



**2012 Board of Directors Meeting  
January 20, 2012  
Sheraton 4 Points Hotel, Tucson. AZ**

Meeting Notes: Taken by Erin Mathews

Arizona Section, SRM  
2012 Officers

Officers Present in Yellow

**Doug Tolleson**  
President

**Mike Hemovich**  
President-Elect

**Willie Sommers**  
Vice President

**Alvin Whitehair, Jamie Wages, Clare Hydock**  
Directors- North

**Bob Benne for Dan Robinett, Frank Hayes**  
Directors-South

**Erin Mathews**  
Executive Secretary

**Ernie Gipson**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Corey Ertl**  
ASU Chapter President

**Kelsey Hawkes**  
U of A Chapter President

**Don Luhrsen**  
Past President

1. **Welcome/Call to Order** – Doug Tolleson called meeting to order @ 2:12pm

2. **Approval of the September 13, 2011 BOD Meeting Minutes**

Motion to accept: Jamie & by Clare Hydock  
Those in favor  
All in favor

3. **Financial Report**

- Ernie Gipson: Thank you for the kind words yesterday.
- Doug Tolleson: I dropped the ball yesterday and didn't announce you for your service award (Ernie). I will make sure to correct that at our next meeting
- Ernie Gipson: I provided the accounts for NRCWAY with everything balanced and everything reconciled, but the more I dig around, the more questions arise. I need a history on the Clark Martin Trust (Willie is going to get me this) and I need to know what the intent of the trust is, which I know is for NRCWAY. There might be some violation of the trust rules for example the directors need to be changed. Also, the person that handles the checking account possibly should not be the trustee. The question is what the trust balance was, and I have that. I have what it was years ago and what it is today, and they are losing money. The NRCWAY camp has lost \$21,000 in the last 6 years. The bank balance doesn't show that as the balance is the same that it was in the past, but the account balances of the trust has gone down since they have borrowed from it. Once we get the rules together we need to get together with the NRCWAY people with and the rules and regulations. They are supposed to report to us. We are currently just getting a statement balance,

but that isn't adequate. Once I have the rules set up and their report, I can inform the board so we know how to proceed. If I have a vote I want to sustain. I just want to report the numbers. What I don't want to happen is to take \$41,000 from the trust as that is enough capital to buy the camp.

- Doug Tolleson: We don't need to withdrawal for that purpose. The purchase of the camp is already a done deal so we didn't need that money.
- Ernie Gipson: We lost about \$2,200 this year. This is a red flag for me because if you take the \$21,000 and divide it by 6 years it will be a loss around \$3,000 every year. We had the least amount of students this last year, so we would expect to see the greatest loss in money, but that is a red flag because that is what happened. They are required to change their trust members every year. I need to know how much of the money from the auction goes to us, NRCWAY etc.
- Doug Tolleson: Half and Half.
- Frank Hayes: Half goes to NRCWAY and half to the general fund.
- Ernie Gipson: I will have a synopsis of what the rules are so that the next treasurer will know what is going on.
- Don Luhrsen: When Byron gave up his role we had about a 2 year gap.
- Doug Tolleson: Several of us are new and didn't get that transition and are in the blind on what to do.
- Willie Sommers: The money in NRCWAY has always been an item of discussion.
- Doug Tolleson: We now have the docs on how everything was set up.

## Arizona Section Society for Range Management

---



- Ernie Gipson: It become clear that there was nothing clear about the deposits and credits – we haven't been doing the credits back.
- Don Luhrsen: There is a point to what is going on here. The organization needs to develop that credibility and corporate memory. For the last 2 years we have been wishy-washy which is very important to capture so we don't repeat it.
- Ernie Gipson: This trust is in OUR hands. Some other people in the trust have ability to do things, but we are the overseers of the entire account.
- Doug Tolleson: There are legal ramifications of that trust.
- Mike Hemovich: One of the earlier board meetings we said it might be a good idea for Kim or someone to come tell us about it – how they relate to us and our role.
- Ernie Gipson: I would like to know where the first \$6,000 came from. I want to know the history of this.
- Mike Hemovich: Is Kim the best person to go to?
- Don Luhrsen: Susan Pater is also someone to talk to.
- Frank Hayes: why is it hard to get everyone at the same place?
- Ernie: We need to do it.

### 4. Unfinished Business

#### NRCWAY

- Doug: I propose to get the knowledge of NRCWAY. To learn the history, the legality of the docs, and who is responsible for what and possibly to make a decision if NRCWAY should be under our umbrella, or if it should be under the umbrella of UofA Extension. In order to arrive to this decision, or bring it to a decision to take to the membership, I would like a smaller group of the board, a manageable unit (not to exclude anyone) an executive chain. I propose having the presidents and Ernie. I would like to try as soon as possible after Spokane. We should meet with at least 2 out of the 4 of the NRCWAY people such as Kim and Susan. It is more of an extension activity now than SRM.
- Willie Sommers: It is especially now that the extension owns the camp.
- Jamie Wages: It is a good way to bring in students from the state.
- Doug Tolleson: The best thing could be that we need to let them do their own things and then we can deliver programs and/or scholarships. I think the smaller group of board members should do an exploratory phase first and see where we need to go. We then will come back to the board and make a decision to go back to the general membership. To create a decision to solve the NRCWAY issue we have been discussing. Do we need a motion?
- Jamie Wages: I make a motion to have a separate group with the vice president, president elect, Ernie and the past president.
- All in favor
- Doug Tolleson: I will try to make that happen as soon as possible. In person would be best, but a conference call is possible
- Willie Sommers: There is a history of the camp which Kim McRenyolds has. That is another document that the sub group can read and pass onto the membership
- Don Luhrsen: I am guessing you will find that when NRCWAY got started they might have been the president of the society at that time. There are certain times that the UofA Extension dominants the board of directors, sometimes it is the NRCS and that can really direct the BOD.
- Doug Tolleson: We need to explore the Clark Martin Trust.
- We need 2 new trustees to serve of that board so that they can be legal to have the trustees
- Jamie Wages: What does that mean?
- Doug Tolleson: It is when you are on a board that oversees the trust fund.
- Ernie Gipson: Susan Pater, Kim McRenyolds and Jeff Schalaus are all on the board currently.
- Doug Tolleson: We are behind with someone being replaced, so we need to nominate 2 people. John Kava is someone that is willing to serve.
- Willie Sommers: Mary Nichols from ARS is another possibility. She is very active with the camp.
- Doug Tolleson: Shai Schendel might also be a good candidate so we have three names to fill two positions. I will talk to those three people.
- Don Luhrsen: Motion to talk to these people.
- Mike Hemovich: I 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

## Arizona Section Society for Range Management

---



- All in favor

### **Bank accounts, structure, signatories, etc**

- Doug Tolleson: There has been some confusion on who has had the ability to sign, and what the name is on the account. The official name is ARIZ. Section Society for Range Magement (what the checking account is under).
- Ernie Gipson: I can look at all of these accounts including the 3 accounts. I am a signatory, but I can't ask for assistance because the address is wrong which the security question is. The tax ID is also another security question, but it is also wrong on one of the accounts.
- Doug Tolleson: Perhaps after the NRCWAY discussions we just start over and start new accounts in which we can get all the information correct and the accounts we want. Ernie and I can do that. First we need to get all our ducks in a row. Then we can create a protocol with them when there is a change in people to try to simplify the process. The permanent address is the UofA Natural Resources address. We need to simplify everything and come up with a better system that works for us.
- Ernie Gipson: It is nice that I can sign the checks but usually I (as the treasurer) just prepares the checks. Most of the time when I write checks we have a few days window, so I would feel more comfortable just preparing them and having someone else sign them.
- Frank Hayes: I make a motion for this to happen
- Jamie Wages: I 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.
- Don Luhrsen: Usually the vice pres and the president are the ones that sign the checks.
- Doug Tolleson: What happens if the vice pres and president are in other places?
- Don Luhrsen: We dealt with the checks at board meetings because they used to all be face to face.
- Ernie Gipson: It has been nice because I can do them quick.
- Doug Tolleson: I say that we leave that ability for treasurer, but establish a protocol that you send an email to the pres or board stating what checks he will write.
- Frank Hayes: I think it should be to the vice president and the president because a lot of us might be unattainable.
- Clare Hydock: Maybe we can do a limit possibly. I am a member for another group with a maximum amount I can write checks for.
- Doug Tolleson: We will keep that informally that Ernie will communicate the checks to the president and the president elect.
- Don Luhrsen: All three people need to be in the loop.
- Frank Hayes: I agree.
- Mike Hemovich: I don't know about closing the accounts. When we were there at the bank it was suggested that there would be a problem with closing the accounts.
- Doug Tolleson: So it might not be that simple.
- Don Luhrsen: I have been to a few different banks. The bank I went to with Erin in Phoenix said they didn't think it would be a big deal.
- [Doug Tolleson: I will make an apt in Cottonwood and ask these questions to see what is doable.](#)
- Willie Sommers: Are we talking about the checking and the savings?
- Doug Tolleson: There are several people still on the account.
- Ernie Gipson: There are two checking accounts and one money market fund which was for the Clark Martin Trust.
- Jamie Wages: Was that something that you said wasn't making that much interest? Maybe we should look into something that gets better interest.
- Ernie Gipson: The interest for that account was very low.
- Frank Hayes: It was less than 1% over 8 years.
- Don Luhrsen: I believe George was originally put in charge of that, but he is not a money market expert.
- Doug Tolleson: Maybe we could find a member that is more knowledgeable about that.
- Clare Hydock: Maybe Dwayne Warrick?

# Arizona Section Society for Range Management

---



## **National SRM meeting**

- Doug Tolleson: Mike Hemovich and I will be there and we will go to the advisory committee meeting. The group is in support to either help another state host a meeting, or host the meeting (but with letting the professionals handle the meeting part). Is everyone still in support? We will go armed with that info.

## **SAFE letter**

- Doug Tolleson: We sent the letter to the forester.
- Don Luhrsen: It was just a proposal to committee to participate in good range management through the cattle growers, but we didn't address the SAFE document.
- Doug Tolleson: We were asked to redraft a letter to support SAFE.
- Don Luhrsen: We avoided SAFE in the last letter we wrote.
- Doug Tolleson: We will take this up at the next board meeting. I need to read it again, as I am not sure if some things have changed. There are some nuggets that I might not support.

## **Visit with agency heads, etc...re: membership and participation**

- Doug Tolleson: I would like for us (the 4 of us) through email divvy up the heads of the agencies for the state and establish this as a goal for this coming year. We should meet with them to tell them who we are and why they should support us. Everyone of us will get busy, so the board will hold us responsible
- Bob Benne: I think we should invite them to come to the meeting so that they can get a flavor for us. Possibly give them a discount for one or two people from their agency.
- Jamie Wages: The national meeting does a new member breakfast – coffee – is that something that the board could do?
- Willie Sommers: It is hard showing up to the annual meeting and not knowing everyone.
- Doug Tolleson: We will task the young professionals for having such an event.
- Don Luhrsen: We currently have 35 new members.
- Doug Tolleson: Willie you are the liaison for the young professionals now. We made a discount for the students (free). We can put out free tickets for a few of the new members.
- Erin Mathews: But this would only be for a few people? How would this be fair to other people within that agency if they haven't gotten the same treatment?
- Jamie Wages: Perhaps it could be the first people that would sign up would get the free tickets, no matter what agency they are from.
- Don Luhrsen: I think that the leadership needs to meet with the state directors.
- Mike Hemovich: If we do that early incentive, we will have to get the word out to everyone to tell them that is going to happen.
- Frank Hayes: That would take discussion on how we would get the word out to everyone.
- Jamie Wages: I am not sure if that is as effective as talking to a lot of people.

## **5. New Business**

### **Summer Meeting**

- Mike Hemovich: Starting to plan for the meeting. Possibly getting AZ Game and Fish and the Payson Department of Natural Resources involved, possibly doing some erosion studies. Someone asked if we could go to the Wallow fire. We could possibly look at the entire district and look at wildlife, fire, etc. The meeting could possibly be about Natural Resource Mgt in the Rim Country?
- Doug Tolleson: I would like to restructure the president elected duties. We will have to change the guidelines officially in the future, but want it to be restructured informally this year. For example the director south would be co-chair of summer meeting and take some load off of Mike which would create a precedent for next year. The directors south will help in the odd years and the director norths in the even years. We would then let the president elect handle the winter meeting. That is one of the leadership issues by having this one person putting on both of those in one year.
- Frank Hayes: I make a motion to accept Doug's recommendation that we start this, where the director south assists with the summer meeting this year.
- Doug Tolleson: So with this everyone would get a chance with just the summer meeting
- Jamie Wages: Is that all that you want the directors to do?
- Doug Tolleson: No, the directors would do what they normally do.

Arizona Section  
Society for Range Management

---



- Don Luhrsen: Something that I would like to see passed on is a template of how to get information for the meetings such as the template I have for the program.
- Jamie Wages: I would like to second the motion.
- All in Favor
- Erin Mathews: I would like to take the registration burden from the president elect given that I need that information for the name tags anyways.
- Doug Tolleson: You could be in contact with national too.
- Mike Hemovich: Alan Press is on top of things.
- Doug Tolleson: We were getting reports once a week, but we could take more on.
- Mike Hemovich: Erin you could also take on the communication with national for the announcements.
- Jamie Wages: I can do that - just tell me what that is.
- Doug Tolleson: It is where you can set the meetings, tag them on board meetings and add anything as necessary.
- Don Luhrsen: We need to make a date for the summer meeting.
- Doug Tolleson: Tentatively put it down as the first weekend in August – the 8-10<sup>th</sup>. I also want to make the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of every month a BOD meeting. As soon as I know the dates of NRCWAY I will let you know. Possibly the first week of July which might be a change in the trend.
- Willie Somers: The 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of June is for NRCWAY.
- Doug Tolleson: I probably won't schedule a meeting till March. [Lets plan for 11am the 7<sup>th</sup> of March for a video conference](#) since many of us can go to a Forest Service office. How many of us Skype? Maybe that is something that we can look into since not all of us can go to the Forest Service office.

[Summer Meeting committee meeting scheduled 10am-11am March 7th](#)

Doug Tolleson: Any last comments? I entertain a motion to adjourn.

Don Luhrsen: I motion to adjourn.

Willie Somers: 2<sup>nd</sup> that motion.

Meeting Adjourned @ 3:08pm