



**2012 Board of Directors Meeting  
November 1, 2012**

Minutes by Erin Mathews

**Arizona Section, SRM  
2012 Officers**

**Members in Attendance in  
Yellow**

**Doug Tolleson**  
*President*

**Mike Hemovich**  
*President-Elect*

**Willie Sommers**  
*Vice President*

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

**Dan Robinette, Frank Hayes**  
*Directors-South*

**Erin Mathews**  
*Executive Secretary*

**Ernie Gipson**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Rachael Cernetic**  
*ASU Chapter President*

**Kelsey Hawkes**  
*U of A Chapter President*

**Don Luhrsen**  
*Past President*

**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Doug - Call to order 10:03am

**2. Approval of the September 6 2012, BOD Meeting Minutes**

Doug – Did everyone have a chance to look at them?

Mike – Erin, you came out with a new version this morning. Did you make any major changes?

Erin – No, I just made some minor changes that Alvin requested I make on things that he had said.

Don – The two comments attributed to me didn't sound right, but they are not critical changes.

Doug – I will entertain a motion to approve the 9.6.12 Minutes.

Willie – I motion to approve the minutes.

Dan – I second that motion.

All in favor.

**3. Financial Report**

Doug – Jamie sent out the financial report to everyone this morning that Ernie gave to her. The report is on the expenses from the summer meeting. It looks like we about broke even. The ending balance is (17.34).

Willie – It looked like that food was the big part of the expenses from the meeting.

Doug – That is always the big deal of these meetings.

Dan – How do we do historically for these meetings? Breaking even sounds good to me.

Willie – Yes, that is usually the case, we make our profit on the winter meeting.

Doug – We do make money on the summer meeting, but it makes a difference if we report the money that we have given the students or not. Sometimes it just depends on how we report the expenses/profits from the summer meeting to show if it was a loss or profit.

Doug – Are there any other comments on the financial report? Do we have a motion to approve?

Jamie – I make a motion to approve the financial report.

Dan – I second the motion.

All in favor

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Doug – We will need to look at the overall expenses report before we get into some of our other items for the agenda today.

#### 4. Unfinished Business

- Winter Meeting

Mike – As we have already talked about, the dates of the meeting are Jan 23-25<sup>th</sup> in Prescott. Apparently this will be a longer and bigger meeting than those in the past. Doug; are we still on board with the Range 101 program on Wed Afternoon?

<Rachel from ASU joined the meeting>

Doug – Yes. We don't have an official lineup of speakers yet, but Jeff and I are putting that together. It will be similar to what we have done in the past for this course. I have been focused on getting someone hired here, but now that, that is complete, I can focus on getting that done.

Mike – Will it be targeted to the tribal needs? A native range focus?

Alvin – Is this the one that Al Medina and I are working on?

Doug – This is something Al and I have talked about, something that will tag on to a meeting, but we have also talked about doing a separate meeting.

Alvin – Al has been doing the main part of setting everything up. I am having a hard time justifying it as it is hard for the tribes to get down to Prescott. I understand the weather concerns and such for Prescott, but if we are going to do it, we need to do a lot of advertising. I only have contacts with the Hopi and Navajo tribes, so could use assistance from others that have interactions/contacts with the other tribes.

Doug – In the next few months I will be working on this.

Mike – To keep the cost down, I am having it so that everyone on Wed afternoon will have lunch on their own. The Wednesday session could start at 1pm which would work well. That puts us to Wednesday evening. I am thinking of leaving dinner on your own as well as we will have the membership dinner Thursday evening. Thursday morning we are going to have Al Medina and Alvin who will concentrate on the feral/wild horse issues with representatives from several different agencies. Al is going to work on this block of the meeting. I thought Al's section would be of interest to the tribes, so if they can come Wednesday afternoon they could stay for Thursday morning since those parts are together. We would have Thursday lunch at the resort. Thursday afternoon will be a section by Terry Wheeler. Since we don't have any grazing permit discussions at the summer meeting, Terry Wheeler is putting together some political natured topics on these issues so we can get a balanced approach on the issues. This will be a focused section on rancher grazing issues. For Thursday evening, I have asked Erin to monitor and facilitate the evening program. That evening awards will be presented and we will have Clare with the auction. My question is, do we always have a speaker at the end of the dinner? Last winter meeting we had the new Dean of Agriculture for the UofA. Is that a tradition to have a speaker that evening? I don't have anyone lined up and I don't know how long we want to make the evening. If we want a speaker, I will reach out to everyone for recommendations.

Willie – We have done that a few times, but that hasn't always been the case. It is a purely optional thing. Thursday is already a pretty long day. Personally, I think it is totally optional to have a speaker. I think with the awards, banquet and such we would have enough.

Jamie – I also think that it is optional. I think it is fine not having a speaker.

Mike – If someone comes up with someone that wants to give a dynamite speech, then they can let me know. Terry Wheeler did mention that he knew Allen Savory and Terry is working on possibly bringing that into his

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talk. It could be interesting to hear what he has been doing. Erin will need to work with Doug on the sequence of the awards and such for Thursday evening.

For Friday morning Jamie and Frank Hayes have helped a lot with getting that together. It will be a section on collaborative groups. I have identified 9 in AZ, so we can't have them all present, but the topic and what they can bring to the table is something that is worth wild. It would be good to do some of them at this meeting and in future meetings bring in others that haven't been a part of previous meetings. We cooperate, negotiate and collaborate in our line of business, so this is a very good thing to have presenters on. I have a four hour block blocked off in the morning for this. Jamie and Frank have lined up at least four of the groups already, so it will be an interesting morning. I have asked the UofA and UofA Extension to bring some of their research people in to talk about latest research and papers that are being done on rangeland. They will have several presenters for this Friday afternoon. I am going to have Jeff Stone back to talk about the erosion rainfall studies that we talked about at the summer meeting. He will have a chance to come back and show some of the data which will complete the information on the experiments that we were introduced at the summer meeting.

Willie – Kudos on tying in the summer and winter meeting together.

Mike – That is essentially where we are. I have a narrative announcement on AZ SRM Website. I have a standard announcement in the Range Flash that comes out from SRM National to direct people to our website. I will replace the narrative with the agenda, which hopefully will be finalized by the 15<sup>th</sup>. This will get the agenda out and the online registration form 2 months before the meeting. We can then do more advertising the 2 months before the meeting. I am going to do a small article for the AZ Cattlegrowers publication as well. [Doug, Jamie and Frank - lock in the agenda on how you want do your blocks and get that to me by the 15<sup>th</sup>.](#)

Jamie – I was under the impression that you wanted four groups from me and four from Frank.

Mike – That depends on how you work the time. I am giving you four hours. Someone might want 20 minutes, and someone might want more. It is my understanding that Frank has 3 groups locked in and Jamie has 1 solid.

Jamie – Actually I have 2 or 3 that are solid.

Mike – It just depends on the timeframe for each of the presentations. Just get together with Frank and see what will fit in that four hour block. You two can coordinate that with the people you are having come speak. Perhaps you can even have a little time at the end for a panel type discussion. As far as cost for registration, last year we charged \$125. If we get 100 people, and I am hopeful on getting a good turn out with the tribal representation, at \$125 each, we could make money, but I think I have to add on a lunch for Friday. I saw that past meetings have been \$150.

Doug – You got a really good rate on the rooms, so I don't think \$150 is out of the question.

Mike – Yes, a room rate of \$60 plus tax is very good as it is a very nice facility. After the meeting we usually have a BOD meeting so I don't want to force people to stay the night. Is it typical to have this?

Doug – We could have it at lunch in a separate room/corner and then reconvene for the meeting.

Don – Sometimes those meetings have run 2 hours though.

Doug – We could do a breakfast if everyone wants to wake up early.

Don – Having the new members on board is the purpose of having the meeting.

Doug – We won't know who the new members are until the banquet.

Mike – Lunch sounds good.

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Doug – Lets pencil in lunch on Friday, and we can reconvene at the end of the day if we have additional items.

Dan – I have a comment on the Thursday afternoon session. I think it is inappropriate to have politics at this professional meeting.

Mike – I said that there would be a discussion on politics in that there are some policy issues, e.g. private property issues and such that could be discussed. These are things that I don't like having unless we have both sides there to represent their views.

Dan – I don't think it is appropriate. I can get that at AZ Cattlegrowers meeting. I would rather listen to Allen Savory.

Mike – I don't have Terry's agenda yet, but that is the one that I would be scrutinizing.

Doug – I was going to help Mike with the agenda, on what speakers were going to have and such. The 15<sup>th</sup> sounds like a good deadline to get this lined up. I would want me as the President and us as a board to see the agenda to make comments. We have the power to reject the ideas.

Willie – At that time we can also talk about when we can put our finalized agenda on the website, possibly December 3<sup>rd</sup> or something so we have a goal for the publication for the members. I know it is important for me to know what is going on at a meeting so I know if I am going to attend.

Doug – if we object, then we need to talk about what else we could have. We have to both complain and contribute.

Jamie – About the deadline for the collaborative speakers Mike, can I give this to you by the end of the month?

Mike – We want to get the final agenda in by the start of next month. As far as I know, you are working on confirming with Rim Ranch and Grand Canyon Trust.

Jamie – Yes; I just have to coordinate with the Grand Canyon Trust

Mike – What about the Yavapai ranches?

Jamie – I have been trying to get a hold of Ruben.

Mike – What about Wink Crigler's group? That is something that could be very appropriate. I know Frank has 3 locked in.

Jamie – I think 5 groups is a good amount.

Doug- let me know if you need help contacting them. It might hard to get a hold of Ruben.

Jamie – Jeff is not available to help on Friday so that is why I have been trying to contact Ruben.

Don – The sooner the speakers know they have to speak, the better their products are.

Mike- Frank has Altar Valley, Gila Watershed Group and Quivera Group. Jamie, get together with Frank on this.

Jamie – Okay; I am talking to Frank already.

Alvin – I just want to say that if we are going to have tribal folks, we need to get the word out, or it could fall flat on its face.

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Doug – I think we have some good opportunities to get the word out.

Mike –When people were contacting the heads of the agencies, did someone talk to BIA?

Doug – I have gotten names of who to contact, but haven't been successful in making the contact.

Mike – maybe we can use this winter meeting as one of the topics to introduce to the BIA.

Erin – What about possibly moving the discussion from the cooperating groups to Thursday instead of Friday? Then we could have Terry Wheelers talk on Friday. If people are interested in those policy type issues, then they would be able to stick around on Friday for it.

Mike – I was possibly thinking of that idea.

Jamie – When should we make that decision? We need to tell the groups.

Willie- Erin's idea is good as this is a meeting we are trying to draw in the Native American groups. This might be their first meeting. It will begin with the resource information and approaches available to them, then continues with feral horse issues. Having the collaborative group presentation would be another reason for them to possibly stay. Jamie; do we have any collaborative groups that work with the tribal groups?

Jamie – Doug does the Grand Canyon Trust?

Doug – I believe the research ranch borders them but I am not sure if they do as a trust.

Jamie – What about Rim Grass?

Doug – No, they just work with ranchers on the south end.

Mike – So for the agenda, we would have:

Wednesday: Range 101

Thurs morning: AI and feral horses.

Thursday Afternoon: Collaborate group.

Friday Morning: UofA Researchers

Friday Afternoon: Terry Wheeler

Jamie – I just looked up online and found that Quivera does have collaboration with the Navajo Nation.

- Letters to auction donors

Doug – I received a draft letter that we can use which came from Clare. I will forward it to everyone, and everyone can help with listing for the auction.

Erin – Should we get volunteers to do this?

Doug – General members can do this if they want, and we can ask them to do it in an email blast. If we both try to hit the same company in one town that would be bad. We can tell people if we are doing national groups.

Erin – I just don't know if we will actually have people do it unless we ask for people to do it.

Doug - Lets hold that thought. At another BOD conference call we can talk about it.

- Awards

Jamie – As far as the award for Ernie; how much are we going to spend on the award? Possibly do \$50-60 for a plaque?

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Doug – I will throw out \$50 as an amount.

Jamie – I think that is a fair number. Sundance seems good,

Don – That is a company that we have used in the past.

Doug – That was going to be a special award, so \$50-60 can get something meaningful.

Jamie – Do we need a vote?

Doug – I will accept a motion for \$50-60 for an award for Ernie, and then we can come back to the board and ask for anything over that.

Willie – This is for a plaque that he will receive at the winter meeting?

Dan – I make a motion for that.

Mike – I second that motion.

Jamie – In other news, the deadline for nominations has closed. We have received 1 outstanding award, 1 that was sent to Sarah (that I couldn't see), and 2 for range manager of the year.

Willie – Today is the deadline for award nominations? I will be submitting one in the next few days.

Doug – As far as Range Manger of the year you might want to pull in other sets of eyes, to strengthen the review process.

Jamie- I can let members of the board know.

Doug – We can help you out with that as possible.

Jamie – When do we have to have all of that completed by?

Doug – It is kind of like the program – it should be done as soon as possible. We should move on the same time frame so the slide show and such can be put together.

Don – Does everyone have business card holders?

Doug – So thinking plaque for the BOD members is enough at the end of their term?

Don – Maybe we could do something different? Al recommended something people would enjoy. He looked at some options but maybe the board could look at some ideas.

Doug – As an officer I would rather see us not spend money on the awards, but on programs and activities.

Willie – Are you are talking about a token of appreciation given to the BOD members?

Doug – I have the VP and President plaques which is nice, as well as a clock and a business card holder – I don't think I need that. I appreciate what Al was thinking of extending appreciation. If we are cutting down our expenses, I don't mind cutting down on the awards we receive.

Don – I appreciate the plaque. I don't need another business card holder.

Willie – I also agree that we should put our money into helping others.

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Mike – I agree.

Doug – Jamie and Mike can work with Lisa Gerber at the Camp Verde Extension. She has a list of the contacts with Sundance.

Jamie – Yes –I have been in contact with Sundance.

- Election, new officers, committee chairs, rules regarding second term

Don – I have gotten good results in the last 2 days. I have had more nominations come through. I have 2 candidates for Director North and 1 for South (who is actually a director recycle) - Steve Barker who is actually retired who will have more time, so that is a great opportunity. Steve Barker has contacts throughout the state so he will be a good asset to Dan. On the ballot in the past, I would put the names of the nominees and then I would have a blank. These are mailed to the secretary who will count the ballots. I think Dec 31<sup>st</sup> would be a good deadline.

Doug – we can send that out as an email blast as well.

Don – I have been trying to get bios from the candidates, so I might not get them in time for the newsletter.

Don – Iric Burden is the VP nomination.

Doug – Do we have rules in place for having people serve consecutive terms when we can't get new people on board?

Don – I haven't read anything in the bylaws that says this isn't possible.

Doug – This is not an issue now, but it is something to put in our thinking cap. We need to make sure that we have the verbiage to address this if there is a need.

Don – This is a good idea. For the past 2 years in a row it has been tough to have nominations.

Doug – We will keep that on our to do list (mine and Mikes) maybe after the 1<sup>st</sup> of year.

- Request for travel support for Wink Crigler to national SRM
  - Working on Redd Fund application

Doug – Before we ask to spend money on her travel, I have some other options. We could possibly make a Redd Fund Application which is a scholarship through the national SRM to send people to national meeting. I also have a discretionary fund that I have at my Extension office to kick in some funds. So at this point I think we should wait to see what we get from national. If we need to supplement other sources, we can do that. Does anyone have any concerns with that plan?

Mike – Regarding the Redd Fund- I was told from National that it is designed to bring ranchers to the meeting but it is for those who are not members of SRM.

Doug – That is part of what I have to check out. I am trying to see if we can cover this another way before we pull money from the section.

## 5. New Business

- UA and ASU request for travel to national SRM

Doug – UofA is requesting travel funds. I also got a message from Eddie Alford who has 5 students from ASU going. What did we give those groups last year? \$1000?

Mike – I don't remember what we gave last year? Was that just for the UofA?

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Rachel – I think we might have gotten \$1000 last year but I am not sure. After talking to Dr Alford this morning, that is what we got.

Doug – I think that is right. \$1000 was given to both chapters. I am thinking that we might need to check with Ernie to see what are balances are, and then we go from there. Without an official motion, do we agree to support the clubs at the same amount this year?

Dan, Jamie, Erin – Sounds good.

Don – Some years they didn't have teams, so we didn't send money.

Willie – UofA will have a plant ID team but how about ASU?

Rachel – 5 students will do the plant ID contest and Eddie also talked about some students putting together a poster for the poster contest as well. We will probably send 7 students.

- Student group involvement at section meetings

Doug – we want to look at how we can approve the student group involvement at the meetings. It is possible that the times we have the meetings can make it difficult for them to attend. Let's keep this on our thinking caps as we get closer to the winter meeting to think of ways that we can facilitate participation. We can think of ways that they can provide the food at the meetings, but still have time to participate in the talks.

Willie – I had that thought for our summer meeting. I think it is good to have the food service provided, but we need to think of ways to make it easier for them, maybe less expensive. There are things we can do to evaluate this.

Mike – The timing of the meetings is the big issue. With the summer meetings, some of the kids are just coming back from their summer jobs. The winter meeting, they are back in school, and this time it isn't in Tucson or Phoenix where they could just get away to go to the meeting.

Doug – Maybe there is a way through video or podcast to get them involved. We can think of different ways.

Willie – If we had a video cast of the key presentations, it could be shared to the chapters. The chapters could then go through the presentations at their meeting. They could then have a discussion on what was presented, so that they can work through the information.

Rachel – It would be great to have more time to go to the talks. It is hard to get a good group to come to the summer meeting because they aren't even in school yet. Most students are still doing internships and summer jobs, so they are not in town to attend. This year's summer meeting was a week before school started. It could be better if it is when school started. There isn't a lot going on at the beginning of school, so they could possibly take the days off to attend.

### **6. Officer/Director/Committee Reports**

### **7. Schedule next BOD meeting, adjourn**

Dec 5<sup>th</sup> teleconference. 10 am. Meeting will focus on approving the agenda for the winter meeting.

Mike – I make a motion to adjourn.

Alvin – I second the motion.

All in Favor

Meeting adjourned 11:12pm.