



## **Nebraska Section SRM Council Meeting June 9, 2025**

Kyle Schumacher called the meeting to order at 8:11 pm via Zoom video conference. Present members include Cheryl Dunn, Kyle Schumacher, Shelly Kelly, Bob Broweleit, Lisa McMillan, Mary Reece, Angie Petersen, and Jeff Nichols. The meeting was held on Monday evening of Range Camp, hosted at Chadron State College.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes were sent prior to the meeting via email for review by Angie Petersen. Motion to approve the minutes from the March council meeting was made by Cheryl and seconded by Lisa. Motion approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

A report was sent prior to the meeting via email for review by Angie Petersen.

The balances of the checking accounts and CDs as of June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 were as follows: \$11,993.11 for the SRM account, \$17,884.63 for the Range Judging account, \$3,148.44 for the William Wester HSYF fund, \$6,988.50 for the NE State Range Judging CD, and the \$9,800.84 for the other Range Judging CD.

- The Nebraska Section CD was closed following our previous meeting. The final amount of \$7500.54 was deposited into the checking account and will be used to pay the \$5000.00 committed to IYRP.
- The Nebraska Section Checking Account looks high due to the current deposit of the CD, which will change as soon as that money is paid out, and there is some money left over from the CD deposit.
- We also currently have \$1000.00 from the anonymous donor and \$265.50 from the UNL and CSC Range Clubs that are all for scholarship funds. So that money may need to be transferred to the scholarship investment fund.
- Our insurance was paid in May. It was again \$1240.00 total, the same as last year, which is then split between the Section and Range Judging as it covers all of our activities. We may need to consider adding abuse and sexual molestation liability coverage. Last week there was a request from Chadron State College that this coverage is a requirement for their Facility Rental Agreement. After speaking with Chadron and our local insurance agent, it is not excluded in our general liability coverage through EMC, but our local agent said that many entities do add it on specifically. They also have entities such as ours add coverage for participants that attend our activities. So they will also price this out. They will see if we can add it on to our existing coverage or if we need to fill out new policy paperwork. I will bring all of that information forward at a future date once I have all of the information. We currently hold two policies, one through United States Liability Insurance Company (USLI)

is a Directors and Officers Liability Coverage Policy, and one through EMC Insurance is a Commercial General Liability Policy.

- Again, thank you to our anonymous donor who helps cover HSYF expenses.
- We have received the \$2000.00 from the previously discussed Range Camp committed funds for HSYF but have not received reimbursement from the parent society. Kyle Schumacher and Mary Reece are assisting in getting these funds requested.
- The decrease in the Range Judging Account was due to the insurance payment and a \$500.00 travel scholarship to Burwell Public Schools for travel to Oklahoma City for National Range Judging. Burwell also mentioned that Ord and Wheeler Central were also there, but they have not requested travel scholarships yet.
- The current best rate for CDs is a 7 month, 3.63% interest rate for the William Wester HSYF Fund CD that matures on 6/18/25. We can't get the official rate until it matures next week, but that is their current rates today.
- Our other CDs do not mature until 9/21/25, so I will check rates as always to try to get the best rate possible in the future when they mature.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report from March was made by Cheryl and seconded by Kyle. Motion approved.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

### **Officer's Reports:**

Kyle reported. Thank you to Emma for getting out the newsletters, dealing with all of the deadlines, and gathering all of the information.

### **Committee Reports:**

**a. Newsletter** – No report

**b. Annual Meeting** –

Cheryl reported regarding the annual meeting. The call for abstracts is out and set to close in August. She is planning a joint conference with the Game and Parks Legacy Group. She is working on increasing sponsorship and securing funds for students to attend. They are currently working on figuring out the Tuesday night film festival and finalizing the field trip. She will send out scholarship information for traveling students to attend. The city of Lincoln may help promote and support the conference as well. NRCS may still be on a travel ban so their participation may be questionable.

**c. Awards:** No report.

**d. Envirothon** – Wyatt Kirwan emailed a report. The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nebraska Envirothon took place at Chalco Hills Recreation Area in Omaha, NE. Despite some rainy and chilly weather, the event went well. The Overall Winner of the Competition was Dawson County Envirothon Club, followed by Concordia Lutheran of Omaha and Tri-County Public Schools. Dawson County was also the top team in the Range Topic. Dawson County will represent Nebraska at the NCF-Envirothon at Mount Royal University in Calgary, Alberta, Canada J

**e. Fundraising:** Vacant position. No report. There are efforts being made for students to attend the annual meeting. Please let Cheryl know any information.

**f. Historian:** No report. Jeff Nichols is still currently in this position. Ben Beckman has discussed taking over this position. No updates on making this transition.

**g. Information and Education:** Laura Rubeck, no report. There may be a request to attend the NE grazing conference. She has mentioned working on getting give away items for meetings/conferences.

**h. Investments:** Kyle Schumacher provided a report. Investments are continuing to grow. The Academic Scholarship Fund and the Academic Scholarship Fund have both seen growth. The NESRM Academic Scholarship Fund that started at \$23,654.83 has seen a ROI of \$1,412.38. Discussion included an estimation that a value of approximately \$30,000-\$32,000 would be a self-sustaining amount to gain enough interest to fund the yearly scholarships.

**i. Membership:** No report.

**j. Nominations:** Vacant position. No report. Several names have been brought forth as possibilities.

**k. Producer Affairs:** No report.

**l. Public Affairs:** No report.

**m. Range Judging:** No report. The schedule is out and many people have stepped up to offer help and it is greatly appreciated.

**n/o. Range Research and Tour:** No report. There are several conferences coming up throughout the summer.

**p. Range Camp:** Shelly Kelly reported. There are currently 22 students attending Range Camp at Chadron State College. There has been great support from sponsorships and speakers. KyLee Kime and Tevyn Peiper are also helping to lead the camp. There are some returning Crew Bosses and some new ones. Camp is planned from June 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and they are looking forward to a good week.

**q. Scholarship:** No report. Discussion was held regarding getting scholarship information sent out sooner so we can get back on track regarding getting scholarships awarded at the annual meeting this fall.

**r. Student Information:** Mary Reece and Lisa McMillan reported. The upcoming national meeting in Monterey, California will be expensive for travel costs. Eli Rogers was elected as HSYF president, so we need to plan on him returning this year.

**s. IYRP Committee** – Bob Broweleit shared the IYRP logo. They are meeting every month and discussing various projects moving forward. America's Grasslands Conference is June 24-26<sup>th</sup>, and they have a display planned and are excited to reach out and get more partners involved. Walt Schacht has also been very involved and is working on many other projects being planned as well. They are also working with the Grazing Lands Coalition. They are

working on an event in Lincoln and many committees are coming together to put on various events.

### **Old Business:**

**Newsletter:** The newsletters are on the website.

### **Parent Section Annual Meeting:**

Kansas will hopefully have some updates on formally securing the venue. The parent society will handle most of the planning.

No website update.

No Advisory Council update.

We need to review and update the by-laws as it has been 5 years since the previous review.

### **New Business:**

Discussion regarding recruiting new and lapsed members.

We need to update the website link.

The next meeting will be the annual meeting in October.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, Cheryl motioned and Lisa seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Angie Petersen