from Rawlins and is active. Could piggy back with climate hub and also Y2 booth for stock growers this year to see how it goes and then decide for next year if we need a booth on our own. Climate Hub and ARS have two booths. A summer tour could also help attract membership, but it is a busy time of year and difficult to coordinate. Maybe in the fall in conjunction with the ESD workshops. Haley mentioned that there were 250 people at the SGA meeting in Nevada in the summer.

Student Activities: Katyln Schade is not able to continue as the chairman, so need a new chair. The main responsibilities is to help with the annual meeting planning with vice president – so providing the # of students, the needs for activities and space, and needs for awards, student mixer and poster sessions. Mae is willing to assist but is too busy to be chairman. Sarah Kauer may be a good member, Bree Lind and Bailey Terry or BJ Bender. Don't need to put in place right now, but need to make sure have someone by spring.

Newsletter: Brian Sebade is still willing to and is able to do the newsletter. But has provided a time frame for article due dates for 2017 to help streamline the process.

Awards – Windy: Willing to continue on and help with the next year’s awards, but for this year we had a good slate of nominees. Thank you for the nominations. Awards Handbook was emailed out for review but Jessica was the only one that has had a chance to review at this time.

Budget – Blaine: There were only minor recommendations made for the budget this year, but we may need to consider increasing registration and sponsorships/booths to help with costs/income from our annual meetings. This year we were limited with co-hosting with TWS due to their normal charge for registrations. When we co-hosted with WACD there was more flexibility and registration was more in line with costs. Mae did \$250 sponsorships for booths this year to help with costs; food is extremely expensive. Discussion on the Council setting dates and locations as well as lining out some roles for each member to help the president elect in the planning process. The hardest part was determining if the meeting should be cohosted (partnered) or not, and then making it happen is difficult.

It is recommended that we have a positive balance for annual meetings. Mae stressed that this is tough especially depending on who your co-host is or agency support. So some years may win others may lose. Blaine mentioned that then we need to secure other sources of funding.

Jessica asked to move through the budget line by line and then can approve the recommendations as a whole:

Annual Meeting – Bryan C. moves to set it at breakeven changing expenses to \$8000 and income to \$8000 for a 0 balance.

Awards – 2000 was set to cover the stewardship in excellence award and travel to international meeting. Most years awards is closer to \$350, but need to maintain for the years we may have a winner.

I&E had no request, but may need promotional material and another banner as well as table cloth if do more booths. Sandy Wyman can help with national items. Marji proposes \$750 for materials.

Membership is an estimate and not static, but this will be changing at the national level and may help to stabilize it.

Newsletter – reduced from previous. But need to remember that this is important to the membership.

President and Council - \$500 to help with incidental expenses was suggested – had \$889.99 in expense in 2016 that was not captured in a budget.

ESD – asked for \$200, but don’t think will spend more than \$100. So should be able to keep expenses minor.

Range School – Looking at 1 or possibly 2 sessions that will have some expenses from extension folks for travel. Should be good with the expense and income.

HSYF - Reduce income to \$500, more reasonable rate for auction items.

Student Affairs – Take out Professional Dinner and leave at miscellaneous expenses for \$100. Seed funds to carry over to 2017/2018.

WYRED – Leave as is, the expense for the take home items is it necessary? It will help encourage and promote attendance, a seed source of items that will not occur every year.

Mae moves to approve the budget with the recommended changes. Bryan C. Seconds this motion. Budget approved by the council. Changes will be presented at the business meeting.

2017 Annual Meeting in St. George (International Meeting) The advisory council needs 3 representatives. Windy is attending with May, but Bryan C. is unsure if he can attend as well as Jessica. Curtis is a possible fill in. Agency attendance is questionable. But will be working to ensure all three spots are filled.

2020 International Annual Meeting Update – Chuck (Meeting Planning Co-Chair) provided an update to the council for the meeting. There has been two major committee meetings that have discussed the facilities. Visit the website [TReventscomplex.com](http://TReventscomplex.com) for more information on the facilities available. The Embassy Suites adjacent to the Ranch but few other hotels in the area, so this is a concern. New hotels are to be built but will they be completed in time. The 1<sup>st</sup> Interstate Bank Building is not attached but not far away as a few other buildings. Justin Derner and Haley Wilmer are co-chairs of the programs. Concurrent sessions set to allow vendors to be visited more frequently, With 5 and the fish bowl approach in the mornings and break out events in the afternoon for vendor time. The interactive portion of the conference is the highlight, and the space at the Ranch provides endless possibilities. They are trying to beef up the training for federal agencies – ARS, Jornada training as well as E Posters. Transformation to Translocation (has been changed to Transitions) is the proposed theme at this time. Colorado has agreed to a 50/50 split in finances. We are way ahead in the committee development and planning stages, but still have committee positions to fill. It is needed to reach out to the people who would be interested to fill these positions. Google folders set up to help with file and information transfer, these will be in place (functional) shortly. Chuck has the list on who has filled area and blank areas remaining. We need to stay ahead in planning but not rush things either. The right people need to fill the needs. We need to determine the level or how involved the council itself is in the process. We don't want to micromanage it as a council, but need to be kept aware. If Chuck needs assistance, then he can bring it to us, and we ask for a report at each council meeting of any updates or progress made. All major decisions will need to be brought to the council. Their group (Colorado) is very involved and is much larger. Again documents are listed on Google Docs, Chuck provided a summary of the chairs and co-chairs to the council. Bryan C. moved to establish a 50/50 split on all financials for the meeting with Colorado. Kassie seconded it, Split was approved. We need to consider a joint meeting with Colorado in 2018 or 2019 to help build relations. And we need to assist in encouraging volunteers to get involved.

With no further time and with no items pressing, discussions are passed to the Business meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:11 am

Marji Patz  
Secretary/Treasurer