



**Society for Range Management
Arizona Section
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Nov 21, 2003
10:00am
ASU East
Mesa, AZ**

**Arizona Section,
SRM
2003 Officers**

Larry Howery
President

Jeff Schalau
President-Elect

Dean Fish
Vice President

**Norm Lowe, Keith
Curry**
Directors- North

**Bruce Munda,
Emilio Carrillo**
Directors-South

Dan Bell
Secretary-Treasurer

Joe Harris
*UofA Chapter
President*

Derek Stauffer
*ASU Chapter
President*

Sandy Fabritz
Past President

The primary goal of this meeting was to discuss:

- **Planning for winter section meeting (2004)**

1. Welcome/Call to Order – Larry Howery

Larry Howery (AZ Section President) called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m., and wanted the group to recognize John Brock, Missy Debnar and Derek Stauffer for their efforts in organizing the meeting location.

In attendance were Bruce Munda, Derek Stauffer, Joe (Pork Chop) Harris, Emilio Carrillo, Dean Fish, Liz Majchrowics, Sandy Fabritz, Missy Debnar, Dan Bell and Jeff (I'm 42 Minutes Late) Schalau. Larry also thanked the board members for their hard work in making the summer meeting a success, especially Jeff for putting together the program, and BP productions for putting together some great meals. It was an excellent and timely program that addressed one of the suggestions from our membership meeting in Laughlin to offer a program on drought.

Larry also called attention to the overall goal highlighted above.

2. Approval of August 14, 2003 Meeting Minutes – Dan Bell

The Minutes of the June 13, 2003 meeting were reviewed. Dean Fish moved to accept the minutes as written; Emilio Carrillo seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

3. Financial Report – Dan Bell

Dan Bell (AZ Section Secretary-Treasurer) presented the status of the section checking, savings, and the NRCWAY checking accounts.

Balances for the various accounts as of November 21, 2003 are as follows:

AZ Section Checking: \$ 8461.19
AZ Section Savings: \$ 7147.41
NRCWAY Checking: \$12,199.17

Dan reported that there was an \$85.00 out check from the 2002 summer meeting and requested some direction on the matter. Sandy Fabritz offered to follow up on this matter with the individual the check was written to. Dan would also like to investigate lowering the service fee on the checking account. Dan presented the 2003 AZ Section budget track and discussed revenue from the summer meeting, as well as, from current membership dues.

Emilio asked about the Clark Martin Endowment Scholarship. Larry stated that he has been working with the family in regards to the scholarship.

Emilio Carrillo moved to accept the financial report as presented; Bruce Munda seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

4. Old Business

- a) Winter Meeting 2004 – Jeff Schalau & Dan Bell

Dan presented the Board with the Apache Gold Casino Resort contract for the 2004

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AZ Section Winter Meeting. The contract called for filling 30 rooms on both the 12th and 13th of January. The room rate was guaranteed at \$50.90 through Dec 16th, 2003. Conference rooms would be complimentary and have capacity for at least 60 people.

The meeting format is anticipated as follows:

Mon. January 12 th , 2004	General membership meeting
Tue. January 13 th , 2004	Program, Mixer, Auction & Banquet
Wed. January 14 th , 2004	Meeting of the New Board

On Monday before the General Membership meeting an optional golf package for the Clark Martin Endowment was being worked on. At this point the rate is too high. We are currently waiting for a counter proposal from the golf pro.

Dan presented the board with a catering menu from the resort. The board decided the meeting registration will include meals both lunch and dinner on January 13, 2004. Lunch would consist of a choice of Hearty Meatloaf, Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo and a vegetarian option. Dinner would be a Western Barbeque Buffet with vegetarian option. The board also decided on break options for the 13th as well.

With the finalization of the menu the board then focused on pricing for the event. After much deliberation the board agreed on a fee schedule of \$75.00 per member, \$50.00 per spouse/guest, \$40.00 per student/youth.

Emilio Carrillo moved to accept the fee schedule as presented; Bruce Munda seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Program

Jeff Schalauski anticipated the program could support a total of 10-12 talks along with 8 Posters and Jeff mentioned that he had received 8 abstracts for both posters and talks. Jeff suggested a panel discussion at the end if time were to permit. Jeff vowed to pound the pavement for more abstracts and once there was a pool to choose from he would handle selection via conference call with the selection committee.

5. New Business

a) Wilderness Designation – Dan Bell

Dan mentioned a proposal for wilderness designation in Santa Cruz County. Sky Islands Alliance along with Friends of the Tumacacori Highlands is backing this proposal coming out of US Representative Raul Grijalva's District. The current proposal has impacts on allotments and range management. The area already has a designated wilderness associated with it. Permittees feel that the issue has been addressed with the 1984 Pajarito Wilderness designation. Dan requested information on SRM policy in regards to wilderness designation. Dan asked for the AZ Section's support for permittees hamstrung by this latest barrier in the way of good range management.

6. Board Reports

a) President - Larry Howery

Larry reminded the Board of the SRM National meeting January 24th – 30th, 2004 in Salt Lake City. Larry suggested that anyone wishing to attend make their room reservations as soon as possible. Larry stated that the Advisory Council would be meeting all day on Sunday and Monday Afternoon.

Larry mentioned that National Ballots had been sent out to the members and urged the Board to return the ballots as soon as possible.

Larry reported that Mitch acknowledged the AZ Section of SRM for it's participation in the 100 year anniversary of the Santa Rita Experimental Range (SRER). Larry expressed his appreciation for George and especially Mitch for putting together a great program commemorating the importance of all the historical work done on the SRER.

b) President Elect – Jeff Schalauski

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Jeff reported on a noxious weed training and pesticide application workshop that would be held in Yavapai County December 12th. The cost was \$10.00 and was geared toward agency and private land owners.

Bruce asked if CEU's would be available. Jeff said he would look into that.

c) Vice President - Dean Fish

Dean reported on a poisonous plant workshop to be held at Camp Verde on December 2nd and in Sonoita on December 3rd.

d) Directors North

Keith Curry

Keith was unable to attend the meeting but reports that the struggle goes on to re-professionalize the range program in BLM. He did get his supervisor Sherry Hirst to re-join the SRM. He also worked with Emilio to nominate someone for Range Manager of the Year Award. He hopes as many as possible can attend the tour of this ranch next month or when ever the Awards Committee decides to have a look.

Norm Lowe

Norm was unable to attend.

e) Directors South

Emilio Carrillo

Emilio started to report on the Aspen Fire Recovery when he quickly realized that Bruce Munda was in attendance and was much more knowledgeable on the subject.

Emilio quickly shifted his focus to State Land Range Con participation in SRM or the lack there of. He would like someone from SRM inquire why there is a lack of State Land Range Cons involved with SRM.

Bruce Munda

Once Bruce regained his composure after Emilio tried to steal his report, Bruce stated that NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) funding was being used on the Aspen Fire recovery effort. Bruce mentioned that they were actively planting mountain brome, winter wheat, and bottle brush on parcels to reduce soil erosion.

He also reported that the NRCS Plant Materials Center (PMC) was participating in a program called Trees for Mount Lemmon. The PMC is currently in the process of germinating 5 Needle Arizona Ponderosa Pine. He mentioned that this year's cone crop was terrible, but the work continues and they are learning a great deal through this entire process.

f) Past President – Sandy Fabritz

Sandy reported that ADWR Drought Task Force is aiming for a long term program. Sandy stated that Arizona is still in a drought and in many locations considered as extreme drought. To aide in program implementation the task force is looking to compile information. They are looking for producer input in the areas of range, wildlife and watershed. A survey will be developed to answer questions such as;

What information do you have?

What are you monitoring for?

In time ADWR would look to hold workshops to discuss the results of the survey and ultimately put together a monitoring and response program.

7. Committee Reports

a) Newsletter – Sandy Fabritz, Kim McReynolds, and Susan Pater

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Sandy reported on newsletter activities. She stated the need for articles. She would like to see a student chapter column, committee reports and an event calendar so that the membership is aware of what is going on.

b) NRCWAY – Sandy Fabritz

Sandy exclaimed we will have a Camp this year! The camp will be held Aug 2nd – 6th, 2004 at Mormon Lake. Sandy mentioned that a camp director had been hired and is working on getting a mailer and a flyer ready. The deadline for applications will be April 10th, 2004 and the cost to the student is \$100.00. Each Natural Resource Conservation District in the state has been challenged to send one student to the camp.

c) Nominations – Sandy Fabritz

Sandy presented the board with a slate of candidates for the up coming elections. The nominees would be presented to the membership in the next newsletter along with biographical information and a ballot.

d) Membership – Mike Hannemann

Mike was unable to attend but reported that SRM membership was currently at 3745 while the AZ Section comprised 185 of those members. Larry mentioned that if you haven't recruited a member yet, please do so – it would be nice to say that every board member recruited at least 1 new member in 2003.

e) Scholarship – Mitch McClaran

Larry reported that Mitch was currently evaluating the scholarship nominations in preparation for the AZ Section Winter Meeting.

f) Awards – Emilio Carrillo

Emilio reported that the committee had received two nominations and that the committee was in the process of evaluating those nominations.

g) Historian – Phil Ogden

Phil was unable to attend but was able to report that Dan Bell still owed him some files.

h) Public Affairs – John Brock

John was unable to attend.

i) Research Affairs – George Ruyle

George reported that the loose knit interagency group looking at means of cross-walking site inventories and TES are still engaged.

j) Rancher Affairs – Keith Curry

No further report.

k) Student/Youth – Susan Pater

Susan was unable to attend but reported that the Duncan FFA took State in a recent competition.

l) Information – Mark Pater

Mark was unable to attend.

m) U of A Chapter (Tierra Seca) – Joe Harris

Joe reported that Tierra Seca ball caps are now available for \$15.

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Joe mentioned that Tierra Seca students, with the help of NRCS employees and various other range experts, were able to read nine transects on the Empire Cienega, and the club was paid \$100 dollars for each transect.

Joe stated that Tierra Seca held their 2nd annual bake sale fundraiser. With excellent turnout, the club made approximately \$200.

Joe mentioned that there will be 6 students participating in Plant ID and 5 students participating in URME at the national meeting in Salt Lake City. Joe also mentioned that Tierra Seca would appreciate funding assistance from the Section to help get them there.

n) ASU Chapter (ERSA) – Derek Stauffer

Derek reported that ERSA now has t-shirts for sale to help in fundraising efforts. A professor in the department is paying ERSA to help collect native seed. Derek mentioned ERSA would be collecting mistletoe to sell for the holidays. Derek stated that ERSA will be using funds raised in the upcoming year to assist members with the cost of student memberships as well as the costs associated with attending various meetings and conferences. These funds will be awarded on the basis of participation in fundraising activities. Derek also mentioned that the students would be interested in possible range-related workshops, as well as, field experience for undergrads.

Derek then reported that ERSA would be involved Earth Day 2004 festivities on campus.

Derek requested funding assistance for students to attend the SRM National Meeting in Salt Lake City.

Derek mentioned that Norm Lowe will be speaking with ERSA on Dec. 3 on the topic of Rangeland Restoration. He then relayed a Special Thanks to Sandy who spoke with ERSA in September concerning Water Issues in Arizona.

After Derek's report the board discussed funding assistance for the student chapters. It was decided that the students would get a 50% increase from what was normally budgeted for student chapter assistance. ERSA and Tierra Seca would each receive \$750.00 towards travel to Salt Lake City

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.