

Society for Range Management, Nevada Section
Business Meeting
Ely, Nevada (Duck Creek Basin)
July 15, 2006

Attendees:

Jim Linebaugh	Barry Perryman	Brad Schultz
Diane Weaver	Bob Wilson	Gary McCuin
Harold Bjork	Sherm Swanson	Tracey Wolfe
Cub Wolfe	Kent McAdoo	Kory Kulinsky
Tom Stefani	Erick Walker	Jim Gatzke
John McLain	Gail Durham	Nancy Prall
Konae Winterhawk	Rick Orr	Maggie Orr
Elizabeth Dixon	Jim Gifford	

The meeting was called to order by president, Bob Wilson at 7:54 am. No agenda.

Treasurer's Report and Budget

Brad Schultz handed out the treasurer's report. Some accounts are up and some are down, but the bottom line is that we will be okay this year. The income from this Summer Meeting might be around \$4,000 minus about \$2,000 in expenses, leaves about \$2,000 for the section.

We might need to increase the Range Camp fee due to the increasing cost of food, insurance, etc.

Fund Balances

General Fund:	\$7,046.88
2007 Meeting	\$2,058.00
Youth Fund:	\$6,783.70
Scholarship Fund:	\$39,457.95
Endowment Fund:	\$21,778.27
HSYF Endowment	\$10,487.27
Total:	\$87,612.07

Gary McCuin moved to approve the treasurer's report. Barry Perryman seconded. Motion passed.

Range Camp

Range camp went very well this year, had a great group of kids. We are losing our cooks and probably the director too. Kelly McGowan might take over as director if Sandy Higa doesn't come back - Bob Wilson will follow up. Suggestion made that we pay the directors expenses if the agency won't. Need clear job description for the camp director. If we expand the director's duties, we should pay the director. Range Camp's low cost is

a result of not paying people. Director needs to take care of plaques. Gary McCuin will help cook next year, but will not be a regular cook every year. A couple of the kid's mothers (one is also a nurse) showed interest in helping cook – Sherm will follow up with them.

We need more interest from section members. The group absolutely wants to continue Range Camp, so people need to step up then. We will have the Range Camp planning schedule together by August. Sherm asked for a list of counselors, and an alternate, from each agency. He also needs a BLM contact. We normally need 8 counselors and 4 at a bare minimum. We possibly will make changes to the agency thank-you-letter to describe benefits. Discussed changing the timing of the camp, but the current week is great for many reasons.

We need a new place to park the camp trailer, preferably in a covered and/or locked location. Several locations were mentioned including UNR and BLM in Carson City. John McLain will be in charge of finding a new home for the trailer.

Jim Linebaugh moved that we increase the fee for Range Camp from \$100 to \$125/camper for the next two years and then move the fee up to \$150. Discussion ensued. Motion withdrawn by Jim Linebaugh.

Kent McAdoo moved that we increase the fee for Range Camp from \$100 to \$125/camper for the next two years and then reevaluate the fee. Jim Linebaugh seconded. Motion passed.

Plant Materials Center

There is a new Plant Materials Center in Fallon. It will concentrate on evaluating plants for the Great Basin at the 8-10 inch precipitation zone. There are many concerns about the Mojave, but the Tucson Plant Materials Center is covering that area.

Fires

The suggestion was made that SRM take a leadership role in educating the public about wildfires – press release, etc. We would focus on the resources – grazing, ecological processes, etc. Now is a teachable moment while people have smoke in their eyes. Goal is to educate even non-resource people. Landscapes burn, some too frequent (cheatgrass), and some too infrequent (PJ invasion). Great idea, but who is going to do it and review it. A collective message from all agencies is needed. SRM's role is to facilitate the collaboration. There is probably a minimal chance of getting a grant to hire someone to do this. This is a possible topic for the next summer or winter meeting. Problems are that section members are too busy with the 2007 meeting now and many fire people couldn't attend in the summer. We should commit to this, but after the 2007 meeting.

Gary McCuin moved that the group appoint a Wildfire Ecology Support Committee to assemble and facilitate press releases regarding wildfires. Jim Linebaugh seconded. Motion passed.

Bob Wilson, John McLain, Sherm Swanson, and Gary McCuin volunteered to be on the committee. Pete Anderson (NDF) was suggested to be on it. Diane will find someone from USFS to be on the committee too.

Winter Meeting

Winter Meeting will be at the Nugget in Sparks on December 15th and 16th. Can we get a meeting room at the Nugget for free? Will it require a room commitment – McCuin will check. The meeting will at least be in Reno if not specifically at the Nugget.

It was suggested that we have the business meeting on Friday along with a shortened program, possibly about wildfires. Then have the 2007 planning meeting on Saturday.

The Trail Boss should give their presentation at the meeting and we should award the plaques at the meeting. Jim Gatzke will do follow up.

Bob Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Gifford