



Nebraska Section SRM Council Meeting
February 17th, 2014
West Central Research and Extension Center, North Platte, NE

Bob Broweleit called the meeting to order at 1:13 pm CST at the West Central Research and Extension Center, North Platte, NE. Those present in the conference room were Jon Soper, Karla Jenkins, Bob Broweleit, Jeff Nichols, and Angie Petersen. Cindy Tusler participated via conference call.

Minutes: The minutes from both June and October were reviewed. Notes were taken in June by Kristin Miller due to Angie Petersen being unable to attend the meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Jeff Nichols, seconded by Jon Soper. The minutes were approved. Cindy Tusler abstained due to the fact that she was not able to view the minutes at this time.

Treasurer's Report: The balances of the two checking accounts and three CDs as of Feb 17th, 2014 were as follows: \$8311.77 for the SRM account, \$8380.35 for the Range Judging account, \$6829.89 for the Nebraska Section CD, \$2573.69 for the HSYF fund, and \$6306.40 for the NE State Range Judging CD. Taxes have been filed for the 2013 year. An income of \$684.74 was brought in from the NE Section Meeting in Ogallala in Oct. 2013. The William Wester HSYF CD matured in December 2013. It is a 15 moth CD and was carried over and will now mature again in May 2015. The Nebraska Section CD and NE State Range Judging CD are set to mature again in July 2014, they are 24 month CDs.

One suggestion made at the previous Annual Meeting that was discussed was the possibility of offering the banquet meal after the Annual Meeting at-cost to students. Many college students who attend the meeting to take part in the Crazy Auction are present, but often cannot afford the \$25.00 banquet and are then forced to not take part in the meal or try to come up with the money last minute. It may help attendance from these students if it can be offered at-cost to them. It was also suggested that possibly the meeting and banquet fees could be combined so all students could attend the banquet. Jon Soper moved to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Jeff Nichols. The treasurer's report was approved.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter: Kristin Miller is seeking a replacement as Newsletter / Membership Committee Chair. Possible candidates were discussed. Communication through the newsletter is key for our membership. Kristin has also been responsible for sending out invoices to our advertisers in the past.

The duties of this position were reviewed. The Newsletter Editor becomes a voting member of the Council.

Awards: Larry Schultz was not able to attend the Annual Meeting this year. We were not able to present it at a timely manner in front of his peers. It was briefly discussed as to when this award could be given out to appropriately recognize his work with Range Judging.

Range Camp/HSYF: A brief report was given by Cindy Tusler and Bob Broweleit. Range Camp will be June 9-13th, 2014. Blair Hartman did not place in the top 5 at the National Meeting, but she did present well, represented our Section well, and had a great time at the meeting.

Range Judging: The Range Judging Committee had a special meeting in January 2014. Usually only one meeting is scheduled right before the yearly Range Judging Contests. This year several individuals wanted to discuss how things for the 2014 contests were coming together and how planning was going. There were several concerns regarding issues that have come up regarding planning Range Judging Contests and communication between members of the State Range Judging Committee. There was also a proposal to change some of the boundaries of the six Areas. There has been concerns expressed that some areas and entities are putting large amounts of time and effort into hosting the contests, but are not represented on the State Range Judging Committee. It was expressed that the committee is open and welcomes additional representation. Daryl is working to increase communication between all individuals and groups or entities involved. No formal changes were made at this time. Daryl is also stepping down soon and it was briefly discussed as to his possible replacement.

Envirothon: Austin Horn is no longer with the NRCS. No report.

Scholarship: No report

Membership: No report. Possible candidates to fill the position as Committee Chair were discussed.

Historian: No report.

Investments: No report.

Information/Education: No report.

Student Activities: No report.

Nominations: No report.

New Business:

- The 50-years of Range Camp poster was taken to the National Meeting in Orlando, FL. Thank you to Mary Reece, Nadine Bishop, and Shelly Taylor for making this happen. The meeting had a lower attendance, less than 800 people.
- Cindy Tusler discussed the Advisory Committee Meeting held at the National Meeting. The Wild Horse and Burrow Issues due to drought and population issues was discussed. Agencies are expecting a huge die-off due to drought and were wondering how SRM could get involved. The Nevada SRM Section is asking policy makers in Washington, DC to address the issue ahead of time in anticipation of these issues.
- Issues regarding low attendance to the National Meeting were discussed. Many federal agencies are not supporting SRM. There was a resolution discussed to pass on the SRM Board of Directors to discuss with individuals in Washington, DC to see how this could change and increase support from these agencies. It was also discussed how both State and National meetings could increase opportunities for professional development at these meetings to encourage greater attendance.
- The next National meeting is in Sacramento, CA in 2015 and Corpus Cristi, TX in 2016.
- There was also discussion about Nebraska hosting or co-hosting in 2019.
- Cindy Tusler discussed plans for the 2014 Nebraska Section Annual Meeting. It will most likely be held in the Chadron, NE area, possibly at Chadron State College. The annual meeting will tentatively be scheduled for the week of Oct 6th. Ideas for including professional development were discussed as well as possible areas of focus. Please email ideas to her if you have any. Our membership is scattered across the state and it may also be nice to hear from different members across the state as to what is going on and programs that are taking place.
- The State Range Judging Contest is scheduled for Sept 22nd, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Angie Petersen
Secretary-Treasurer