

Arizona Section  
Society for Range Management



**Society for Range Management  
Arizona Section  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (Draft)  
Monday, November 8, 2004  
10:00am - Noon  
NRCS Tucson Plant Materials Center  
3241 North Romero Rd  
Tucson, Arizona**

**Welcome/Call to Order – Jeff Schalau**

Jeff called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. In attendance was Rachel Meade, Bill Edwards, James Heitholt, Keith Curry, Dan Bell, Bruce Munda, Dean Fish, Jeff Schalau, Barron Orr and looming in the halls was Dan Robinett. There was indeed a quorum.

**1. Approval of August 19, 2004 Minutes**

Approval of the minutes was tabled until the January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 membership meeting.

**2. Financial Report – Dan Bell**

Dan presented the group with the following report and the group thanked Dan for his tireless work in preparing the minutes and financials.

**Arizona Section, SRM  
2004 Proposed Budget Track**

	Proposed 2003	Actual 2003	Proposed 2004	Actual 2004
<b>Inflow</b>				
Winter Meeting Reg.	\$6,500.00	\$7110.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,505.00
Summer Meeting Reg.	\$2,000.00	\$1780.00	\$2,000.00	\$2095.00
SRM Annual Dues	\$1,500.00	\$385.00*	\$1,500.00	\$406.00
Auction	\$1,000.00	\$1339.00	\$0	
Hats				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,614.00</b>	<b>\$7,700.00</b>	<b>\$7006.00</b>
<b>Outflow</b>				
Awards	-\$600.00	-\$266.10	-\$600.00	-\$341.18
Scholarships	-\$650.00	-\$600.00	-\$650.00	-\$600.00
County Committees				
Corp. Comm. Fees	-\$10.00	-\$10.00	-\$10.00	-\$0
Student Chapters	-\$1,000.00	-\$1500.00	-\$1,000.00	
HSYF Student	-\$800.00		-\$800.00	
Section Newsletter	-\$1,000.00	-\$657.86	-\$1,000.00	-\$649.35
Postage, Misc. Supplies	-\$300.00	-\$210.65	-\$300.00	-\$10.05
Student Mixer				
NRCWAY Donation	\$0.00	\$1,339.00	\$0	-\$0
Symposium Sponsorship	\$100.00	-\$250.00	\$100.00	-\$0
SVMA Donation	\$0.00		\$0.00	-\$0
Winter Meeting	-\$6,000.00	-\$6663.91	-\$4,000.00	-\$2,990.93
Summer Meeting	-\$1,000.00	-\$956.31	-\$1,200.00	-\$1,486.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>-\$11,460.00</b>	<b>-\$11,114.83</b>	<b>-\$9,660.00</b>	<b>-\$6078.44</b>

Balances for the various accounts as of November 8, 2004 are as follows:

AZ Section Checking: \$ 8,478.21  
AZ Section Savings: \$ 7,231.88  
NRCWAY Checking: \$ 8,995.15

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After looking the over the budget the group then decided that future budgets need to be balanced and that the section needed to look for ways to balance the budget while still maintaining current programs.

**3. Old Business**

a) Winter Meeting Update-Dean Fish

Dean reported on the location search for the 2005 Winter Meeting. Of the choices membership had decided on in August, only Harrah's and Cliff Castle could accommodate the group. Dean mentioned that Harrah's was quite pricy and would like the board to authorize him to continue negotiations with Cliff Castle. Rachel Meade moved for further negotiations with Cliff Castle, Bill Edwards seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dean then turned the floor over to Barron Orr to discuss program content. Barron mentioned that the morning of Thursday January 6 will feature Symposia on technological innovations that show great promise in enhancing current rangeland management methods. The afternoon will involve hands-on experience with some financially based restocking tools (tied to climate and vegetation factors) and digital field mapping made easy with the "Geospatial Tool-Kit". The following meeting structure was discussed:

8:00 am	<i>Registration</i>				
8:30	<i>Welcome</i>				Dean Fish?
8:40	Overview of Program				Barron Orr
8:45	Ecological Site Guides: Today and Tomorrow				Barbara Hutchinson & Steve Barker?
9:15	Arizona NEMO and the Automated Geospatial Watershed Assessment (AGWA)				Dave Goodrich, Phil Guertin & Kristine Uhlman?
10:00	Southwest Climate Outlook				Michael Crimmins
10:30	<i>Break</i>				
11:00	RangeView: Geospatial Tools for Vegetation Monitoring				Stuart Marsh & Barron Orr
11:30	RANGES: Site-specific Grassland Biomass Analysis				Phil Heilman & Robin Marsett?
12:00 noon	<i>Lunch</i>				
1:30 pm	Restocking Analysis Practicum	Trent Teegerstrom & Russell Tronstad?	1:30	Digital Field Mapping Practicum	Barron Orr & Phil Rasmussen
3:00	<i>Break</i>				
3:30	Digital Field Mapping Practicum	Barron Orr & Phil Rasmussen	3:30	Restocking Analysis Practicum	Trent Teegerstrom & Russell Tronstad?
5:00 pm	<i>Close</i>				Dan Bell

Barron was fairly certain that we could get the speakers lined up for this event. He mentioned that it may be appropriate to comp. rooms for some of the speakers as well as pay for some travel.

Dean then discussed the rest of the meeting content, beginning Wednesday on January 5th at 8:00am, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clark Martin Scholarship Hackers Golf Tournament. Followed by the General Membership Meeting at 3:00 pm. The symposium from 8:00am to 5:00pm on January 6<sup>th</sup>, culminating with the SRM / NRCWAY Auction and the Awards Banquet. On Friday, January 7 the new board will meet in the morning. Dean then suggested the following price structure: \$75 for regular and non-members, \$45 for students with a \$15 late registration fee for each category. Keith Curry moved to accept Dean's report, Bruce seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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#### 4. New Business

a) Subject Matter Discussion of Winter 2006 Meeting-Bruce Munda

Bruce mentioned to the group that he had a line on potential Topic for the Winter 2006 Section Meeting. Working with Chris Jones he would like to pursue a workshop on Climate Variability and Ecosystem Impacts in Southwestern Rangelands. Chris is currently planning a similar workshop on forests and could very easily adapt it to rangelands. The group liked the idea and would like Bruce to invite Chris to the January 7<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting at Cliff Castle to discuss the idea further.

b) Request from SWCS for Donation to Support the Arizona State Soil Monolith at the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit-Bruce Munda

Bruce mentioned that he had a request from the SWCS for contributions for the state soil monolith at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. The group decided to table the issue and discuss this at after the 2005 winter Section Meeting.

c) Information for the Board on NRCWAY - Tom Baker

Reports from a number of the students who participated in this workshop indicate that they were basically bored and felt that there was a lack of "hands-on" type learning. I think this happened because of several factors.

- The workshop basically had two populations of students: some were the typical urban high school student with very little exposure to the topics covered at the workshop. The others were students very involved in their FFA programs who basically had heard all of this before; the latter were very bored.
- Many of the sessions were conducted by persons who were contacted at the last minute or who did not have the time to plan how to integrate their material into the program as a whole. Although these were knowledgeable people, their presentations were fairly basic and introductory.
- Finally, there was a lack of time set aside for them to work on their project under supervision, and come up with informed solutions; there also was a lack of free time to give them the opportunity to engage in sports, social activities etc.

To remedy the above I would suggest a number of things: these suggestions hinge on both the program and the staff being selected far in advance of the workshop date.

1. That the program which is adopted be integrated such that the learning sessions offered tie into the project which the student has to evaluate. Thus the project "problem" would be selected in advance, preferably one that is in the public awareness at the time, and then the staff would be selected in advance giving them sufficient time to integrate their specialty into the project problem, rather than offer a variety of unrelated subjects. These projects could range from "grazing on federal lands" to "impact of water restrictions" etc. In some cases an economist, urban planner, rancher etc. might be required to complement the teaching staff in order to help the students see all sides of a particular issue.
2. That there be much more "hands on" instruction; for example even when we went over to the U of A ranch, the students never did see so much as one steer or heifer or get any indication of what is involved in ranching.
3. That specific, pre-planned, social activities be included in the program.
4. That the week begin on a Sunday and end on a Saturday to give more time commensurate with a thorough study of the problem.
5. To qualify for an EPA grant, the camp would have to follow essentially the above format; an alternative would be to keep it more general and aimed at a less trained group.

Another Alternative: Rather than a week long camp, have a series of weekends at different locations with different specific topics.

d) Auction Proceeds- Dan Bell

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Dan asked the board how they wanted to handle the auction proceeds for the 2005 Winter Meeting. Dan suggested it be advertised as the Az Section / NRCWAY Auction and the proceeds should be split evenly. Rachel suggested that a minimum of \$1000.00 go to NRCWAY and all proceeds above \$2000.00 be split evenly. Jeff suggested that we bring this up at the membership meeting.

### 6. Board Reports

a) President – Jeff Schalau

Jeff reported that he had just had a conference at Cliff Castle and it was a good place to hold a meeting. Jeff also stated that he was hosting a workshop on mapping with IPAC and GPS on November 22 from 9:00-3:00 at Yavapai Cooperative Extension, Building C. Keith

b) President Elect – Dean Fish

No further report.

c) Vice President – Bruce Munda

Bruce reported that the NRCS State office has moved 230 North First Avenue in Phoenix. Bruce also informed the group that he was the Arizona contact for invasive species.

d) Directors North – Keith Curry

Keith reported that he met with Lamar Smith and discussed ways to get BLM Range Cons more involved with SRM. Lamar brought up the issue with Elaine Zolinski at a recent BLM meeting. Keith said he would also be recruiting at Mohave Livestock Association meetings.

Director North - Rachel Meade

Rachel reported that Mike Sommerville NRCS State Conservationists will be retiring this year. No replacement has been named at this point. NRCS seems to be understaffed statewide. In her area they are focusing on water facilities in response to continued drought.

e) Directors South – Emilio Carrillo

No report.

Bill Edwards

Bill reported that he has been extremely busy raising twins. Congratulations go to Bill and his wife. He reported that a workshop / research review of the SRER and the Jornada was to take place on this weekend (11/13/04).

f) Past President – Larry Howery

Jeff reported that Larry was busy working on nominations for the upcoming election of officers. Jeff asked the group to forward any ideas for candidates to Larry.

### 7. Committee Reports

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

Jeff reported that the next newsletter will be Monday 11/15/04.

b) NRCWAY – Sandy Fabritz

No further report

c) Membership – Mike Hannemann

Nothing new happening.

d) Scholarship – Mitch McClaran

No Report.

e) Awards – Emilio Carrillo

No Report.

f) Historian – Phil Ogden

Jeff reported that Phil needs the files from last year.

g) Public Affairs – John Brock

Jeff reported that John is the SWVM chair on noxious weeds.

h) Research Affairs – George Ruyle

No report.

i) Rancher Affairs – Keith Curry

No further report.

j) Student/Youth – Susan Pater

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No report.

k) Information – Mark Pater

No report.

l) U of A Chapter – James Heitholt

James reported that the club was busy participating in fundraisers, and monitoring on the Empire to assist students planning on attending the SRM Winter meeting in Fort Worth. Six students are planning to attend and participate in the ERME Exam.

m) ASU Chapter – Nicholas Rome

In an email to Jeff, Nicholas mentions that the club is selling T-shirts in an effort to raise funds.