



**Nebraska Section SRM Council Meeting
October 22, 2019
North Platte, NE**

Mitch Stephenson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM at C3 Hotel and Convention Center in Hastings, NE.

Motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting was made by Anthony Perlinski and seconded by Brad Schick. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: The balances of the two checking accounts and three CDs as of October 23rd, 2019 were as follows: \$7388.85 for the SRM account, \$5537.86 for the Range Judging account, \$7112.26 for the Nebraska Section CD, \$2704.69 for the HSYF fund, \$6567.12 for the NE State Range Judging CD, and the \$9106.53 for the new Range Judging CD. The Range Judging Committee decided to transfer \$9000.00 to an 18 month CD, which is now reflected in the reported accounts.

The treasurer's report will be presented at tomorrow's business meeting for approval. The Nebraska Section CD and the Range Judging CD do not mature until July 2020. The HSYF fund CD matures in November 2022 and we were able to get a slightly higher interest rate of 3%. The Range Judging CD matures in August 2020 and has a rate of 2.33%

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting Committee:

Lance Schutte provided updates on the 2019 meeting. Everything is set for the meeting tomorrow. Thank you Lance for planning the meeting!

Awards: A report was offered by Anthony Perlinski. We will be presenting 3 awards this year, the Rangeman's Award, Range Management Service Award, and Outstanding Young Professional Award. Discussion regarding having an application or form for these awards to make it easier to nominate. Two awards will be given to members in Denver this year, so if you can attend it would be appreciated.

Envirothon: Nadine Bishop presented the committee report. The 2019 State Competition was held at Pibel Lake in April. St. Paul High School won the State competition and represented Nebraska in the International competition held in North Carolina. The 2020 meeting will be in Lincoln. Please contact Nadine if you are interested in volunteering.

Fundraising: Vacant position. Please think of new ideas for fundraising.

Historian: Jeff presented a report. The Nebraska Section SRM History has been updated and continues to be updated online.

Jeff will continue to submit articles to the Newsletter Editor as well as keep the website updated with historical information. He will also continue to gather information and gain reports from the student section for publication on the website. If there is anyone that has an interest in working with the Historical aspects of the Section, please let him know.

Information and Education: Nadine Bishop presented a report. Nadine prepared a presentation covering information and responsibilities of all committees and positions within SRM. It was good to review regarding member's responsibilities and review our By-Laws if updates need to be made. She will post the information on the website as well.

If there are any news releases to cover any Section activities please let Nadine know.

Investments: Walt Schacht will present at the meeting tomorrow.

Membership: Lance Schutte reported for the membership committee. Most lapsed members are students. We need to continue to work on retaining student members to become apprentice members. Any ideas to maintain these memberships would be welcome. We currently have 104 members, so we are maintaining memberships.

Overall the transition to a calendar renewal date has been successful to help us increase and maintain our membership numbers and will minimize problems with payments from the parent society. The National committee is trying to determine certain demographics to focus time and energy on for both retention and recruitment. Some believe that SRM needs to find their niche market and deliver a product to its members. There is also a concern that SRM is a scientific focused society, but others want to serve agency employees, producers and the public with an updated information delivery system. The National membership committee meeting is scheduled for Feb 16th in Denver.

Nominations: Bob Broweleit reported for the nominations committee. We had one nomination for the open council position, Ben Beckman. He is unfortunately unable to attend the meeting this year.

Producer Affairs: Sheila Luoma presented a report. Discussion was held regarding the upcoming Grazing Lands Tour next year and possibly partnering with them to host a joint tour. The National Grazing Lands Coalition Summer Tour is scheduled for June 14-16th. It is held to increase visibility and it is expected to fill up quickly

Public Affairs: Vacant

Range Judging: Kristin Dickinson, Range Judging Committee Co-Chair will be sending a report. Their committee has gained a few new members. They transitioned to using medals instead of rosettes as awards this year. This year was the second largest in participation.

Range Research: Vacant

Range Tour: Vacant

Range Camp/HSYF: This year was the 56th year of Range Camp. It was held in Curtis at NCTA. The location had great plant diversity and a new plant community. There were 50 students in

attendance. This year attendance was up 16 students we had in 2018. Next year's camp is tentatively scheduled for June 8-12, 2020 in Curtis again. There is still discussion regarding how to rotate the camp location in the future and what locations can accommodate the campers. Thank you to all the sponsors who support Range Camp and individuals who volunteer their time to support Range Camp.

Regarding HSYF Sara and Shelly do not have time to take on HSYF. Last year Lisa McMillan took care of our student representative. This year we currently don't have any student representation. We will see if a student can present and be available for this year if possible.

Student Affairs: Student Affairs at the National level has seen a lot of changes and discussion was presented regarding some of these changes. There are a lot of contest changes, but also a lack of leadership and interest. At the graduate student level they are looking to create a special symposium. However, there are not enough judges. We want to keep students involved and the Range ID competitive and at the forefront.

Scholarship: Two \$750.00 scholarships will be awarded at the banquet. They will be announced tomorrow at the banquet.

Old Business:

There needs to be a few changes in our by-laws. Some changes involve membership and dues regarding when they come due. Committees need to go through and look at the by-laws to see if changes need to be made and present all of them at the next Business Meeting.

New Business:

Discussion regarding holding a joint Annual Section Meeting in the future was discussed.

Anthony Perlinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jess Milby. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Angie Petersen