

2017 Desert Bighorn Council
Business Meeting Minutes
St. George, Utah, April 20, 2017

5:36 pm – Meeting called to order by Rusty Robinson (2017 Co-Council Chair).

Minutes of 2015 Business Meeting: Amber Munig (Secretary) distributed, via e-mail prior to the meeting, the minutes of the 2015 Business Meeting held in Borrego Springs, California. The draft minutes had previously been distributed to the membership for review. Council approved the 2015 meeting minutes (Ray Lee/B. Wakeling, all approved).

Secretary's Report: (details provided after the meeting) Amber Munig reported that 104 people registered for the 2015 meeting. Registered meeting participants represented a wide variety of agencies and organizations, including State wildlife agencies (62%), universities (10%), Federal and other state agencies (10%), and non-governmental organizations (4%), with the remainder representing Native American tribes, commercial businesses, and non-affiliated attendees. This year's registration fees included membership dues. (R. Brigham/B. Gonzales, all approved)

Rusty Robinson, Justin Shannon, and the DBC planning team were thanked for their efforts towards coordinating a great meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Longshore (Treasurer) distributed a summary of our financial information (attached at end of minutes), and provided an overview of our accounts. She noted that our budget balance as of the beginning of fiscal year 2017 was \$192,124.79, which was slightly more than the balance at the beginning of the previous fiscal year (\$190,183.80). All four Certificates of Deposit (CD) have low interest rates, with an annual gain of \$561.04; total value of all CDs was \$137,190.32. CD #1920 has matured; this CD has the best interest rate at 1.01% and will roll over for another term. The Parnassus Fund was purchased in August 2016 at a value of \$25,000. The value as of March 31, 2017 was \$27,475.77 for a gain of \$2,475.77. Kathy has quarterly reports available if desired. Tech Staff voted to withdraw CD #2885 when it matures in September and re-invest those funds in a Vanguard 500 Fund. The Council approved the Treasurer's report (R. Lee/C. Brewer, all approved).

The Executive Committee appointed an Audit Committee comprised of Pat Cummings, Kathy Longshore, and Ray Lee to audit the financial records of the Treasurer. This audit was completed following the close of the fiscal year on April 18, 2017.

Committee Reports:

Meeting Committee: Rusty Robinson provided an overview of the meeting, and thanked all those who helped coordinate and make the meeting a success, with 104 registrants. He thanked Utah FNAWS and 17 additional partners that helped make this meeting a success. Registration fees brought in \$9,680 and Utah FNAWS donated \$6,000 for total revenue of \$15,680. Total expenditures were \$12,300 for a net gain for the workshop of \$3,380.

Executive Committee: No report.

Constitution and Resolutions Committee: No report.

Transactions Report: Jimmy Cain (Transactions Editor) provided a brief update on the Transactions. He noted that the 2015 Transactions were provided electronically on the DBC website or a bound copy could be ordered through the “print-on-demand” option also found on the website. Jimmy noted that the Transactions have started to get a bit thin; actual submissions have been low. All presenters are encouraged to submit their 2017 papers to the Transactions, but also stressed that papers not presented at a DBC meeting are also welcome. Jimmy requested that papers be submitted to him as soon as possible, and also urged state representatives to submit their state reports for inclusion in the Transactions.

Technical Staff: Clay Brewer (Tech Staff Chair) reported that the Tech Staff met on April 18, 2017. No applications for the Hansen-Welles Memorial Scholarships were received.

Awards Committee: Awards were not announced at the business meeting because they were to be awarded at the banquet later that evening.

Award recipients:

Ram Award – Walter M. Boyce (UC Davis): For decades of research that span the disciplines of parasitology, epidemiology, and population genetics that have yielded countless professional contributions to the conservation and management of Desert Bighorn Sheep, and for mentoring the dozens of students and others that have gone on to contribute to the conservation of the wild sheep of North America.

Ram Award – Clinton W. Epps (Oregon State University): For pioneering work exploring habitat fragmentation and its implications; contributions to understanding the genetic structure of populations; contributions toward understanding the consequences of a changing climate; and, your desire and ability to work closely with agency personnel, all of which have yielded substantial benefits to the conservation of Desert Bighorn Sheep.

Honor Plaque – Raul Valdez: For many years of service, both as an educator and as a research biologist; your dedication to the conservation not only of Desert Bighorn Sheep, but the wild sheep of the world as well; and, being an inspiration to your many students that have gone on to contribute to conservation both in the United States and in Mexico.

Honor Plaque – Marine Air Corp at 29 Palms Marine Base: For unstifled enthusiasm and unending cooperation in the restoration of Desert Bighorn Sheep to the Bullion Mountains, California; ongoing efforts to enhance habitat and expand the numbers and distribution of that species; and leadership demonstrating a conservation ethic while ensuring the national security of the United States of America.

There are many deserving of our awards. Please submit nominations.

Historian Committee: Donald Armentrout provided a written Historian’s report prior to the meeting. To date all correspondence, transactions (if available), and pictures have been filed by meeting year. Electronic versions of the transactions have been downloaded from the DBC website for archival. This year he hopes to review all meeting minutes to build a sheet describing why each person or group received the Ram Award and Honor Plaque.

Nominating Committee and Election of Officers: The next meeting (2019) will be held in Nevada, possibly Laughlin or Mesquite.

Council officers and three Tech Staff positions were open for nominations. The following individuals' Tech Staff positions expire this year: Ray Lee, Mara Weisenberger, and Brian Wakeling.

Officer nominations included: Steve Kimble for Council Chair, Mike Cox for Co-chair, Erin Butler for Secretary, and Kathy Longshore for Treasurer. No other nominations were received.

Nominations for Tech Staff positions included: Clay Brewer (Chair), Brian Wakeling, Amber Munig, and Bruce Garlinger. No other nominations were received.

The Council voted in the following slate of Tech Staff members (V. Bleich/B. Gonzales, all approved):

Tech Staff Chair:	Clay Brewer
Tech Staff:	Brian Wakeling
Tech Staff:	Amber Munig
Tech Staff:	Bruce Garlinger

The Council voted in the following slate of officers (B. Gonzales/M. Jorgensen, all approved):

Council Chair:	Steve Kimble
Council Co-Chair:	Mike Cox
Secretary:	Erin Butler
Treasurer:	Kathy Longshore

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Vern Bleich, Steve Torres, and Rick Brigham presented to the Council a request to do something in Dick Weaver's name and fulfill a "Weaver Dream – boots on the ground." This could be an award or scholarship in Dick Weaver's name. Clay Brewer suggested that they draft an actual proposal with specifics for the Council. Brian Wakeling suggested we all think about how something like this could be perpetually support and not result in a negative financial output. Many ideas were provided: consider completing a habitat project in Dick's name instead of a scholarship, sportsman's groups may donate to a scholarship like this, add a spot in our registration that allows for donations to scholarships, and make the award a pair of boots. This will move to Old Business for consideration in 2019.
- Tech Staff proposed an amendment to the bylaws. Council bylaws state that meetings will be held during the first 2 weeks of April during odd years. Several recent meeting organizers have asked for an exemption to host the meeting later in April; though not permissible according to bylaws, Tech staff approved the shift in dates. The proposal is to amend the bylaws to give some flexibility to when the workshop can be held. Suggested amendment:

Article VI - Meetings

Section 1 Council Meeting - The meeting of the Council shall be within the first two (2) weeks of April, on a biennial basis, during odd numbered years. *The host state may request permission to deviate from these dates for logistical reasons, but the alternative dates for the meeting must be approved by a majority of the Technical Staff.*

Motion to support change in bylaws (J. Wehausen/R. Brigham, all approved).

- Mark Jorgensen thanked Ray Lee for his time on Tech Staff and dedication to the Desert Bighorn Council.

Gavel passed from Steve Rusty Robinson to Steve Kimble.

6:11 pm - Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by A. Munig.

TREASURER'S REPORT - KATHY LONGSHORE**DESERT BIGHORN COUNCIL****FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR April 1, 2015-March 31, 2017**

STARTING BALANCE	FY15	FY16	FY17
Starting balance available funds: Citibank checking	\$ 57,922.05	\$ 53,554.52	\$ 26,958.70
Total Investments: CDs/Parnassus Fund	\$ 136,071.71	\$ 136,629.28	\$ 164,666.09
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Total Assets	\$ 193,993.76	\$ 190,183.80	\$ 192,124.79
INCOME	FY 2015	FY 2016	
Membership	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 20.00	
Meeting registration	\$ 9,079.91		
DBC Transactions		\$ 100.00	
Meeting donations	\$ 4,300.00		
Hansen-Welles Fund	\$ 119.00		
Donations for merchandise	\$ 1,038.01		
Silent Auction	\$ 827.00		
Bank Credit		\$ 553.93	
Cash Donation		\$ 500.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 17,163.92	\$ 1,173.93	
EXPENSES			
Web site	\$ 119.88	\$ 59.94	
Web site registration charges	\$ 149.25	\$ -	
Merchandise purchase	\$ 1,667.87	\$ 496.28	
Credit card deposit services	\$ 546.32	\$ 159.60	
Meeting Awards	\$ 444.29		
Meeting rooms	\$ 6,360.01	\$ 1,000.00	
Guest Speaker	\$ 624.96		
2015 Meeting BBQ	\$ 1,440.87		
Printing Meeting Programs	\$ 378.00		
Memorial Fund Grants	\$ 8,500.00		
Donation Reimbursement	\$ 1,300.00		
Bank withdrawal		\$ 553.93	
Parnassus Funds Purchase		0 \$ 25,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 21,531.45	\$ 27,269.75	
INVESTMENTS			
Certificate of Deposits			
CD# 3618 (0.10% interest rate, matures 08/22/2017)	\$ 55,201.88	\$ 55,257.05	
CD# 1920 (1.01% interest rate, matures 04/16/2017)	\$ 48,733.98	\$ 49,222.75	
CD# 2885 (0.1% interest rate, matures 09/28/2017)	\$ 24,394.68	\$ 24,407.45	
CD #8022 (0.05% interest rate, matures 01/05/2018)	\$ 8,298.74	\$ 8,303.07	
Total Certificate of Deposits	\$ 136,629.28	\$ 137,190.32	
Investment Funds			
Parnassus Fund	\$ -	\$ 27,475.77	
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	\$ 136,629.28	\$ 164,666.09	