

2015 Desert Bighorn Council
Business Meeting Minutes
Borrego Springs, California
April 16, 2015

5:09 pm – Meeting called to order by Ben Gonzales (2015 Council Chair).

Minutes of 2013 Business Meeting: Amber Munig (Secretary) distributed copies of the minutes of the 2013 Business Meeting held in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The draft minutes had previously been distributed to the membership for review. Council approved the 2013 meeting minutes (R. Lee/B. Wakeling, motion passed unanimously).

Secretary's Report: (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 (51%), universities (14%), Federal and other state agencies (13%), non-governmental organizations (11%), and Mexico (<1%), with the remainder representing Native American tribes, commercial businesses, and non-affiliated attendees. This year's registration fees included membership dues, so this represents a good renewal of memberships.

Ben Gonzales, Steve Torres, and the DBC planning team were thanked for their efforts towards coordinating a great meeting.

Kathy Longshore obtained a credit card machine for registration and the sale of merchandise. It was a huge benefit and convenience.

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 2015 was \$193,993.76, which was slightly less than the balance at the beginning of the previous fiscal year (\$194,438.55). Expenses (\$4,251.34) were offset by meeting and Hansen-Wells donations totaling \$5,850.00. A Certificate of Deposit (CD) for the Robert Campbell Memorial Fund in the amount of \$25,428.63 was not renewed; Tech Staff has been investigating other investment options and voted to not renew the CD. The Council approved the Treasurer's report (R. Lee/D. Weaver, motion passed unanimously).

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 17, 2015.

Committee Reports:

Meeting Committee: Ben Gonzales provided an overview of the meeting, and thanked all who helped coordinate and make the meeting a success. He thanked the donors that helped make this meeting a success; the meeting committee received about \$7,300 in donations for the workshop.

Executive Committee: No report.

Constitution and Resolutions Committee: No report.

Transactions Report: Brian Wakeling (outgoing Transactions Editor) provided a brief update on the Transactions. He noted that the 2013 Transactions were distributed in October 2014. The total cost of producing the transactions were kept low because Brian completed the layout and formatting himself, a local printer was used, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department paid for mailing costs. The new Transactions Editor is Jimmy Cain. All presenters are encouraged to consider submitting their 2015 papers to the Transactions, but also stressed that papers not presented at a DBC meeting are also very 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 (added after the meeting - due date of July 1, 2015).

Technical Staff: Clay Brewer (Tech Staff Chair) reported that the Tech Staff met on April 14, 2015. Two applications for the Hansen-Welles Memorial Scholarships were received; Tech Staff approved awarding one scholarship. After providing a brief history of the scholarship program, Clay announced that this year's recipient was Carlos Gonzalez-Gonzalez in the amount of \$8,500 for his proposal, "Spatial, Temporal, and Demographic Characteristics of Desert Bighorn Sheep in West Texas." Tech Staff will draft letters to both scholarship applicants on how their projects could be improved and better inform the management of bighorn sheep.

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

Award recipients were:

- Ram Award – Don Armentrout (BLM Retired)
- Honor Plaque – Brian Wakeling (NDOW)
- Honor Plaque – Leon and LaVelle Lesicka (Desert Wildlife Unlimited)
- Honor Plaque – Steve de Jesus (Landells Aviation, retired helicopter pilot)

There are many deserving of our awards. It is very important for our membership to 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. The In Memoriam section of the DBC website was updated with pictures and information on Pete Sanchez.

Nominating Committee and Election of Officers: The next meeting (2017) will be held in Utah, potentially Springdale, UT.

Council officers and five Tech Staff positions were open for nominations. The following Tech Staff positions expire this year: Clay Brewer, Pat Cummings, Mark Jorgensen, and Mara Weisenberger. Elise Goldstein resigned from her Tech Staff position, with two years remaining in the term.

Officer nominations included: Dustin Shaible for Council Chair, Justin Shannon for Co-chair, Amber Munig for Secretary, and Kathy Longshore for Treasurer. No other nominations were received.

Nominations for Tech Staff positions included: Clay Brewer, Pat Cummings, Mark Jorgensen, Mara Weisenberger, Brad Banulus, and Ben Gonzales.

The Council voted in the following slate of officers (M. Jorgensen/R. Lee, motion passed unanimously):

Council Chair:	Dustin Shaible
Council Co-Chair:	Justin Shannon
Secretary:	Amber Munig
Treasurer:	Kathy Longshore
Tech Staff Chair:	Clay Brewer
Tech Staff:	Patrick Cummings
Tech Staff:	Mark Jorgensen
Tech Staff:	Ben Gonzales
Tech Staff:	Mara Weisenberger (will finish the remaining 2 years)

Old Business:

- Evaluation of potential investment strategies for the Council – In 2013, the Council voted to explore other options such as mutual funds for investment of Council monies. Recently, the Council has held the Hansen-Wells Scholarship Fund and the Robert Campbell Memorial Fund in CDs, which are earning very low interest (.01% to 1% annually). Recently, the Robert Campbell Memorial Fund CD came up for renewal but Tech Staff voted to wait on renewing until the Council voted to pursue other investment strategies or not. Tech Staff recommended the Council pursue a conservative approach to investing through other strategies. This will require a change to the Council’s bylaws. Ray Lee identified that changes to the bylaws should occur in Article 7, Section 2, Clause F and that short term investments should remain with federally insured institutions while longer term investments should be through a more diversified portfolio such as an exchange traded fund (D. Weaver/S. Morgensen, motion passed unanimously).

New Business:

- Regina Abella volunteered to take over Promotions Coordinator from Mara Weisenberger (M. Weisenberger /A. Munig, motion passed unanimously).
- Tech Staff recommended that the Council stop printing the DBC Transactions and only provide a downloadable electronic version on the website. A “Print on Demand” option through an independent company could be provided for those who wish a bound copy; the cost, paid to the independent company, is estimate at about \$10. If the Council goes with electronic only, Kevin Hurley (Wyoming) suggested the Council consider providing complimentary copies to state agencies and libraries, like the Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council does. Clint Epps (California) asked if the electronic Transactions would be available in a search database such as Wildlife and Ecology Worldwide. The answer is no; the Council would need an ISBN for both the electronic format and the hard copy format for the Transactions. This recommended change will require changes to the Council’s bylaws. Ray Lee identified that changes to the bylaws should occur in Article 3, Section 1, Clause B (delete) and Article 8, Section 7, Clause A. The final recommendation to the Council was to stop printing the Transactions and only provide a downloadable electronic version on the website, provide a “Print on Demand” option through an independent company, and obtain ISBN numbers for both the electronic and hard copy formats of the Transactions (M. Jorgensen/J. Cain, motion passed unanimously). Jimmy Cain will apply for and obtain the ISBN numbers for the Council.

2015 DBC Business Meeting
April 16, 2015

- Ray Lee will provide verbiage for the Bylaws changes. These changes will be incorporated in the Bylaws by Clay Brewer then reviewed by Tech Staff. The updated Bylaws will be included in the 2015 Transactions. The Bylaws will include an “effective as of” date.
- Vern Bleich asked what the Council thought about hosting the Council meetings in a fixed location that does not rotate among states. The thought was that it may be more cost effective and easier to plan by not moving the meeting around. There was quite a bit of discussion but the general feeling seemed to be that members liked the different venues, there was a benefit to host state programs, and that a fixed location may limit participation by university students.

Gavel passed from Ben Gonzales to Dustin Shaible

(symbolically since Dustin was not present at the meeting. Ben will ensure that Dustin receives both the gavel and the statue that goes with the position.)

6:05 pm - Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by A. Munig

2015 DBC Business Meeting
April 16, 2015

**DESERT BIGHORN COUNCIL
TREASURER'S REPORT - KATHY LONGSHORE**

APRIL 2015

Account Balances

(\$194,438.55 as of April 2013 meeting)

Checking Account (Citibank)	\$ 57,922.05
Robert Campbell Memorial Fund	
CD#3618 (0.10% interest, 6 mo/matures 8/23/15)	\$ 55,146.57
CD #6719 (0.25% interest, 2 yr/matured 3/31/15)	deposited in savings
Subtotal R. Campbell Fund CDs	\$ 55,146.57
Hansen-Wells Memorial Fund	
CD#1920 (1.00% interest, 5 yr/matures 4/20/17)	\$ 48,248.09
CD#2885 (0.01% interest, 18 mo/matures 3/28/2016)	\$ 24,382.46
CD#8022 (0.05% interest, 18 mo/matures 07/05/2016)	\$ 8,294.59
Subtotal Hansen-Welles CDs	\$ 80,925.14
Total CDs	\$136,071.71
Total Assets	\$193,993.76

DESERT BIGHORN COUNCIL

CASH FLOW - AVAILABLE FUNDS	Beginning Balance FY13	Beginning Balance FY14	Beginning Balance FY15
Starting balance Citibank checking	\$34,187.97	\$29,726.19	\$57,922.05
Starting balance CD's	\$160,250.58	\$160,885.49	\$136,071.71
Total	\$194,438.55	\$190,611.68	\$193,993.76

INCOME	FY 2013	FY 2014
Membership	\$1,800.00	\$140.00
Meeting Registration	\$13,775.00	\$525.00
Meeting Donation	\$1,000.00	\$4,300.00
Hansen-Welles Donations	\$1,457.00	\$1,550.00
Hansen-Welles Merchandise/Auction	\$1,907.00	
DBC Transactions	\$1,714.00	\$475.50
Book Royalties	\$67.49	\$28.07
Merchandise refund	\$50.67	
Deposit funds certificate of deposit #6719		\$25,428.63
TOTAL INCOME	\$21,771.16	\$32,447.20

EXPENSES		
Office and postage	\$137.69	\$570.50
Office Supplies (file cab.)		
Website	\$59.94	\$119.58
Meeting merchandise	\$2,169.12	
Meeting awards	\$695.89	
Meeting expenses	\$14,970.30	\$2,634.83
Printing of 2013 Transactions		\$926.43
Hansen Welles grants	\$8,200.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$26,232.94	\$4,251.34

Certificate of Deposits

Hansen-Wells Memorial Fund		
CD# 1920	\$47,768.02	\$48,248.09
CD# 2885	\$24,370.27	\$24,382.46
CD# 8022	\$8,290.44	\$8,294.59
Subtotal	\$80,428.73	\$80,925.14
Robert Campbell Memorial Fund		
CD# 3618	\$55,091.45	\$55,146.57
CD# 6719	\$25,365.31	
Subtotal	\$80,456.76	\$55,146.57
TOTAL CDs	\$160,885.49	\$136,071.71