

**MT SAF Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes January 16, 2007
Seeley Lake Ranger Station**

Attendance:

Tim Love, Peter Kolb, Sam Gilbert, Bill Pursell, Gordy Sanders, Larry Wescott
By Phone: Bev Yelczyn, Chris Damrow, Carl Sobzak, John Caselli, April Rainy,
Cheri Hartless

Call to Order – Peter Kolb

Noted that a quorum did exist.

Approval of Minutes – 11/03/06 minutes read and approved and on file.

Treasurer's Report –Bill Pursell

As of 1/11/07 there is \$18483.59 in the checking account, including \$5635.00 in donations for Craig Thomas. Vote made and passed to disperse \$5635.00 to Craig Thomas. Treasurer's report approved.

Chairs Report – Peter Kolb

Cheri Hartless requests quarterly reports from the chapters for news letter.
Peter will call Chapter chairs about this.
Peter sent in Transition Report to national, noting new state and chapter officers.
State: Peter Kolb- Chair; Bev Yelczyn- Chair Elect; Bill Pursell- Secretary
Treasurer. Sam Gilbert- East Side chair; Chris Damrow- Flathead chair. Bev
Yelczyn will keep state Communications chair.
Peter related a conference call last week about planning for the state meeting.
The state meeting will be April 26-28 in Coeur d'Alene at the CdA Inn.
Tim Love presented the Chair's gavel to Peter.
Tim sent election results to Cheri Hartless.
Missoula chapter meeting tonight – awards
Discussion about presentation of Fellow Awards to Perry Brown, Carl Fieldler
and Steve Arno and fifty year awards to Orville Daniels, and Ray Shearer.
Announcement of Gail Kimbell as new FS chief.
Each Chapter needs to advance nominations for Forester and Field Forester of the
year by 3/1 to Peter. Tim, Bev, Peter and several past chairs will make selections
to be awarded at the state meeting.

East Side Report – Sam Gilbert

Current membership at about 70.
Sam related several planned Eastside meetings and education programs for this
Spring.

Sam also announced an upcoming workshop concerning culvert construction and fish passage.

Mt. Helena inventory in May.

Flathead Chapter Report – Chris Damrow

Christmas Party was 12/12. Auction netted \$1500 of which half was donated to the Craig Thomas fund. \$300 was donated to Provider Pals and \$1000 donated to FVCC student for scholarship.

Next chapter meeting 1/23 with a weed control program.

Chris Damrow- Chair, Carl Sobczak- Chair elect and Louis Bowne- Secretary/Treasurer

Libby Chapter Report – April Rainy

New Chair- April Rainy, Chair elect- Dave Marsh and Bob Castenada- Secretary/Treasurer.

Last Meeting's program had Jim Oliverson of the EPA talking about the cleanup.

Next meeting will be on 1/25 and speaker will be from the planning board talking about growth and planning around Libby.

The chapter is working on the state meeting.

Donations were made to Provider Pals.

Missoula Chapter Report – Larry Wescott

New Chair- Larry Wescott, Chair elect- Beth Dodson, and Sarah Pierce- Secretary/Treasurer.

December meeting Christmas banquet auction netted \$2100 for Craig Thomas.

There was a Lynx presentation by Scott Tomson, USFS biologist. Kent Bevington received Field Forester award, Carl Fiedler received the Forester of the year and Craig Thomas received the SAF Citizen Award. Larry related the firewood project performed for Craig Thomas.

Chapter meeting tonight. The program is Carl Fiedler talking about the outlook for the applied forestry college program.

Awards Committee Report – Tim Love

Peter will work on nominating Carl Fiedler for the national SAF Science Award and Bev will work on the nomination for Steve Arno for the Barrington Award.

Policy Committee Report – Gordy Sanders

Gordy's national committee position has expired. Pat Heffernan will assume the position. The National Policy considering some kind of position on Climate Change.

Policy recently invited State senate and house members to a legislative breakfast and none showed up because there were no burning issues. Information packets distributed to Natural Resources committee. Committee will look for new strategies for improving attendance.

Policy Committee had a meeting with the Governor and Natural Resources advisors that lasted two hours. Gordy indicated that the Governor listened well and is interested in preserving the industry and timber supply. He is interested in the middle ground.

Peter talked about changing forest conditions.

Chuck Keegan presented a report on the status of the industry and timber supply.

Communications Report – Bev Yelczyn

Bev was contacted by Chuck Crouter last week about a calendar he has on the Tree Farm website. There was discussion that this could be a good general calendar for all resource happenings. Bev talked about linking this site to the MT SAF web site.

Wood Splitting article from the Missoulian sent to National.

Newsletter Report – Cherri Hartless

February 1 deadline for chapter information.

Peter will write article on climate change.

New state and chapter officers to be sent to Cheri.

State meeting information and registration will be included in newsletter.

Membership Report – John Casselli

357 members

There was discussion about how the state should respond to HSD on Proposed SAF Membership Changes. Peter suggested that John prepare bullet points from which the executive committee could discuss and vote. Recommended each Chapter Chair alert their membership to this issue at their chapter meetings.

Mentor Report – No Report

Foresters Fund Report – No Report. Applications due February 15.

Historian Report – Scott Kuehn - No Report

Science and Technology Report – Peter Kolb

No Chair. Will ask Carl Fiedler, Beth Dodson or Hans Zuuring.

CFE Report – No Report

Website Report – No Report

Education Report– Peter for Cindy

Forest Stewardship Program is offering a “Master Forest Steward” program offering. Geared to loggers and landowners.
Peter highlighted Craig Rawlin’s “exchange website”. It has 5000 members and is expanding services. There is four years left on the funding.

Old Business

Leadership Conference ay 49 Degrees North. The next executive meeting will be there.

2007 State Meeting is a joint meeting with Inland Empire Chapter. The theme is “Changing Role of Forestry in Inland NW”.

New Business

Gordy Sanders indicated that money collected for Craig Thomas should not be sent to him yet. Vote made and passed to put the \$5635 in Missoula Chapter account and disperse to Craig at appropriate time.

Next Meeting

Leadership Conference 1/26-1/27 North of in Spokane at 49 North Ski aera.
Next executive meeting February 21 at 10:00 am Seeley Lake RS.

Adjourn