



**Nebraska Section SRM Council Meeting
January 25th, 2016
North Platte USDA Service Center, Conference Room**

Those present were Karla Jenkins, Mitch Stephenson, Jeff Nichols, and Jess Milby. Sheila Luoma, Bob Broweleit, Tony Perlinski, and Nadine Bishop attended via conference call. Angie Petersen arrived later. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

Minutes: Minutes from October were distributed and reviewed. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes, Mitch seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The balances of the two checking accounts and three CDs as of January 25, 2016 were as follows: \$3911.99 for the SRM account, \$9707.52 for the Range Judging account, \$6873.14 for the Nebraska Section CD, \$2588.53 for the HSYF fund, and \$6346.34 for the NE State Range Judging CD. Taxes have been filed for the 2015 year. The biennial report to the Secretary of State is due every other year and was not due this year. The Nebraska Section Annual Meeting had a net income of \$845.87. Thank you again to the anonymous donor who helps to fund the annual HYSF scholarship. Currently in the checking account \$1825.00 is the Jim Nichols Memorial. This money was to be used to help sponsor students and activities relating to Range Camp. Jeff moved to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Jess. The treasurer's report was approved. Discussion was held regarding our bank balances. Our yearly costs versus income was discussed. Discussion was held regarding putting together a general expense report so that all members of the board can better understand our annual expenses.

Committee Reports:

2016 Annual Meeting: Jeff provided a report and is planning the 2016 meeting in Gothenburg.

Nominations: No report.

Awards: No report.

Range Camp: Shelly reported that Range Camp will be held the week beginning June 13th. Sara Winslow is co-chair. Shelly will apply for the PIE grant. She also wants to work with online registration this year through Paypal to get campers registered.

HSYF: Two delegates will be taken to Corpus Cristi, TX. One will be competing. The other is the elected president. Trent Elsen is the elected HSYF president. Drayden Bellamy will be competing.

Range Judging: A report was submitted by Nadine Bishop. No date is set for the Area 5 contest in Madison County yet. All other area contests are set as well as the State contest. Old West Regional contest will be held in South Dakota this year. The Range Judging Handbook is being revised to move from the range site and condition concept to ecological sites and condition concept. Thank you to Jerry Volesky, Jess Milby, Kristin Dickinson and Nadine Bishop for working on editing the handbook. Jerry will be sending the handbook to the Range Judging Committee members to review. Bethany Johnston has been working on redesigning the range judging card. Thank you to all the individuals who have worked on making this transition. Matt Kreifels will have the State Range Judging Committee talk about the new Range Judging Handbook Revisions.

Envirothon: Nadine provided a report on the Envirothon. There are 7 contests scheduled for Nebraska this spring. The range portion of the study guide has been updated. The State Competition will be Wed, April 27th, 2016 at the Lied Lodge and Conference Center in Nebraska City.

Scholarship: Jess reported that the scholarship committee did decide to revise and reword the scholarship application. Shelly suggested that they be posted on the website and newsletter as well as a reminder emailed to college instructors and advisors.

Membership: No report, the committee chair position is currently open. Discussion about the importance of the position was discussed. Laura Shutte was brought up as a possible person to fill the position.

Producer Affiliations: No report

Historian: No report

Investments: No report

Student Activities: No report

Newsletter: Sheila reported that the goal was to have one out in early April. Laura Rubeck is planning to help Sheila. The deadline to have articles to Sheila is Feb. 18th.

Nominations: No report

New Business:

Bob Browleit has a reservation from the NE Section meeting in Corpus Cristi, Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm. Jeff made a motion to allow Bob to attend and vote as proxy at the Advisory Council Meeting in Corpus Cristi, Texas. Motion seconded by Mitch. Motion passed.

Nadine discussed the concerns regarding getting NRCS approval to attend the Nebraska Section Meetings. They need a minimum of 3 months before the meeting to get approval. They need an agenda that is more finalized and a better idea of costs sooner than has previously been available.

Discussion was held regarding insurance coverage for the Nebraska Section. We currently have blanket coverage. We may want to go with a different type of coverage. Jeff made a motion to allow Shelly to assist Angie with getting Paypal set up for both Range Camp and the Annual Meeting.

Jess moved to adjourn. Mitch seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.

Notes taken by Jeff Nichols, written and submitted by Angie Petersen