



2014 Board of Directors Meeting
November 12, 2014
9:00 a.m.
Teleconference call 866-829-5730 (passcode = 8489660)

AGENDA

Arizona Section, SRM
2014/15 Officers

Willie Sommers

President

Mary Nichols

President-Elect

Chris Thiel

Vice President

Shai Schendel,

Kelsey Hawkes

Directors- North

John Hall,

Steve Barker

Directors-South

Ashley Shepherd

Secretary-Treasurer

Matthew Kilford

ASU Chapter President

Emily Pecilunas

U of A Chapter President

Mike Hemovich

Past President

1. Welcome/Call to Order 9:09

2. Financial Report

NRCWAY \$28,343.23

SRM Checking \$10,213.28

SRM Savings \$6,489.39

3. Unfinished Business:

- *Winter meeting plans*

Mary: I sent out the proposal from Holiday Inn. It would be good if we could have a motion to go forward with that. Has everyone had a chance to look at it? There is opportunity to tweak and change a few things. I would like to have it finalized by the end of the week

Willie: Steve Barker had mentioned not paying for the BOD breakfast. I think we would do that as a way to save money

Steve: It always seems like there is a lot of food and not many people eat. Since we don't have a lot of money I think it's something that we could skip

Willie: I think that's a good point. We really do want to watch our budget.

Mary; I think it's no problem to take that off

Mike: The breakfast part detracts from the meeting itself. It would be fine to just have coffee.

Steve: I move we approve the proposed winter meeting hotel contract. Minus the breakfast

Chris: I second that.

Willie: Motion carries. I have a quick question. The total room rental is listed as \$1200, what is that for?

Mary: That's the actual meeting room.

Willie: We have an estimated 70 attendees?

Mary: I'm hoping the numbers are higher than that. If after we open registration more people sign up the Holiday Inn can accommodate more people. As far as the technical content of the meeting I will make contact with speakers. In the past how involved has the entire board been in this? I don't know if that's something I should go ahead and put together and let everyone know or if I should let the board know step by step what is happening. I can give a broad overview of what I have now.

Steve: A broad overview would be helpful.

Mary: Change in Arizona from a science and research perspective, monitoring perspective, and rancher perspective. For science and research have Teresa Crimmins talk about phenology, Susan Moran water supply, Mike Crimmins talk about drought monitoring. I would like to find a speaker that can talk about demographic changes. In the afternoon have a monitoring perspective from Andrew Briske, Del Despain, Dan Robinett, or Jim Sprinkle. It would be good to hear from observational point of view and data they have been collecting over the years. Also have agency perspective on how has policy changed over time. Friday morning have ranchers give their perspective. I don't have specific names of ranchers yet. Potentially I would like to have the current range manager of the year. I am open to other people that would be good speakers.

Steve: Sounds like good program. How much help do you need from the board?

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Mary: The items I have not touched are the auction, banquet, what goes on at the banquet like the awards, are there traditional student activities? I could use some help with trying to find a name of ranchers who might be good speakers on the topic and have a good perspective to offer and what has been changing over time.

Mike: I can help you with that.

Mary: I was going to put together a list of questions so there is some commonality with the talks

Willie: Having the current range manager of the year speak?

Mary: Does the person who is winning already know they are the winner? I wonder if they would want to talk and/or feel comfortable talking.

Steve: You could always reach out to the past years winners.

Willie: Elkhorn ranch won last year. I can contact them.

Mary: I also know them.

Willie: Richard Collings and Wink Criggler were on the list Mary gave me

Mike: Those are good selections. The UA has been working with ranchers and drought and I can ray tanner, Dennis Morroney, Andrew McGibbons, Bill McDonald from the Sonoita areas

Steve: Dan Belle, Walt Myer, Bill Dunn.

Mary: Ok thanks. I have this rancher perspective schedule to speak on Friday, the second day. Is there any reason I should change the schedule?

Steve: You might get more rancher attendance if you move it in the middle of the program.

Willie: Yeah you could move agency perspective to last.

Mary: Ok that's helpful. I will send out information soon.

Willie: Oh there is one more name to add to the list Judy and Bob Prosser from the Bar T Bar. So there is the auction, banquet, awards, and student activities left to delegate. Kelsey handled the auction last year, should we call on her to handle that again this year?

Steve: Is she on the awards committee as well. Willie have you heard anything about that? I volunteered to help but haven't heard a word. I wonder if we need Kelsey to get the award thing running.

Chris: I can help with the awards. I saw Jamie recently, she was meeting with a rancher in Prescott she told me there was only one nomination.

Willie: Chris, you are willing to help with awards and auction?

Chris: I can help with both or wherever there is a need for help.

Willie: **I will contact Jamie with the awards committee and follow up with her.**

Mary: Could I be CCed on communications related to the winter meeting just so I know where things stand.

Willie: I'm thinking that I ask Kelsey if she is willing to take on the auction one more time. Chris I will see if she needs assistance. You could assist Jamie and/or Kelsey.

Mary: I think would be good for the students is Kelsey tapped the student chapter members for help if appropriate.

Willie: I think that is a good idea. We could have ASU assist with the auction and UA assist with awards.

Mary: Yeah something like that. They are a good resource so let's not forget to ask them for help.

Steve: We can let Kelsey decide if she needs help and she can tap one of those groups.

Willie: ok I will let Kelsey know.

Ashley: I will be missing the meeting because I will be teaching part time at the local community college next semester. The first day of class is January 12th. John will be fulfilling my duties as secretary and treasurer at the meeting. I will get everything ready for him to take to the meeting like name tags and such.

KELSEY JOINS THE CALL

Willie: Would you be able to help with the duties again this year?

Kelsey: Yes

Willie: Chris can help with the auction and you could ask UA if needed.

Steve: Is there a rancher of the year?

Kelsey: There have been but I haven't heard form Jamie if she selected one. We need to start now to get a sign ordered for that award so we can present it at the meeting. I can help with that again this year.

Willie: We need to set the cost of what we are going to charge people, we need to request from SRM national the online registration service, and order awards from the contractor in Sierra Vista.

Mary: There is the issue of the CEUs.

Willie: Once the agenda is put together we send it to national to get the CEUs.

Mary: I can follow up on working up the costs numbers and the registration. I was going to base that on the info from last year and the costs this year.

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Chris: I think it will be about \$115 to break even.

Steve: I would bump it up a little but maybe \$130-150 range to add a little profit for us. I don't know if we have done this for a while, but I liked it when we had a student rate to get more students to come.

Willie: Last year it was \$125, \$150 for non-member and \$75 for students. There is one small thing about awards. We order them for the board every year. They are about \$65 a piece. They turned out nice last year, but one minor cost cutting measure to add the years for Directors since they do it for 2 years. For example one plaque that says 2013-2015, instead of 2 plaques.

Kelsey and Chris: That's a good idea

Willie: Ok we will move on.

Kelsey: I was just wondering, there are a few UA students taking the plant ID contest in Sacramento should we put together a practice test for them at the winter meeting?

Mary: I think that's a good idea.

- *IRS application status*

Chris: Ashley what is the tax exempt status for people donating to the auction?

Ashley: I sent that financial info that I put together to Willie in September. He was supposed to send it into the IRS.

Willie: I will send that info out to the board to look over

Steve: You should just send it out to the IRS.

Willie: **Ok I will.**

4. **New Business:**

- *Nominees for offices (VP, Director North and Director South)*

Willie: Steve and Shia are the two directors leaving and we also need a VP. Mike as past president you are in charge of nominations

Mike: I sent out a call for nominations to John Kava for the newsletter and to Lisa for the SRM listserve

Willie: The ballot could be in the newsletter. We can have meeting info in the newsletter also

Ashley: I had a ballot box last year at the winter meeting. I had several people vote at the meeting as well as email me their votes.

Steve: I actually thought it was a clever idea to vote at the meeting. It gets more participation.

Willie: So should we have people voting up until the banquet?

Steve, Chris and Mary: Yes, I think its fine

Willie: Who could we contact for these positions?

John: Doug Whitbeck he is the BLM office in Safford. He would be good for director south.

Kelsey: Can I have Steve's position instead, because I live in Tucson again? I no longer live or work in the north part of the state.

Willie: The bylaws say the Directors "must reside and live in the north and south". If someone reigns then someone should be appointed to take over for the remaining year.

Steve: You could resign from Director North and run for Director South? The board needs to appoint a Director North for her one year remaining.

Willie: So we need two Director North's.

Steve: One appointed by the board and another elected.

Willie: I wrote down Matthew Jewell for Director North, Ray Tanner for Director North or Vice President, Chris Bernau for Director North, Doug for Director South.

Mike: Ray Turner could do ranchers committee

Willie: Terry Wheeler wants to step away from the ranchers committee. Kelsey what about the NRCS and your friend what works in Holbrook?

Kelsey: Erin Boyd? as far as elections?

Willie: Yes

Kelsey: Yeah you could contact her.

Mike: What about Erin Matthews? At one point she did run for Vice President. Maybe she would be interested in coming back and running for Vice President.

Willie: What does the board think about Ray Tanner? He could be a Vice President.

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Mike: I've talked to him many times about leadership positions with AZ Cattle Growers and SRM and he consistently declines. I can contact him again though.

Chris: Have you reached out to Mike Ruple?

Mike: No I will definitely ask him. He is our Range Conservationist now.

Willie: Ok I will leave that up to you for the directors, Mike. Is there anyone else we want to contact for the ranchers committee?

Mike: I may also get some feedback from the list serve.

- *November newsletter*

Willie: John Kava sent out an email asking for items for the newsletter. **I will contact both of the student chapter Presidents to get an update on the student activities for the newsletter.**

John: I wrote a report for Director South. I would like to have a field trip here. I had a tentative date set as November 22. But I'm not sure if it will work now. I was under the impression that the newsletter would be going out soon.

Willie: You can email Lisa Gerber and ask her to send out something on the list serve. The UA and ASU contact info is on the SRM webpage.

Steve: You might put something on facebook too

Willie: If we hold off on the newsletter we might be able to get info about the winter meeting and biography of candidates. Alvin wrote something for native range does anyone want to read it before hand?

Steve: Just send it to John Kava.

- *Open Floor*

Mike: I have noticed we do best when we get Dean Fish to do the actual auctioneering. We may want to contact him soon.

Kelsey: I don't have his contact info but if someone gives it to me I can contact him.

Mike: Ok I can get that for you. The person who usually gets the plaques is the person putting on the winter meeting. I did it and Willie did it

Willie: Should we have Mary do that or maybe that is something Jamie can do?

Mike: It is an award

Chris: I could talk to Jamie about those and help her

Willie: I know the tradition is a belt buckle for the outgoing President, but I kind of want to break tradition. I probably won't ever wear it.

John: What about a bolo tie?

Willie: The belt buckles run about \$250.

Mary: I can make a motion that we don't give Willie a belt buckle.

Willie: Yeah the expensive and it's not really my style. Ok are there any other items for new business? Does anyone have any burning issues on board reports?

Mike: Are you going to touch base again with Terry Wheeler? I need a confirmation from him before I approach Ray Tanner.

Willie: **I will call him Terry Wheeler and have him send out a quick email to the board if he wants to resign and I can ask him about his replacement.**

Kelsey: Can I resign my Director North position through email?

Willie: I think email is fine.

5. Board Reports

6. Schedule next meeting

Willie: Let's schedule our next meeting. How is December 10, 11, 12.

Ashley: December 10th is the only day out of those three that is good for me.

Chris and Kelsey: That works for me

Willie: Ok, December 10th at 9am.

Call ends at 10:30am