

**Society of American Foresters
Montana Chapter, Established in 1971**



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 18, 2013

Location: Montana Room, Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena, MT.

In Attendance: Scott Kuehn, Bob Logar, Tim Spoelma, Bev Yelczyn, Jason Parke, Ben Valentine, Russ Gautreaux, Caitlin Parke, Louis Bowne, Glen Koepke, Gordy Sanders, John Ottman, Dave Walters – VP of SAF.

Call to Order – Bob Logar

Approval of Past Minutes – Bob Logar

- February minutes were approved as written. Paula wasn't in attendance and Caitlin took the minutes.

Secretary / Treasurer's Report – Bob Logar/Paula Short

- This report covers activities between December 10, 2012 and April 18, 2013.
 - Previous Balance: \$10,493.22
 - Revenue:
 - Foresters Fund for Industry Week: \$ 400.00
 - 1st Quarter State Dues \$ 604.00
 - \$ 1,004.00
 - Expenses:
 - National SAF (longevity pins) \$ 393.00
 - Cindy Bertek (Engraving for Increment Borers) \$ 44.00
 - Potomac School (bus for Walk in the Forest) \$ 77.00
 - Scott Kuehn (Glacier Frame Shop – Nat'l Conv) \$ 180.00
 - Scott Kuehn (Glacier Frame Shop – 50 yr. Mbrs) \$ 140.00
 - Scott Kuehn (All American Trophy – St. Awards) \$ 272.75
 - \$ 1,106.75
 - Current Balance: \$ 10,390.47
- There are four 50 year members in Montana; they couldn't make it to the State meeting so their awards will be handed out at their local chapter meetings.
- Scott said there are a couple of 60 year members. There are no 60 year pins so Dave Walters will look into this.

District 4 SAF Council Rep – Johnny Hodges

- Not present; No report – but he will be here for the conference tomorrow.

Flathead Chapter Report – Jason Parke

- February meeting they toured the Algae Aquaculture plant at the Stoltze mill. The student chapter attended this meeting and gave a presentation on their trip to national.
- March Kima Traynham gave a presentation about integrated weed management.
- They are recruiting students for the MT Natural Resource Youth Camp and if they have enough interest they will provide a scholarship to the camp.
- Family Forestry Expo is the first week in May.
- Foys to Blacktail trail site will be the location of the May meeting.

Libby Chapter Report – Ben Valentine

- Jim Benedict is in the hospital – please send all your good thoughts and prayers his way.
- February meeting Craig Rawlings spoke.
- March meeting a local USFS archeologist talked about ice patch (not glaciers) archeology and how they are finding all kinds of cool things like buffalo skeletons at 8000' in GNP and that the timberline used to be higher.
- Craig Allen is the new chair-elect
- Ben is talking with Amy Helena about doing a walk in the woods day in Libby
- They toured the pellet mill in Moyie Springs.
- River Front Park project – Foresters Fund request – they still haven't heard back yet

Missoula Chapter Report – Tim Spoelma

- February meeting Shannon Agner and Dylan Brooks, students at UM, gave a presentation on the benefits of extracurricular activities for students' career development.
- March meeting Andrew Larson gave a presentation on variable density thinning which was very well attended.
- May 21st will be the last meeting until this fall.
- Tim has been in contact with the Habitat for Humanity about SAF making a donation of time or money.
- Missoula chapter donated \$250 to the Forest Land Owners Conference this year, and \$175 for the student chapter to cover their registration for the State meeting
- They gave a vote of support for the Technology Transfer award for Peter Kolb – Carl Fiedler is heading up this effort.
- Craig Thomas is suggesting that chapter members write down some stories/memories of their forestry adventures, and he will collect them all and have them published. It was suggested that people should be able to record an oral version of their story and send it in so they don't have to write it out.
- 2012 Forester of the Year Award went to Sarah Lyngholm
- Beth Dodson sent an update about the MT SAF Scholarship. The scholarship was originally funded through all the chapters with the most recent deposits (2003) coming from the Missoula and Flathead chapters. The fund is pretty low right now and Bob asked Beth to do a write up about the Scholarship to send out the chapter chairs to jumpstart some donations.
 - This year's recipient was Josh Meek. Josh is a professional masters student, Treasurer for the student chapter, attended the national convention, and has been active in the Missoula chapter meetings.

Eastside Chapter Report – Bob Logar

- March Meeting was in Dillon sponsored by the BLM. They had an ecologist talk about white bark pine. And the activities that impact all 5 needle pines. It was a very well attended meeting with lots of non-SAF members as well.
- June/July will be the next meeting.

Student Chapter – Jon Kinion, not present

- 7 students attending the State meeting
- They will be BBQing at the Forestry Days at Fort Missoula
- Thank you Missoula Chapter for sponsoring their attendance to this meeting

Student Mentor Program - Jason Parke

- Jason Attended the Student Chapter meeting in February
- He didn't get much of a response from SAF Members to be volunteers to mentor the students so he is going to find out what the students are interested in and find a "volunteer" to match them up with.
- Josh Meek is interested in shadowing Amy Helena.
- Tim has been pushing the program at the Missoula Chapter meetings.

2013 State Meeting Report – Bob Logar

- There are approximately 85 SAF members registered, and 85 Landowners registered, and with other misc. attendees there are about 200 people attending the conference this year.
- Thanks to everyone who has gotten involved and for getting good speakers.
- This is a great opportunity for landowners and professionals to meet and mingle
- Thanks to Gary Ellingson with North West Management for all his work.

Membership Report – Steve Hayes

- Not present
- He sent out a membership report April 1st which highlighted past members who've not renewed their dues. Chapter Chairs are asked to contact these members and try to get them back on board.
- Please send any membership edits/updates to Steve Hayes
- A few people have noticed they are not getting credit for recruiting new members
 - Dave Walters said that National's membership database has been a disaster and they have been working on it. He asks that you send him an email when you recruit a new member and he will check to make sure you are being credited dave.walters@tn.gov

Awards Committee Report – Scott Kuehn

- 50 year members: Tom Blunn, James Reed, Fred Hodgeboom, George Leighton – awards will be given at chapter meetings
- Longevity Pins will be handed out at registration
- Citizen Forester goes to Bob Harrington
- Field Forester goes to Sarah Lyngholm
- District Field Forester goes to Ed Levert – he is now eligible for a national award.

Policy Committee Report – Gordy Sanders

- They had their first Forest Policy Committee meeting with the Governor and his Natural Resource advisor.

- The Governor asked what our top 5 issues are. This hasn't been formally answered. Bev asked that the policy committee bring statements to the executive committee before going to the governor.
- Tim Love is on the national policy committee and they need input on the herbicide position statement and the wildfire management position statement.

Communications Report – Bev Yelczyn

- Need a new communications chair – Bev will be too busy as Chair

Foresters Fund Report –

- No one has heard back from National on their requests, Bob and Russ will follow up.

Continuing Education Report – Dale Kerkvliet

- Not present
- The State meeting and field tour were approved for credits
- Libby Chapter hasn't been submitting their meetings for credits.

MT Natural Resource Youth Camp - Amy Helena

- Not present
- Trying to do more outreach and attract more campers
- Amy, Frank Maus, and Scott are going to the Boy Scouts, FFA, and 4-H clubs to recruit
- They are looking for volunteers to help with camp
 - Bev Suggested UM students
- Gordy asked if the camp is on Craig Rawlings website/newsletter – Scott will follow up

Past Chair Report – Scott Kuehn

- Forestry Day will be at Fort Missoula April 27th. UM is hosting the Association of Western Forestry Clubs Conclave this year from April 21st through the 27th. The Association was started at UM in 1936

Education – Cindy Bertek

- Not present
- She is busy with lots of Forest Stewardship workshops around the State including Thompson Falls, Troy, Mammoth, Whitehall, and Cardwell

Northern Rockies Tree School State Chapter Sponsor – Tim Egan/Bob Logar

- The conference will be held in Dillon in September.
- They are asking for sponsorship from the executive committee
 - There were many questions on what would SAF benefit from sponsoring
 - Dave Walters suggested we talk to National about they (National) would want to sponsor the event. Apparently SAF recently started certifying urban forestry programs and might be interested in recruiting there.

Council on Forest Engineering Annual Meeting State Chapter Sponsor – Beth Dodson/Tim Spoelma

- They are asking the executive committee to sponsor a break at the meeting (\$200-\$250)
- The meeting will July 7th and 8th in Missoula
- Missoula Chapter is sponsoring beverages at the BBQ
- It was decided to co-sponsor a break up to \$125

Next Meeting Date

- Tuesday, June 11 from 1:00 -4:00 pm in Missoula

Adjourn – Enjoy the State Meeting

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:

Caitlin Parke, Flathead Chapter Secretary/Treasurer
April 25, 2013