



2003 General Membership Meeting
January 14, 2003
5:00 p.m.
Flamingo Hotel, Laughlin, Nevada

AGENDA

Arizona Section, SRM
2002 Officers

Sandra Fabritz
President

Larry Howery
President-Elect

Jeff Schalau
Vice President

Norm Lowe, Steve Cassady
Directors- North

Bruce Munda, Dean Fish
Directors-South

Mark Pater
Secretary-Treasurer

Missy Debnar
ASU Chapter President

Willie Sommers
UofA Chapter President

Kristen Egen
Past President



- 1. Welcome/Call to Order - Sandy Fabritz**
- 2. Approval of August 13, 2002 General Membership Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Financial Report**
 - (a) Secretary-Treasurer- Mark Pater
 - (b) Old Business**
 - (a) Election Results - Kristen Egen
 - (b) Student Request for Donations - Sandy Fabritz
- 5. New Business**
 - (a) Summer Meeting 2003 - Jeff Schalau
 - (b) Website Development – Jeff Schalau
 - (c) Membership Discussion of Future Activities for the Section - Larry Howery/Sandy Fabritz
- 6. Board Reports**

President - Sandra Fabritz
President Elect - Larry Howery
Vice President - Jeff Schalau
Directors North - Norm Lowe, Steve Cassady
Directors South - Dean Fish, Bruce Munda
Past President - Kristen Egen

7. Committee Reports

Newsletter - Darrell Tersey
Awards - Emilio Carrillo
Historian - Phil Ogden
Scholarship - Mitch McClaran
Activities - Maria Gimenez-Fernandez
Membership - Mike Hannemann
Public Affairs - John Brock

Research Affairs - George Ruyle
Rancher Affairs – Keith Curry
Student/Youth - Susan Pater
ASU Chapter - Missy Debnar
UofA Chapter - Willie Sommers
Information - Norm Lowe
NRCWAY - Sandra Fabritz



**Society for Range Management
Arizona Section
2003 General Membership Meeting
January 14, 2003
5:00 p.m.
Flamingo Hotel, Laughlin, Nevada**

Call to Order

Larry Howery (AZ Section President-Elect) called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Elected officers present included Larry Howery, Jeff Schalau, Steve Cassady, Dean Fish, Bruce Munda, Missy Debnar, and Mark Pater, as well as various committee chairs and general members. Enough elected officers were present to form a quorum.

Larry stated that Sandy Fabritz (AZ Section President) could not attend this meeting because her daughter was sick. Larry also stated that Sandy would be able to attend the program/sessions on Wednesday. Larry then asked Jeff Schalau (AZ Section Vice President) to make an announcement.

Jeff told the members present that Arizona Section member and Charter member Danny Freeman had passed away on Monday, January 13, 2003. Jeff asked the members present to participate in a moment of silence to honor Mr. Freeman.

Approval of Previous General Membership Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the August 13, 2002 General Membership meeting were reviewed. Dean Fish moved to accept the minutes as written; Missy Debnar seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Financial Report

Mark Pater (AZ Section Secretary-Treasurer) presented the status of the Arizona Section checking, savings, and the NRCWAY checking accounts. Mark stated that the financial activity for the fourth quarter (August through December 2002) focused primarily on registration and preparation activities for the Arizona Section Winter Meeting in Laughlin, Nevada. The current balances to date are as follows: \$10,689.84 (AZ Section Business Checking), \$7,128.38 (AZ Section Savings), \$10,860.17 (AZ Section NRCWAY Checking).

Mark also stated that he had spent over an hour at the Bank One branch in Tucson trying to initiate the process to have Dan Bell (incoming AZ Section Secretary-Treasurer) and Larry Howery (incoming AZ Section President) listed on the signature card at the bank so they could sign AZ Section checks. Mark then stated that Bank One told him that he was not listed on the current signature card and that he could not legally sign any checks. Mark stated that based on his meeting with Bank One employees in February 2002, he had worked through the process to get him listed on the signature card. This process was not reflected in the current Bank One records. The bank employee, Mr. James Lee, then worked with Mark to get him listed on the signature card after Mark showed Mr. Lee the fiscal year 2001-2002 Arizona State Corporation Commission Corporation Annual Report and Certificate of Disclosure forms which listed all of the current Arizona Section, SRM officers. Mark also stated that he was told that the NRCWAY and Section savings accounts were listed as "inactive" due to a lack of activity in those accounts over the past year. Mr. Lee then re-activated those two accounts. Mark was then told by Mr. Lee that in order for him to continue the process of having Dan Bell and Larry Howery listed on the signature card, Mark would have to bring in the official minutes from this meeting as proof of the AZ Section membership being aware of and approving these activities.



Mark also presented the AZ Section membership with all account activities and transactions for the past year. These activity reports are included in the 2002 Annual Membership Report. Bill Piper moved to accept Mark Pater's financial report as presented; Jeff Schalau seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Old Business

Election Results - Kristen Egen

Kristen Egen (AZ Section Past President-2001) announced the results of the AZ Section election for 2003. The new AZ Section officers for 2003 are as follows:

Vice-President: Dean Fish

Director-North: Keith Curry

Director-South: Emilio Carrillo

Dan Bell will be the new Secretary-Treasurer for the Arizona Section, SRM. All new officers and committee chairs will begin their service on January 16, 2003.

Kristen also stated to the membership that the parent society would like to see Arizona Section members run for national officer positions. Kristen asked that interested individuals please contact either Sandy Fabritz or Larry Howery if they are interested or know of any individual who may be interested in running for a national office position.

Student Request for Donations - Sandy Fabritz

Larry Howery tabled this agenda item until the Board of Directors meeting Thursday morning (January 16, 2003)

New Business

Summer Meeting 2003 - Jeff Schalau

Jeff stated to the membership that the proposed location for the 2003 Summer Meeting is the V Bar V Ranch at Mahan Park. This meeting would be a campout-style meeting that many members have been wanting. Attendees can participate in field trips on the ranch that highlight on-going research projects. Meeting themes could focus on using science to make good decisions and look at restocking following drought. Jeff asked the members present to provide him with input for agenda items.

Jack Bohning mentioned to keep in mind the potential for forest closures due to drought and high fire danger. Jack stressed the importance to have an alternative plan in case of drought and high fire danger. Dan Bell stated that he hoped it would "rain like crazy" and we could enjoy some much-needed moisture.

Jeff asked the members present for their preference in terms of when they would like to hold the summer meeting. He proposed sometime in late July or early August. It was stated that we not conflict with the Arizona Cattle Growers Annual Summer Meeting. Jeff stated that he would come up with some tentative dates and check on the availability for camping out on the ranch.

Web Site Development - Jeff Schalau

Jeff volunteered to develop an Arizona Section web site to post meeting minutes and provide a record of past meeting minutes; the site could also be used to post upcoming events. It was stated to keep the site very basic and its primary use would be to provide information with "no frills". Dean Fish (Director-South) asked about having links to other members, the parent society, and CEU opportunities. Steve Barker mentioned posting award winners on the site as well. Mark Pater stated that he would e-mail past meeting minutes to Jeff.

*Arizona Section
Society for Range Management*



Jeff asked the members present whether the Section would be interested in paying for a domain name. Jeff will look into the cost and check into posting the new site on the University of Arizona (UofA) server at no cost to the Section. It was stated that the annual cost would be around \$25 if the Section were to purchase a domain name. Jeff stated that he would get the basic site developed and posted on the UofA server to start and we could see how it works for us. Jeff also mentioned that by posting on the UofA server, he could monitor usage or "hits". Jeff told the members present that he could work as the initial webmaster and have a link to a comments form that could then be forwarded to the Section officers.

Membership Discussion of Future Activities for the Section - Larry Howery

Larry stated that Sandy Fabritz had developed a PowerPoint presentation for this topic to help facilitate discussion among the members present. Mark Pater asked Larry to provide him a copy of this presentation so it could be attached to the minutes.

Bill Piper mentioned that his biggest concern is that the membership is not well aware of all of the Section activities and Board discussions and he would like to see that improved. Larry stated that he would take Bill's comments to heart and work hard on improving communication between the Board and the membership.

In regard to future activities and educational objectives for the Arizona Section, Missy Debnar (ASU Chapter President) stated that the ASU Chapter is planning an Earth Day event based on a conservation theme and they are looking for suggestions to promote the educational component on resource conservation.

Jim Sprinkle (UofA Cooperative Extension-Gila county) would like to see criteria developed for stocking and destocking rangelands during and following drought situations. He stated that he would like to see criteria developed based on vegetative characteristics and he would like to see the Section hosting workshops that address this issue.

Francie Meyer asked the members present what SRM's role is in terms of SRM members attending and participating in meetings that address the range management issues and how SRM can more actively promote good range science. Larry Howery responded that one way may be through the program for this Winter Meeting and working with the Nevada Section to adopt a resolution that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) revise their desert tortoise habitat management plan using sound science and valid data. Walt Meyer stated that he and George Ruyle would be attending a meeting in Globe (January 28, 2003) addressing grazing issues on the Tonto National Forest. Walt continued by stating that he would like to see Lamar Smith attend this meeting also representing SRM.

Lee Hughes stated that he felt that the Section newsletter has been lacking over the past couple of years in terms of informational content and frequency of publication. Lee stated that he would like to see more articles stating the pros and cons on issues such as drought and grazing management. Larry stated to the membership that the new newsletter editors would be Susan Pater, Kim McReynolds, and Sandy Fabritz.

Meg Bishop stated to the members present that the SRM certification process does not necessarily translate into an individual taking on an advocacy position. Sections can work together to develop position statements that then travel through the established process to national level people. We need to be careful not to be an advocate for issues other than those that promote good range science. Dan Bell stated that an SRM member could attend these types of meetings as an observer and report back to the membership. Francie Meyer then stated that an SRM member should not attend just as an observer but also as someone who can add valuable content to the discussion. Steve Cassady stated that agency people have to be careful



because sometimes the agency position may differ from the SRM position on various management issues.

Walt Meyer then stated that SRM is an advocate of good science but this position seems to have been lost or "pushed to the background".

Jason Perry (ASU Chapter member) asked the members present how SRM promotes its goals, mission, and beliefs. Kristen mentioned past symposia, section meetings, NRCWAY, newsletters, Rangelands and JRM publications, and national meetings as examples.

The question was asked as to what do we want to accomplish with the 2003 Summer Meeting. It was mentioned that Jim Sprinkle had an excellent suggestion by focusing on destocking/restocking during and following drought situations. It was mentioned to also look at plant responses to drought situations and how to best use good science to work with livestock producers. Jim Sprinkle suggested having each agency discuss the parameters they use to make their decisions.

For the 2004 Section Winter Meeting it was suggested by Steve Barker to ask for undergraduates to participate and present information; Steve suggested issuing a call for papers and ask the membership to share information in regard to projects/issues that our members are involved with. This may also help to address some of Bill Piper's concerns.

Jim Sprinkle asked about the location for the 2004 Winter Meeting. Jeff Schalau mentioned a central location such as Phoenix and Casa Grande, as well as locations such as Tucson, Prescott, or Rio Rico. Jeff said he would form a committee to help explore the options and develop the call for papers. Posy Piper mentioned to include such issues as fire, thinning, and forest management. Jeff stated that "hot button" issues should arise as this process develops. Dan Bell stated that he would visit with Joe Austin and Jeff Menges to see how their experiences have progressed with ESA issues and lawsuits. Steve Barker said that if we get this process going early enough, responses should be very good for the 2004 Section Winter Meeting.

If members would like to have input and participate in this planning effort they should contact Jeff Schalau at jschalau@ag.arizona.edu.

Dan Bell stated that he would like to see SRM put more pressure on federal land management agencies to hire qualified range professionals to fill vacant range positions. He is not sure as to the best way to go about this though. Lamar Smith stated that the best way would be to bring this issue up at the Advisory Council meeting in Casper, Wyoming in February. Meg Bishop stated that the AACD has sent a letter to federal land management agencies to this effect. Lamar encouraged the members present to do the same and include sending letters to the universities who are considering or in the process of dropping their range programs.

Steve Barker stated that NRCS is continuing with its ecological sites program and encouraging other federal and state agencies to get involved. Steve suggested that the Arizona Section adopt a resolution adopting the ecological site format and encouraging all agencies to work with this format as well.

Dan Robinett mentioned that the Section should also look at border issues as an opportunity for a meeting topic due to the severe impacts from UDA's and drug smuggling on rangeland resources and rangeland users.

Bruce Munda mentioned the Plant Materials Center hosting a seed quality workshop and involving SRM to encourage other agency personnel to attend.



Larry Howery proposed developing a joint resolution with the Nevada Section to the USFWS promoting a revision of the desert tortoise habitat management plan and that the revisions be based on good science and sound data. Lamar felt that this might not be the best answer to the tortoise issue. Instead, Lamar proposed that a joint letter to the USFWS and other agencies and interested groups involved, stating that hopefully all revisions will be based on good science. Also, state that grazing most likely has no impact because there is no data supporting negative impacts from grazing. Larry Howery stated that we should wait and listen to the information that will be presented during tomorrow's program. Afterwards, he would sit down with the Arizona Section Public Affairs Committee Chair and write a letter based on information presented at the program. John Brock stated that he would work with Larry on this.

Meg Bishop reported that the next GLCI National Conference would be in Nashville, TN on December 7-10, 2003. She stated that the first national conference in Las Vegas in 2001 was excellent and encouraged participation at the next conference by members from western states.

Board and Committee Reports

President-Elect Report - Larry Howery

Larry stated that he has filled all committee chair positions for 2003 except for the Activity Chair position.

Vice President Report - Jeff Schalaus

Jeff stated that he has already presented all of the information he has to offer at this meeting. Jeff added that the Kaibab National Forest is beginning to destock along the same lines as the Tonto National Forest.

Director-North Report - Steve Cassady

Steve mentioned that the BLM on the Arizona Strip has been working diligently on how to best deal with livestock grazing and the current drought. He also stated that NRCS is working hard with land users however many employees do not have a range management background to effectively deal with the situation. Steve stated that he is working to correct this situation through training and personal assistance.

Director-South Report - Dean Fish

Dean mentioned a professional development opportunity for those interested; there will be a brush management workshop in Santa Cruz county in late April or early May 2003.

Director-South Report - Bruce Munda

Bruce stated that the Tucson Plant Materials program has discontinued all non-native releases and revitalized its native seed collection efforts. Production is now focused solely on native species. Bruce also stated that Ramona Garner was selected to fill the position vacated by Mark Pater last March.

Past President's Report - Kristen Egen

Kristen stated that the draft Pygmy owl habitat plan is being revised and up for review. She also mentioned that there are numerous management problems with the Ironwood monument due to large impacts by UDA's, wildcat dumping, and shooting.

Awards Committee Report - Emilio Carrillo

Emilio stated that he would be presenting the awards at the banquet.

Student Scholarship Committee Report - Mitch McClaran

Mitch stated that he would not be able to attend the banquet but that Larry Howery and John Brock will be announcing the scholarship recipients at the banquet.



Membership Committee Report - Mike Hannemann

Mike stated that he would continue as the membership chair. He also stated that he plans to call all USFS range specialists in Arizona to encourage their participation as Section members. Mike also said that if he could get a list of BLM range specialists he would also call them and encourage their participation.

Public Affairs Committee Report - John Brock

John stated that if anybody has any issues or documents for SRM to review, please send them to him for review. Walt Meyer stated that he had some information on a cactus species for John to look at.

Rancher Affairs Committee Report - Keith Curry

Keith stated that the new state director for BLM is Elaine Zylinski and that various livestock groups have met with her voicing their concerns.

NRCWAY Committee Report - Francie Meyer

Francie told the members present that the NRCWAY committee has met twice this past year and committed to continuing with the NRCWAY workshop. They are planning to hold a workshop in the summer of 2004. It was stated that it is important to give the younger members of the section the history of NRCWAY and Jack Bohning's long-term involvement and support to this program. Francie also stated that it is important to re-establish the relationship between AACD and NRCWAY. She stated that the AACD would meet to recommit its support to the NRCWAY program.

ASU Student Chapter Report - Missy Debnar

Missy stated that she and another ASU student would be traveling to the National Meeting in Casper, Wyoming; she also thanked the Arizona Section for providing financial support.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



Attachment

Arizona Section, SRM
2002 Budget Track

	Proposed 2001	Actual 2001	Proposed 2002	Actual 2002
Inflow				
Winter Meeting Reg.	\$0.00	\$1,684.16	\$500.00	\$3,245.00
Summer Meeting Reg.	\$500.00	\$325.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,830.00
SRM Annual Dues	\$900.00	\$835.00	\$900.00	\$480.00
Auction	\$1,000.00	\$1,069.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,225
Hats	\$1,470.00	\$990.00		
Total	\$3,870.00	\$4,903.16	\$7,400.00	\$10,780.00
Outflow				
Awards	-\$600.00	-\$479.75	-\$600.00	-\$381.17
Scholarships	-\$650.00	-\$700.00	-\$650.00	-\$600.00
County Committees				
Corp. Comm. Fees	-\$10.00	-\$10.00	-\$10.00	-\$10.00
Student Chapters	-\$1,000.00	-\$750.00	-\$1,000.00	-\$550.00
HSYF Student	-\$800.00	\$0.00	-\$800.00	
Section Newsletter	-\$1,000.00	\$0.00	-\$1,000.00	-\$513.96
Postage, Misc. Supplies	-\$300.00	\$0.00	-\$300.00	-\$177.76
Student Mixer				
NRCWAY Donation	-\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Weed Symposium			\$100.00	\$100.00
Sponsor				
SVMA Donation	-\$500.00	-\$500.00	\$0.00	
Winter Meeting	\$0.00	-\$826.08	-\$2,000.00	-\$3,628.44
Summer Meeting			-\$3,000.00	-\$3,557.48
Total	-\$5,360.00	-\$3,265.83	-\$9,360.00	-\$9,518.81

Balances as of November 9, 2002:
AZ Section Checking: \$6,767.10
AZ Section Savings: \$7,126.12
NRCWAY Checking: \$10,860.17