



Society for Range Management
Arizona Section
Board of Directors/General Membership Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2003
10:00am-noon
V-V Ranch, Mahan park, AZ

The overall goals of this meeting are to discuss:

- *Planning for winter section meeting (2004)*
- *Progress on NRCWAY*
- *Progress of web site*
- *Progress of membership drive*

Welcome/Call to Order

Larry Howery (AZ Section President) called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., and wanted the group to recognize the extraordinary efforts put forth by Dave Schaffer and Jeff Schalau in organizing this meeting. Larry also called attention to the overall goals highlighted above.

Approval of June 13, 2003 Meeting Minutes

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

After introducing Sam Albrecht, Executive Vice President of the Parent Society for Range Management, Larry made an executive decision to completely deviate from the agenda and skip the financial report, leaving Dan standing in an utter state of confusion.

Old Business – Jeff Schalau

a) Winter Meeting 2004

Jeff reported that the winter meeting was going to be based on a call for papers from the membership on what is going on in their respective areas. Jeff presented the group with Dean's idea for the theme of the meeting, **Conservation: from theory to practice**. Jeff then pointed out the heads up notice in the last newsletter to get people thinking about their presentations. Jeff mentioned that the official call for papers would be advertised in the next newsletter.

Jeff reported that Apache Gold is the proposed site to hold this meeting a suggested date for the meeting was January 15th and 16th, 2004. Dan and Dean will be working with Apache Gold to see if they can accommodate the meeting.

Larry stated that the success of this meeting is highly dependant on the membership presenting papers as well as posters. Larry also pointed out that the meeting format came directly from membership input at the last general membership meeting.

b) Website

Jeff reported that Website now has an awards page and all the newsletters are current. Jeff stated that he is now working to get the minutes up and current. Jeff mentioned that there is one quirk, when www.azrangelands.org is entered it goes to the U of A site. Jeff is working to correct this.

Financial Report

Dan Bell (AZ Section Secretary-Treasurer) presented the status of the section checking, savings, and the NRCWAY checking accounts. Dan stated that the financial activity for the period following the June 10th Board meeting in Prescott mainly consisted of collecting registration for the summer meeting.

Balances for the various accounts as of August 14, 2003 are as follows:

AZ Section Checking: \$ 8461.19



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

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

New Business

a) NRCWAY Board of Trustees appointments/reappointments

Larry presented the membership with a list of Candidates for the NRCWAY Board of Trustees. New members consisted of Sandra A. Fabritz, James M. Riggs and George B. Ruyle, with reappointments going to Susan Pater and Donna Matthews. Dean Fish moved to approve the list as presented; Jeff Schalau seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

b) General Membership Input

Rob Grumbles commented on how important it was to get NRCWAY up and running again. He mentioned the value, both as an introduction to our program and range management in general. Larry stated that Sandy and others are working hard to get NRCWAY kicked up again. George Ruyle mentioned rumors he had heard about an MOU recently signed between the Chief of the Forest Service and the Public Lands Council. The MOU was related to monitoring on rangelands. Membership felt that SRM should learn more about the MOU. Larry stated that he would assign Dr. John Brock.

c) Parent Society Update-Sam Albrecht

Sam stated that he was happy to be in Arizona once again for another great section meeting. He mentioned the Denver Staff's hard work in preparation for the upcoming SRM Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. He informed that membership levels were trending up and currently at 3652. He touched on the electronic Trailboss News and the new Member Resource News. The Society is developing a Rangeland Management Career brochure. Sam mentioned he recently spoke to BLM leadership and met all the state directors in an effort to stress the importance of membership in professional organizations such as SRM. Sam stressed the importance of having partners such as; NRCS with their half time position and that SRM are currently working with extension to acquire a one third time person to assist in Denver. Sam stated that the Denver office was there to assist the sections whether it be aiding in teleconferencing or negotiating room blocks or even help with section meetings. Sam referred back to membership stating that membership was not trending fast enough and stressed that section directors need to contact non-renewals. Rob Grumbles asked if there was any thought given as to why there are so many non-renewals. Sam mentioned that time commitment and lack of understanding of they got out of being members. Rob then stated he felt that most range cons in the state are not members. George Ruyle mentioned how important it is to ones career to be a member of the profession one works in. Jim Sprinkle suggested surveying a core group of agencies as to why they are not members. Sam mentioned in addressing the issue of what people get out of SRM, the annual meeting at Salt Lake City, each agency will have training sessions to get involvement. Sam closed by mentioning the GLCI Meeting to be held in December of this year.

Board and Committee Reports

President - Larry Howery

Larry reviewed the minutes from the brain storming session at the last general membership meeting in Laughlin.

Main Points

- 1) Membership is not informed and newsletter is lacking.
Status
 - a) New newsletter
 - b) New website
- 2) Need for information on Destocking/Restocking in response to drought.
Status
This very meeting at the V-V.



- 3) What is the roll of SRM when attending meetings?
Status
Presenting good science. Again, this section meeting.
- 4) Desert Tortoise plan review in response to winter section meeting in Laughlin.
Status
Letter to US Fish and Wildlife requesting revision of the plan, currently under peer review.
- 5) Need to link science to management through the sharing of information.
Status
Topic of the 2004 winter section meeting: Conservation from Theory to Practice.
- 6) Membership Issues.
Status
 - a) Each Section Member is being asked to recruit at least one member. If an attempt to recruit is denied then ask the questions; why won't you join? And what could SRM do to make you change your mind?
 - b) Working with Parent Society to keep updated on Arizona Section membership.

Larry concluded his report by thanking the Board and Committee members for there hard work on all the issues that are import to the membership of the Arizona Section.

President Elect – Jeff Schalau

Jeff reminded everybody of the ranch field day scheduled for the following weekend at the V-V. Purpose of the field day is to inform the public about federal land ranching and renewable natural resources. Jeff concluded his report by saying he is looking forward to putting on some range monitoring workshops this fall.

Vice President - Dean Fish

Dean Fish reported that he has been working on the Range Specialist and other staff on the Nogales Ranger District had been filled become members of the Society for Range Management. Dean mentioned a recent brush management workshop held in Santa Cruz County, sponsored by The Santa Cruz NRCD, NRCS, Babacomari Ranch, and U of A Cooperative Extension. Dean stated he is looking forward to presenting monitoring workshops in the upcoming year. Dean concluded his report by mentioning that many members of SRM took part in a recent erosion control demonstration project, on Mount Lemon, in response to the Aspen Fire.

Director North – Keith Curry

Keith reported that the BLM was getting set to reorganize the entire state. Under this reorganization some offices would be combined with a lead range person and a lead Wildlife Biologist. BLM is looking to get more rancher input on some the decisions being handed down.

Director North - Norm Lowe

No Report.

Director South – Emilio Carrillo

Emilio reported on some the efforts NRCS was undertaking in response to the Aspen Fire on Mount Lemon. He reported that Bruce Munda was busy growing pines from seeds collected from the Mountain. Emilio mentioned the recent visit to Mount Lemon by President Bush. Emilio Concluded his report with some mention of the Grasslands Reserve Program that had 703 applicants with requests totaling \$39 million, vying for the \$2 million allocated for this fiscal year.

Director South - Bruce Munda

No report, too busy growing pine trees.

Membership - Mike Hannemann

Kathrine Sanchez reported that Mike Hannemann was called away on fire, but was working very diligently on updating and maintaining the Membership list. Kathrine suggested that when marketing rangelands we express that Rangelands are more than just cows.

Larry Howery commented on his efforts to gain membership through USFS, BLM, and NRCS.

Larry stated that he had sent letters to all the key agency heads for the state, as well as, followed up with emails. He received two responses from individuals regarding the reasons they were not



members. One response was positive and one was negative. The negative response pointed to SRM policy and position in the mid 1990's, regarding poor rangeland management and policy by federal agencies.

Past Presidents – Sandy Fabritz

Sandy reported that she was seeking individuals interested in serving on Board of Directors for both the Section and the Parent Society. Sandy mentioned ADWR was still engaged heavily with the Indian Water Rights Settlement. Currently there is a bill sitting on the floor, but probably nothing would come of it this year. Sandy stated that the Governor established a drought task force the next meeting to be held August 28, 2003. Sandy also mentioned rumblings of proposed rules regarding ADWR regulating home owners on their water use.

Newsletter – Sandy Fabritz

Sandy switched gears and reported on newsletter activities. She stated that they were trying to get information in the newsletter regarding upcoming events. She would like to see committee reports coming in so that the membership is aware what is going on.

NRCWAY - Sandra Fabritz

Sandy again switched gears and began discussing NRCWAY. Sandy exclaimed we will have a camp next summer, August 1–6, 2004 (tentative). Sandy stated she would be working closely with NRCD's to get a good participation. She stated she would give a presentation at the AACD Meeting later this month requesting one participant from every NRCD in the state. The program will be modified slightly focusing on 3 or 4 key areas, forest health, water, fire and range management. She mentioned that a comp director had been hired to do mail outs, contracts, hire a nurse. Sandy said Saint Joe's camp would be handling all the cooking and kitchen work. Francie Meyer stated the NRCD's would be a good link to re-establish, in that NRCD's are required to devote more resources toward education.

Walt Meyer not wanting to be out done by his wife piped up and said some individuals, who should remain nameless (Walt?), was discussing a new acronym for NRCWAY. He brought up the Youth Environmental Adventures or YEA!

Scholarship - Mitch McClaran

Mitch was unable to attend, but Larry brought up the desire of Clark and Loetta Martin's family to establish the Clark Martin Scholarship for graduate students working in range. Larry asked for advice on how to best administer this scholarship. A question arose regarding eligibility for the scholarship. If it was going to be offered to students at other universities in the state and if so, how do we go about addressing those universities that don't have formal range programs?

Walt Meyer feeling completely rejected and dejected from his previous suggestions in the NRCWAY report, boldly stated that the Scholarship should be administered through the Section. Larry then brought up the need to have an endowed scholarship and asked the group for ideas on how to best accomplish this.

George Ruyle stated that we need to find a significant donor.

Sam Albrecht inquired if the estate of Clark might be willing to establish some sort of matching funds toward whatever the section was able to raise.

Steve Barker suggested a percentage of all meeting revenue go towards scholarships.

Francie Meyer suggested an option on renewal of dues notices to contribute to the Scholarship and mentioned an article going out in one of the upcoming newsletters.

Larry called on the group for a bottom line figure necessary to accomplish an endowed scholarship at today's rate of return. The group surmised that \$20,000 would be appropriate to generate approximately \$500 annually. Larry stated that he and Mitch would contact the Martin family and address some of the issues and thoughts brought out during this meeting.

Awards - Emilio Carrillo

Emilio Carrillo reported that one of the nominations sent forward to the parent society had been selected as a winner. Emilio is still calling for nominations for the various section awards.

Rancher Affairs – Keith Curry

Keith reported that the monthly meetings the Mohave Livestock Association was having with the BLM supervisors were beginning to show promise.



Historian - Phil Ogden

Phil reported that the History and Archive Committee of the parent society was interviewing all charter members on audio tape and were in need of help from the sections. Phil also reported that Deborah Smith had passed along some files and Dan Bell still owed him some files.

Public Affairs - John Brock

Larry Howery reported that John Brock is incorporating the section's suggestions into the written draft letter to US Fish and Wildlife Service and Arizona Game and Fish stating the AZ and NV Section's support the revision of the Desert Tortoise Management Plan.

Research Affairs - George Ruyle

George reported that there is currently a loose nit interagency group looking at means of cross-walking site inventories and TES. George mentioned he would like have a workshop in the near future to provide an opportunity to evaluate the process and outcome.

Student/Youth - Susan Pater

Susan reported that she is working on sending a student to the High School Youth Forum from the FFA Field Day.

Information – Mark Pater

No report.

U of A Chapter – Joe Harris

Joe Reported that the Tierra Seca Club had 2 members recently travel to South Africa and the club was eagerly awaiting an opportunity to have an update of those events. Joe attended the NM Section Meeting and is working on a joint Chapter mixer between Western NM, ASU, and the U of A.

ASU Chapter – Derek Stauffer

Shai Robinson reported that Derek had been delayed and would be at the meeting later today.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.