

NEVADA SECTION – SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
SUMMER BUSINESS MEETING
BLM / USFWS STATE OFFICE
RENO, NEVADA
JULY 8, 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Jack Artz
Ann Bollinger, Secretary
Rex Cleary
Kathryn Dyer
Erica Freese, Treasurer
Mark Freese, Zone 4 Council Repr.
Don Henderson
Chris Jasmine, President-Elect

Sam Koster
Ryan Leary, Zone 5 Council Repr.
Jim Linebaugh
Heather Mobley, President
Rick Orr
Chuck Salisbury
Brad Schultz

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. A quorum was present.

(The quorum is currently four or more members of the Board of Trustees / Section Council. The proposed change in the amended Bylaws is five or more members.)

President-Elect Chris Jasmine welcomed everyone.

Introductions

Led by Heather Mobley

Jack Artz, who arrived a little later, was introduced. He shared his membership history with SRM and job history in Nevada and Washington D.C.

Approval of Minutes

Rick Orr made a motion, seconded by Erica for approval of the minutes as written. Motion carried. The minutes will be available on the new webpage.

Treasurers Report

Erica passed a summary and discussed the process of getting her name on mutual funds account. The checking account at Bank of America has been closed. The checking and saving accounts are both located at Wells Fargo, who will be able to assist with investments as well. Rick commented the endowment dollars are in three accounts with oversight by the Endowment Committee, not the Finance Committee. He recommended separating into an individual account.

Jim made a motion, seconded by Chris. Erica commented on the need to set a budget for the next section meeting.

Zone Reports

Zone 4, Mark Freese: A social event was held on May 8th but there weren't many attendees. He may try a BBQ in late summer. Rick recommended an invite in the section newsletter.

Zone 5, Ryan Leary: Ryan suggested a joint social with Zones 4 and 5. Don recommended Bowers Mansion due to its location between the two areas. Ryan also reminded members in Zones 4 and 5 about the opportunities to work with UNR students, such as mock interviews.

Old Business

The Progressive Rancher: Maggie was not present, but Heather inquired about any articles. Chris offered an article in the future. There was question if anyone has the interest or knowledge to submit an article related to water rights.

Update on Bylaws and Constitution

Don discussed the background and need for periodic review and update. Beginning in Fall 2010, the Bylaws Committee began combining the Bylaws and Constitution into one document. A draft was sent out to chapter members for comment. Five members responded and changes have been made accordingly. Don shared those comments at the Business Meeting. The next draft was presented. Chris proposed a vote on the amended Bylaws, suggesting they can be approved at this meeting followed by a vote of the members. Chuck suggested a vote and approval based on the "responses received." Rick expressed concern regarding the new quorum. Don clarified that a quorum of the Section Council includes the officers, zone representatives, and others. Ryan inquired about adding proxy language. Don responded that proxy is most relevant to the SRM Advisory Board. He reiterated that five members as a quorum should not be a problem. When the handbook is revised, a few extra duties of the secretary should be included – to identify a quorum during regular business meetings and if there's an electronic vote among the executive officers, the secretary should type the minutes to share with the membership. Chris made a motion, seconded by Jim to approve the amended Bylaws with one change – change "majority vote" to "majority of votes cast." Motion carried.

The discussion continued how to request and receive a vote from the members. Chris suggested mailing ballots. Jim inquired whether the handbook provided direction on how to reach members who don't use email. Brad commented that the best response has been from pre-printed addressed postcards. In response to a question, the Nevada Section does not have a bulk mailing permit. It was suggested that the Executive Vice-President (Gary) mail the ballots and the votes mailed to the Secretary. Rick made a motion, seconded by Ryan to mail pre-printed addressed postcards. Motion carried. After all the votes are received, the Secretary (Ann) shall sign the amended Bylaws and give to Gary. After approval, the amended Bylaws are then submitted to the Nevada Secretary of State. Jim and all the members present thanked Don for his significant contribution to complete the revisions.

Website Engineering Update

Heather has talked with Steve regarding updates and links. She asked for suggestions about how to attract more members, including young members. She suggested videos from youtube, our members, honored ranches, etc. Ann commented that there is a video on youtube regarding the use of sheep for fuels reduction in Carson City. Ryan advised that yesterday's field tour could have been video-taped, for example. Heather asked about a donate tab - sometimes with featured projects, a membership tab, and a paypal link. Paypal may be a good option for meeting registration. Erica stated that Paypal doesn't accept government credit cards. She inquired about how to track the payment and the tax-free options.

In response to a question, yes we can accept donations. Erica inquired what donors would receive. Brad commented that the section has donated funding for education materials. Jim mentioned that, with outreach, past field tours have had excellent attendance with 100-200 people. Heather discussed the newsletter printed by the National Wildlife Federation. She suggested that perhaps additional income can hire someone to plan more public workshops.

Jack expressed the need to identify our unique qualities as an organization and how we are different from others i.e. in Nevada, the most acres of public land, etc. Don commented that we lack public relations, and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension is trying to find grant funding for programs. Mark stated that Mark Strubble, the Public Relations Officer from the BLM Carson City Field Office is retiring and may be interested. Jim advised that we don't celebrate and advertise enough successes and stories. Sam suggested we start with what is available – the Hope on the Range Trailer Display. Rex stated the Colorado Office is also striving to move forward and to contact Aleta Rudeen, the Director of Outreach and Leadership Development. It was suggested to invite Aleta to the next meeting. Bob Conrad has the knowledge and background to help video, and he has his own business. Erica suggested bringing costs to the next meeting.

Don made a motion, seconded by Mark to establish an Outreach Committee to work with President on the feasibility of ideas and costs. Heather offered to chair and Don offered to be a member. The Public Affairs Committee can help with identifying topics.

Fuels Conference

No update.

Update on Nevada Section History

No update. Heather will continue communication with Les.

Letter to Range Camp Attendees

Tracy Shane was not in attendance but emailed the draft letter to Ann who read it aloud at the meeting. Chris made a motion, seconded by Sam for approval. Ryan suggested adding any information about upcoming meetings. The letter could also summarize the broad range of disciplines related to the range management profession.

Jim recommended that the Nevada Section pay a one-year membership for each range camp attendee. Erica refined the recommendation and suggested a membership for the senior students

– as a graduation gift from the members. The topic was deferred to the Youth Committee with a recommendation to review the budget. Don made a motion, seconded by Rick to further discuss the sponsorship topic at a later date.

Mark inquired whether the student list could be available to each zone representative.

New Business

Hope on the Range Booth @ Cattlemen's Convention

Chris made a motion, seconded by Rick to buy booth space in Gardnerville at \$400; the cost may be shared with FWS. There is nothing new on the board, but there are some new handout materials.

Range Camp Report

Kathryn Dyer reported on her first year as a counselor. Twenty-two students attended range camp and approximately one-half of them had sponsorships. Don recommended an acknowledgement and thank you letter be sent to those who sponsored and an inquiry on future interest. Pictures could be sent as well. Nevada Bighorns Unlimited donated \$1,400.

Chris commented that in the past, students used to write the thank you letters. Also, Don stated that students and sponsors used to be matched together and the students would provide a presentation. Nevada's Range Camp is the only rural camp experience and the longest (five days). Rick commented that most attendees found out about camp through word of mouth.

There needs to be better recording of the sponsors. Also, there was an expressed need to collect payment prior to camp. New positions and descriptions should be added to Handbook.

Range Camp Refrigeration / Range Camp Sponsorship

NACO (Nevada Association of Counties) and school boards may be a source for additional sponsorships. Conservation Districts no longer receive state funds. A copy of the curriculum can be provided. Range Camp can host 40-50 campers.

Rick reported on two equipment issues. He expressed the need for food safety and would like to purchase one or two propane refrigerators as soon as possible. A refurbished 8 cubic foot refrigerator should cost \$500-1,000. Erica provided the current income and expenses for range camp and stated there is enough money available. He also reported on the needed repairs to the Sonoma kitchen. The ovens will need to be replaced – the parts are old, replacement parts are not available, and retrofit is not an option. The piping is also cracked. The repairs will be costly, as much as \$6,000, but there may be options from NBU. Gary is working on the options. Don made a motion, seconded by Rich to approve up to \$1,800 for the refrigerators.

Other New Business

Regarding the winter meeting, Chris was approached by Dr. Tamzen Stringham and Patti Novak with ideas to instruct on state and transition models on MLRA 24 in Winnemucca. He will work with Brad regarding a host location and/or contact James Gatzke regarding a host location in

Caliente. Rick commented that Caliente would be a better location in the summer months due to the limitations on accommodation. Chris will look into a meeting around December 15-16.

Ryan informed the members of an Ecological Site Description workshop to be held in Reno next June, focused on state and transition models. She inquired about ideas or suggestions and expressed the opportunity to increase membership and gather publicity.

Committee Reports

Awards

Ryan expressed that this is a good time to submit nominations for the parent society awards, and the winners would be presented at the winter meeting. Rick mentioned that the Utah Section provides nomination forms for section and national awards at their meetings. Heather offered to work with Cub Wolfe for new descriptions, and Ryan will work with Cub to collect information for the next newsletter.

Bylaws and Handbook

The committee consists of Don Henderson, Jim Linebaugh, Jeremy Drew, and Ann Bollinger. Don inquired if anyone had an electronic, word copy of the most recent Handbook. The Handbook doesn't provide detailed information regarding awards.

Finance

For the Handbook, Jim will work with Brad to update the descriptions of the Finance Committee including discussion of a Budget Committee; fundraising; and relationships with the Endowment Committee, various officers, and outside investment advisors. He expressed the need to encourage more donations. He added that the Finance Committee Chair does not need to be the current Treasurer. Erica offered to Chair. Heather requested a meeting between the summer meeting and December, with a report provided at the winter meeting. Brad suggested periodic audits.

Membership

Tracy Shane was not in attendance but emailed a written report to Ann who read it aloud at the meeting. The report stated there are 139 current members with 50 members past due. Of the 50 members that have not yet paid their dues, only six members are more than eight months past due. Tracy summarized the potential problems with renewal. Additionally, she welcomed the new members and thanked those who recruited them. The full report is attached.

Erica stated there are new employees hired each year. She suggested that Zone Representatives periodically review the various websites and send a welcome letter. Heather inquired about any incentives for the best recruiter. Discussion continued about discounts or something to encourage new meeting / tour participants into joining the society. Erica asked about checking with the parent society regarding trial memberships. The Nevada Section receives a dues rebate from the national office of approximately 5% or \$300 per year. This rebate could apply towards new memberships.

Mentorship

Heather is continuing work.

Public Affairs

Brad requested to be removed since he's assisting with the Finance Committee.

Student Affairs

The Student Range Club President is a member of the Section Council and should try to attend section meetings. If he/she is not available, a student club report should be sent. Ann inquired if the Nevada Section could pay the meeting / tour fees for the President. Erica commented the Student Range Club could pay too, and maybe for all the officers.

Youth Activities

Kathryn will become Range Camp Coordinator, but James will remain Committee Chair. Either may assist with HSYF.

Other Discussion

There was a question if the email sent with the newsletter can include the attachment as well as a link to the website.

Communication among the members, whether through Google Groups, needs to be simplified.

There were 27 participants on the field tour, only two were non-members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bollinger
October 31, 2011

2011 SRM Summer Meeting

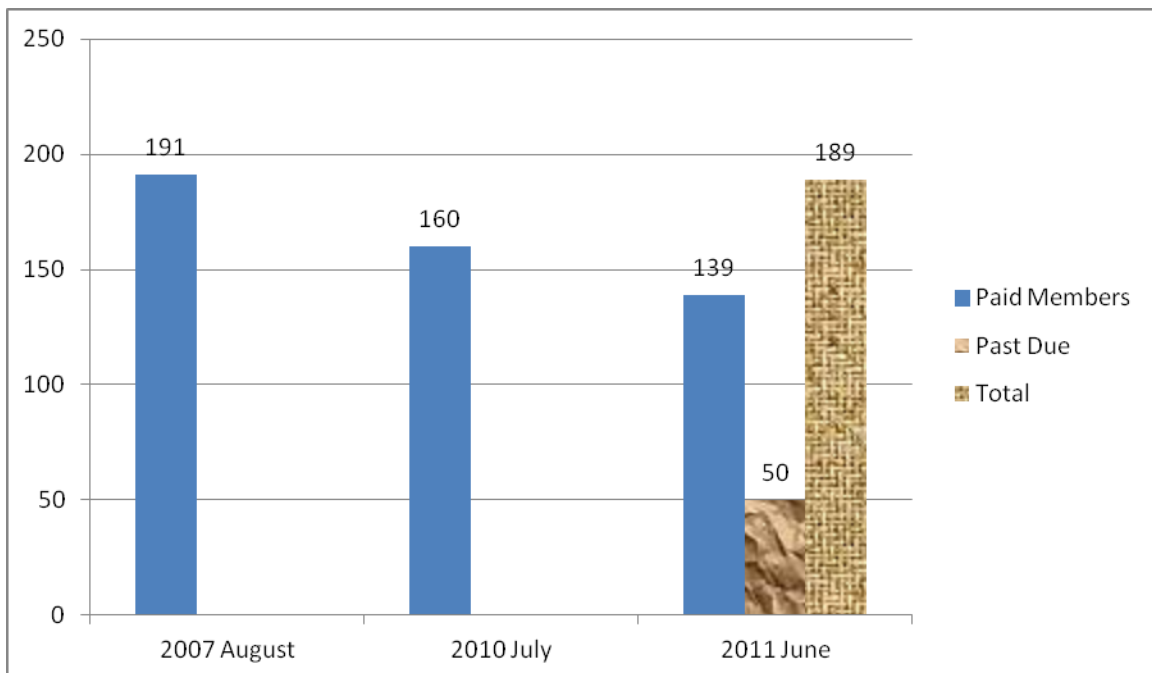
Membership Report

Correct up through June 1, 2011

NV Section - 139 current members with 50 members past due = 189 members

As of June 1st 2011 - 50 members are past due on their membership dues. This can probably be mostly blamed on the conversion of the records to the Allen Press group. An apology was sent to all the sections for the poor handling of this conversion and the large group of the SRM membership that were not sent renewal notices. As of June 1st, members who were past due were supposed to receive their renewal notices. Of the 50 members that have not yet paid their dues, only 6 members are more than 8 months past due. Most of the past due members are only past due since the first of the year.

Another membership problem with Allen Press occurs when you attempt to renew under the new option for a family membership. If you sign up for a family membership you must call Allen Press and tell them who the family members are, as there is no way to identify family member names on the online form. However, please note that you can save quite a bit of money with a family membership if you normally pay full \$70 membership for each family member.



Here is the list of past due members as of June 1, 2011. If you have already paid your dues, thank you and please disregard your name on this list. I would appreciate getting feedback from the membership if any of these folks have moved and are not likely to remain as members of the Nevada Section.

Michael R. Montero	Gail Collins	Tumen Wuliji
Chet Randall	Gail E. Durham	Linda Johnson
Craig C. Hoover	Gerald M. Smith	Joseph A. Wagner
Charles Johnson	Evan A. Zimmerman	Denise L. Adkins
Christopher D. Mayer	Douglas J. Merkler	Sheila B. Anderson
Teshome Meketa Shenkoru Dr.	Sheryl L. Post	Ann P. Bollinger
Michael R. Holbert	Eric Eldredge	Gerald K. Miller
Lucas Thompson	James Gardner	Albert Quinn Nuffer
Regina M. Thompson	Alexander L. Werbeckes	Jeanne Higgins
Ingrid C. L. Drieling	Joseph Michael Carrigan Mr.	Anthony B. Howard
Thomas W. Warren	Michelle S. Burrows	Clark Joseph Guild III
Jon Wilker	J. Brett Covlin	Thomas R. Harris
Mrs. Anna Allen-Pittson	Shirley A. Johnson	Robert L. Vaught
James M. Gatzke	Jeff B. Knight	Quinton J. Barr
Floyd W. Rathbun	Ed R. Snyder	Justin M. Ely
Frosty H. Tipton	Nancy Upham	Bryan Fuell
Jill M Brake	Ms. Sarah Rose Ravenelle	J. Kent McAdoo

Since I have taken over as membership chair in January, there have been 13 new members. Please welcome any of the new members at the summer meeting. Thanks to those who recruited our new members. The new members are:

Charles Mann	Lewis Mendive	Celina Bailey
Stacy Belshaw	Kay McCuin	Sarah Kulpa
Justin Feeman	Michelle Clark	Bernard Petersen
Jason Cox	Gerald Grevstad	Lee Turner
Joshua Vittori		