

MINUTES
Texas Section-Society for Range Management
Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2003

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm – January 9, 2003. Present were: Jenny Pluhar – President, Charlie Hart – 1st Vice President, Hoyt Seidensticker – Secretary, Charles Anderson – Director, John Walker – Director, Melony Sikes – Director, Matt Wagner – Director, Willy Conrad, Director, Ray Schimcek, Director, Robert Moen – Audit Coordinator, Bruce Healy, Guest, Ricky Linex – Guest, Larry White – Guest, Absent – Bob Knight – 2nd Vice President, Harold Bryant – Treasurer- Bob Whitson – Past President.

Welcome given to Ray Schimcek, new director.

Jenny went over the agenda. Budget will be the last item. We will try to begin review of the handbook this evening.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of previous meeting: Minutes from October 8, 2002 meeting were reviewed after changes made.

Motion made to approve minutes as corrected, by Charles Anderson, second by Charlie Hart. Motion passed.

Discussed and reviewed committee chairs. Jenny passed out roster to get updated. There was discussion on appointing liaisons for Cattle Raisers, GLCI and others.

Jenny reported that the TSSRM sent a plant to Tim Reinke's family in memory of Tim's wife who was killed in a car accident.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report given by Robert Moen. The current balance is \$29,402.36. Motion made by Melony Sikes and seconded by Matt Wagner to approve the treasurers report. Motion passed.

Ricky Linex and Charles Anderson reported that the profit from the Abilene meeting would be around \$7500 to \$7700.

Steve Hartman is working on raising the Bill Wyche Jr. Memorial Scholarship fund to \$50,000. He has set this figure as his goal.

Motion was made by Charles Anderson and seconded by Ray Schimcek to pay the management fees for the Endowment fund and Scholarship funds out of the interest. The Remaining balance would then be at the discretion of the BOD to use. Motion passed.

2002 Annual Meeting Update: Ricky Linex again reported that the profit would be around \$7500 - \$7700.

Ricky felt that inviting the Chambers of Commerce who are bidding on the future meeting is a good thing. It generated \$900.00 from the three chambers attending in Abilene.

\$1.00 for every member attending for a total of \$250.00 was sent to Harold Bryant to be deposited in the memorial scholarship fund.

Ideas for recognizing the new members at the annual meeting was discussed. Membership Committee and Annual Meeting Committee will work together on coming up with some way to recognize them. It was also suggested that the President could also recognize the new members at the General Business meeting.

Video Project

Melony Sikes gave an overview of video project to new directors. All footage is shot and complete. Melony informed everyone that Instructional Management Services (IMS) has a section in their catalog that deals with ecology that has very few entries. No entries except "Legendary Ranches of Texas" are available under the "range management" category.

Melony gave the list of which ranches were included in the video. She also told us that she videoed Alma and Benito de la Garza who talked about Rendado, town southwest of Laradeo. This town was a Spanish land grant. In shooting footage stewardship is the theme.

Monica started editing the video. It should be finished by March with one hour of video as finished product. Still looking for a name for the video. One suggestion is "Legacy of Rangeland Stewardship". Other suggestions for titles will be compiled by Melony and emailed out to BOD and offices. BOD and officers will vote on one title.

Melony showed us a 15-minute clip of unedited footage.

There was much discussion on a disclaimer statement that not all thoughts and ideas expressed in the video are necessarily endorsed by TSSRM. There will be opinions by landowners that will not be supported by TSSRM. Melony will write disclaimer and email to all BOD and officers. BOD and officers will approve disclaimer.

There was discussion on marketing language for the contract. The discussion was very intense. Melony will take notes and revise language in contract. The contract will be revised and reviewed again by the officers and directors.

Melony also reported the funds that have been raised to pay for the video project. TSSRM has raised: \$ 508.00 "passing the hat" at 2002 annual meeting, \$2500.00 GLCI grant, \$4000 allocated from Bowman donation, \$1910 allocated from the Endowment Fund interest (October board meeting) for a total of \$8918.00.

Officers and directors discussed selling the video in a two-tiered approach. We can sell the video by itself or sell the video with the handbook. Question was raised can we sell it on our own and only pay the \$7.00 production cost?. Question was raised can we sell it to SRM members only at a one time reduced rate, for a limited time only.

Melony estimated that the total cost would be \$7000.00. Melony contacted Monica Hightower of Cornerstone Education Group at this point to seek answers to some of the Board members questions. Further information resulting from their conversation is as follows:

Marketing agreement: Can we sell the video on our own? What do we pay Cornerstone Education Group for each tape? Yes, we can sell it on our own and we pay Cornerstone Education Group \$7.00 a copy.

Sales tax: Cornerstone Education Group sells primarily to schools, IMS and out of state, no sales tax involved. Cornerstone Education Group will received 30% of gross sales.

Can we have a one time reduced rate for SRM members? Yes, but make sure it is a one time offer and don't make the offer last long. Word gets out amongst Ag teachers etc. and they will want SRM members to purchase the tape at a reduced rate for them.

Is there a volume discount? No.

Compensation to Cornerstone Education Group is \$4500 plus travel. For budgeting purposes \$7000 should cover everything at this point.

Can we have input into the teachers manual? Yes.

Also, IMS will receive a discount when Monica places the video in their catalog. This will be addressed in the revised contract that is coming.

Small Acreage Publication

It was reported at the time of the meeting 5200 at the Experiment Station in Sonora and 3000 – 5000 at San Angelo.

Officers and Directors will divide up the boxes and take back to offices. Officers and Directors will distribute to Extension District offices and NRCS regional offices.

Matt Wagner will compile changes and ask authors if they approve of changes and look at possible reprint in one year, January 2004.

Gate signs

As of December 31, 2002 TSSRM has made a profit of \$1460.00. We have 234 signs left in inventory. Sign ad was posted on the TSSRM web page last week.

TSSRM will be putting an ad in the Daily Trail Boss at the Casper meeting. Will try to pass out flyers with an order form. Will be putting 3 signs in the Silent Auction at the Casper meeting. Will sell the signs for \$20.00 at the Casper meeting.

2005 annual meeting

George Peacock will replace Larry Butler as annual meeting Co-chair. Must raise a minimum of \$90,000. Will be passing out Fort Worth information at the Casper meeting. Still planning on Saturday and Sunday workshops with an Extravaganza to Kickoff the meeting on Sunday.

Handbook

Excellence in Grazing management (Outdated award signs that we still have in inventory) signs will be offered to past award recipients if their sign is outdated or worn.

Bruce Healy has compiled all motions, changes, and recommendations made at the January 2003 BOD meeting. They are incorporated in the handbook electronic file. This file will be emailed to Jenny Pluhar for distribution.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Meeting called to order 8:00 a.m., January 10, 2003

Committee Reports

Activities

We need more exposure. Willy Conrad agreed to check what it would entail to exhibit at the rural appraisers conference of meeting. Charles Anderson agreed to gather more information regarding the Texas Association of Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association. Jenny Pluhar will continue to check with Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association. Matt Wagner will continue to check into the Wildlife Expo. Other organizations to look into include Conference of Agricultural Science Teachers, Wildlife Society, Native Plant Society, and Ecological Restoration Society.

I&E committee will work with Activities committee to update photos for display.

Membership committee to work with Activities committee to see that CPRM credits are submitted to SRM for Approval.

Motion made by Ray Schimcek and seconded by Willy Conrad to give Hoyt Seidensticker the authority to purchase a TV with a VCR, VHS and DVD player from the

activities budget. The TV to stay with display to play video when display is set up at trade shows. Motion Passed.

Annual meeting

The 2003 annual meeting will be held in Wichita Falls, Texas, October 15-17, 2003 at the Radisson. The board of directors meeting will be Tuesday, October 14, 2003. Jerry Payne and Brad Teplicek are meeting co-chairs. Committee chairs have been asked. Jerry and Brad have discussed that the influence of Native Americans in that area to possibly be included in the meeting theme.

Hotel is asking for a deposit of \$1916.00. This will be discussed with hotel. We do not generally give a deposit. Jerry and Brad are asking for \$500.00 as seed money.

Goal is to make more than the Abilene meeting.

BOD is asking annual meeting co-chairs to have program in 90 days and get program approved for CEU's.

Audit

Postpone audit committee till June. Robert will revise guidelines and give report in June.

Archivist

Need to submit information to Archivist. See guidelines and duties in handbook on what to submit. Guidelines obviously need updating.

College Activities

See report from Bill Fox (attached). Discussion on how College Activities should communicate with Annual Meeting committee to get the Young Professionals program scheduled. Guidelines are in place for both committees to communicate. Therefore they need to be followed. Ray Schimcek agreed to make sure Bonnie Warnock will communicate with Jerry and Brad.

Motion made by Charles Anderson and seconded by Charlie Hart to add a duty to the college activities and annual meeting guidelines. The statement to read the college activities chairman will be on the annual meeting committee. Motion passed.

Meeting request by Charles Anderson to have meeting on TFS discussion and BOD left on WTF for Kerrville.

County Level Awards

Committee is going well and only minor word changes to handbook.

Endowment Fund

Crazy auction will be fundraiser at Wichita Falls meeting.

Outstanding Range Management (ORM)

Committee is going well.

Information and Education

Jenny Pluhar agreed to monitor the I&E committee to see that things are done.

I&E committee should be involved with the marketing of the video.

I&E committee will work with activities committee to update photos for display.

I&E committee will work on publicity for 2004 Youth Range Workshop 50th anniversary.

Jenny to work with Mandi Ligon, I&E committee chair, to gather task force to revise I&E committee guidelines.

Matt Wagner will work with Mandi Ligon on revising and reprinting of Small Acreage Publication.

Membership

Membership committee to work with Activities committee to see that CPRM credits are submitted to SRM for approval. Committee will see that all members that are Certified Professional in Range Management are kept up to date with CEU opportunities, perhaps by setting up an e-mail list of TSSRM CPRM's to distribute information.

BOD will ask Membership chair to have the committee help rewrite the handbook guidelines.

Membership committee should look into other societies and organizations and act as a liaison.

Membership committee will pursue looking into planning a recruitment target in other organizations that have members that are land managers.

Committee should target getting information out and marketing of TSSRM. They should look at rewriting guidelines about marketing TSSRM.

Memorial Scholarship

Willy Conrad agreed to work with Paul Loeffler, committee chairman, to investigate which direction the committee should go in awarding the scholarship. In the past few years the committee has received one or two applicants. Discussion conducted that advisors at the universities are not disseminating the information. One question raised was to change to offering it to a Rangeland Resources or related major.

Paul Loeffler along with Harold Bryant will look into bylaws and constitution to see how the committee can use the money.

Discussion on soliciting for an internship. Looking into the possibility of giving the money to someone else to award, 4-H foundation. Listing the application on a list serve and TSSRM web page.

Need to revise application in handbook.

Newsletter

Anyone wishing to get information into the newsletter must have it to Nick Garza by the 5th or 6th of the month prior to printing.

Other section newsletters talk only about their section news. Nick likes publishing articles on other topics. BOD wants to keep section in newsletter for section news. All committees need to send info to publish in newsletter. Nick also gets information and articles from other magazines and publications.

Nick Garza recommended that the I&E committee solicit newsletter sponsors.

Nick will look into issuing electronic newsletter to all section members unless they ask for it hardcopy. Nick will check with NACD on ways to send out the newsletter most economically and way to get interest on whom to email.

Nick suggested that there is other technology to help make our newsletter look better.

Nominations and Elections

Guidelines in handbook look good. Any comments direct to Paula Maywald, committee chair.

Awards Committee

Committee is doing well. Continue good communication.

Planning

Five Chamber of Commerce responded to Larry White's letter, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, South Padre Island, Uvalde and Port Aransas. South Padre Island, Uvalde and Port Aransas attended the 2002 annual meeting in Abilene. Planning committee recommended to BOD and officers to hold annual meeting in 2005 in South Padre Island.

Concerns raised that no local SRM member in the South Padre Island area to chair meeting. Most local arrangements for meeting are done by the CofC.

Past president, Bob Whitson to begin working on invites for 2006 meeting to be held in west region.

Willy Conrad made a motion and Matt Wagner seconded it to try the approved planning meeting process for three years, with Larry White to revise guidelines in handbook. Motion passed by majority vote with one descending vote.

Willy Conrad made a motion and John Walker seconded it to accept annual meeting committee proposal to hold meeting in South Padre Island. Motion passed.

At June meeting BOD will select date if proposed by second vice president.

Public Affairs

Jenny Pluhar and Willy Conrad will work with Stan Reinke, Chair of the Committee Invasive plant conference is being planned for the fall of 2004 with 11 partners involved.

Resolutions

The new resolutions guidelines and flow chart was passed out to all present.

A new resolution has been submitted to the resolutions committee. The resolution pertains to canceling the range management department at Texas Tech University. The resolution is being handled through the newly adopted resolution and position statement process.

Youth Activities Committee

Jenny Pluhar and Hoyt Seidensticker will ask Bobby Joe Ragsdale to help with getting a list of all past Youth Range Workshop participants. Jenny will assign a task force to

work with youth activities committee and I&E committee to plan the 2004 YRW 50th anniversary. Will welcome any ideas.

The Youth Activities Committee bank account as of 12/31/02 was \$3897.81.

2003 YRW will be held on Saturday, June 28 through Thursday, July 3. Announcements were sent to SWCD, County Agents, and Vocational Agricultural Science Teachers newsletter editor. Hoyt asked that everyone help in passing the work out in his or her area.

Kimberly Haile, Robin Morris and Aaron Jennings will represent TSSRM in Casper, Wyoming at the 2003 SRM High School Youth Forum.

2003 Budget

2003 budget was discussed in great detail. Robert Moen handled filling out the budget. Robert will type up and submit to all present.

Motion made by Charles Anderson and seconded by Matt Wagner to accept the 2003 budget. Motion Passed.

Willy Conrad moved and John Walker seconded to accept appointed officers and committee members: Harold Bryant – Treasure, Hoyt Seidensticker – Secretary, Nick Garza and Bruce Healy - Documents and Handbook Co-Chairs, Robert Moen – Auditor, Jan Weidemann – Archivist. Motion Passed.

Next BOD meeting will be held Monday June 30, 2003 at the Texas Tech University, Junction, Texas. Lunch will be at the Landers Ranch.

Charles Anderson moved and Matt Wagner seconded to Adjourn. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

REVIEW OF MOTIONS

Motion was made by Charles Anderson and seconded by Ray Schimcek to pay the management fees for the Endowment fund and Scholarship funds out of the interest. The remaining balance would then be at the discretion of the BOD to use. Motion Passed.

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