



Regular winter meeting was called to order at 1:31 pm. Present were: Charles Hart – President, Bob Knight – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Charles Anderson – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Bruce Healy – Secretary, Harold Bryant – Treasurer, Willy Conrad – Director, Matt Wagner – Director, Bill Pinchak – Director, Hoyt Seidensticker – Director, John Walker – Director, and Ray Schimcek – Director. Absent – Jenny Pluhar, Past President.

**MINUTES:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Corrections/clarifications to the minutes were noted. Harold will revise contract for 2005 Annual Meeting for Bass Hall reservation and forward to Charles Hart for signature. Motion by Bob Knight, second by Willy Conrad to accept the minutes of 10/13/03 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

*John Walker and Ray Schimcek arrived at 1:48 pm.*

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer’s Report and associated handouts presented by Harold Bryant (Attachment 2).

**Current Balances as of 12/31/03:**

TSSRM General Operating Fund	\$30,690.61
(Additional general funds received in 2004: 2003 Annual Mtg +\$12,214.56)	
	(Current GF Balance 02/01/04 : \$42,905.17)
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$ 6,059.44
TSSRM MSF	\$ 2,052.00
TSSRM Wyche MSF	\$ 1,175.00

All taxes are paid current. Working on the IRS reports.

Motion by Bob Knight, seconded by Ray Schimcek to waive the payment for journals purchased by the Youth Activities Committee at the 2003 Endowment Fund Auction. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Willy Conrad, seconded by Bob Knight to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

**2004 TSSRM BUDGET:** (Attachment 3)

Bob Knight volunteered to work with Nick Garza to submit the G. Rollie White Foundation Grant Request.



Gate Signs – distribute to the folks manning the booth at upcoming trade shows, if they get an SRM membership registration completed/paid at the booth, the person receives a free gate sign. Also give sign(s) to TSSRM meeting sponsors. Nick Garza manages the sign inventory.

**2004 Budget Reviewed** – income and expense projections assigned. Initial Revenue Estimates are \$14050. Initial Expense Estimates are \$16575. It should be noted that this includes additional expenses for the 2005 SRM Annual Meeting as seed money – which will be reimbursed in 2005. Essentially, this is a balanced budget with the exception of special expenses (e.g. - 2005 SRM Annual Meeting). Budget approval tabled to the end of the meeting to see what additional items come up on the agenda, and then be approved prior to adjournment.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Stewardship Video** – Monica (Cornerstone Video) will send a beta copy to Harold Bryant to have it closed captioned and return it to Monica for distribution with the close captioning to comply with USDA/GLCI funds used. **Motion by Bob Knight to send a beta copy to USDA to have it closed captioned, second by Bill Pinchak. Vote 6-2, motion carried.**  
*TEXAS FARMER STOCKMAN* ARTICLE– Motion by John Walker to have Charles Hart send a letter to *Texas Farmer Stockman* requesting a clarification of the article on the video. Second by Hoyt. Amendment by Bill Pinchak to thank them for publicizing the video, but requesting a clarification – amendment dies for lack of a second. Bob Knight called for the question. Motion carried.

**2003 TSSRM Annual Meeting Final Report** (submitted by Jenny Pluhar) – Report presented by Bill Pinchak. The 2003 annual meeting planning committee is putting together a guidance document for future use. Net revenues to the Section are ~\$12,000+. Had a great number of sponsors, exhibitors, and donations to the 2003 Annual Meeting. All those things increased the bottom line.

**2004 TSSRM Annual Meeting @ Kerrville** (submitted by Charles Anderson) – **Motion by Charles Anderson, second by Hoyt Seidensticker to approve \$500 seed money for the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.** Getting things together and forming working committees. Proposed theme is *Back to the Basics* – it is understood that the “basics” have changed in the last 30 years; this will be discussed next week. Annual Meeting planning committee meeting next Friday at the Inn of the Hills in Kerrville on Fri. Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Charles requested input from the BOD on what the proceeds for the fundraising auction at the annual meeting. BOD will direct the funds to the 1) Scholarship Fund, 2) Endowment Fund, or 3) General Operating Fund. Charlie Hart will finalize.



*“Be very bold with the vision for the meeting...this is the place for range professionals to come together and showcase the profession. Try to think outside the box... Let people run with the ideas and areas of responsibility.”*

**2005 TSSRM Annual Meeting @ South Padre Island** (submitted by Bob Knight) – Sheraton will be headquarters hotel (\$89/night) – want 125 room nights on Wednesday - need to review past contracts to verify numbers. Local chair not selected as yet, Bob working on contacts. There is concern about holding a meeting there without a local “contact” person. CVB will handle spouse’s tour (if one held). Will try to encourage folks to have people stay through the weekend – working on room rate extensions.

**2005 SRM Annual Meeting @ Fort Worth** (submitted by Charles Anderson) – Rangeland Trails under the Lone Star is the theme. Logo has been developed. The next planning committee meetings will be March, June, October, and January. (Look at TSSRM BOD meeting on June 18/19 also.) Thought on TSSRM hosting a mixer on Saturday night (prior to the meeting) and solicit volunteers to help with the meeting? Favorable activity for TSSRM to host. **Charles Anderson and Bob Knight will take the lead for coordination with 2005 Planning Committee.** Chuck Stanley obtained 2 photographs from Wyman Meisner (official Tx state photographer), to raffle off. The photographs will be barnwood framed. Harold – updated on Insurance...talked with insurance company on options. They will review the contract and provide Harold with a good estimate. Harold will provide the information to Bruce for updating the budget.

**Documents & Handbook Report** (Bruce Healy) – Need copies of all past resolutions adopted by the Section. Need to resolve the Resolutions Committee Guidelines (talk with John Walker). I will fix the 2004 list of Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs and send out via email. Need Board Direction of what to do with finished product. **GIVE EACH NEW DIRECTOR THE HANDBOOK ON THE CD. ALSO, POST THE HANDBOOK ON THE WEBSITE.** Bruce to send Charles Hart the latest version of the Handbook and he will distribute to the BOD – update Resolutions Committee, I&E and College Activities. John Walker will receive the latest version also for posting on the internet. Handbook Coordinator to bring hardcopy to all BOD meetings for reference, but all future distributions to the BOD will be via CD. *Add the new position statement to the Handbook.*

**High Fence & White-tailed Deer Position Statement** (Matt Wagner) – Discussion on the proposed position statement, do we want a specific position statement or a more broad based position statement. MW wrote the position statement regarding high fence and white-tailed deer as the deer population is driving the installation of the high fences in many parts of Texas. MW will work on the revised statement this evening and return in the morning for final review.

**Motion by Bill Pinchak, Second by Ray Schimcek to have the Section pay for Supper and Breakfast. Motion carried unanimously.**



Charlie Hart handed out new SRM Application forms and the new SRM publications (*Discover New Rangelands, Rangelands of the World, etc.*).

Charlie Hart led discussion on the potential for TSSRM to sponsor a special project for SRM. SRM will be sending out a list of the potential projects soon. Charlie Hart updated the BOD on what other sections have responded for special funding. No action taken at this meeting, hopefully we will have the information before the summer meeting.

**SRM 2005 Shirts:** Denim shirts with logo will be available only to the 2005 Planning Committee. Khaki shirts will be available with logo to the subcommittee members. Also an option for the TSSRM BOD members (not already on a committee) to obtain the khaki shirts. (Khaki shirts will also be available to the general SRM membership.) **Those interested need to respond to Charlie ASAP on needs by February 21<sup>st</sup> so he can submit the order.**

**REVISIT OF HIGH FENCE-WHITE TAILED DEER POSITION STATEMENT (MW) – retyped by MW:** MW outlined the new changes – **see copy attached.** Motion by Bill Pinchak, second by Bob Knight for TSSRM to adopt this position statement. Motion carried unanimously. Secretary will forward to Newsletter Editor and Webmaster for appropriate publication.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Scholarship Committee (Paul Loeffler, Chair)** email submission enclosed – Charlie will represent the Section for the scholarship presentation on June 8<sup>th</sup>, or work with Bob Knight to represent. **Motion by Willy Conrad, second by Bill Pinchak to accept report.**

**Youth Activities (Hoyt Seidensticker, Chair) –**

**Youth Range Workshop Video Project:** Hoyt submitted a budget request for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary recognition. The YAC has not solicited funds (outside of insurance) for any YAC activities in the past 3 years. The YAC is requesting to have the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration videotaped, and to videotape the following Youth Range Workshop. The vision of the video project will be to solicit funds to establish a new TSSRM Youth Endowment Fund to better fund future YAC activities. The video is intended to be used to solicit large potential donors, not for outside marketing. If desired, the video may be considered for future marketing of the YRW. The \$3000 would result in 20 copies. **Hoyt will finalize video filming permissions agreements and production agreement – Charles Hart will sign video production agreement.** Motion by Bob Knight, second by John Walker to approve \$3000 out of the TSSRM endowment fund reserves for the Video Project. Motion carried unanimously.

**YRW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** The YAC is asking for \$2000 to help defray the expenses associated with the celebration (Saturday June 19, 2004 – First United Methodist Church Annex, Junction). BOD's recommendation is to charge a fee for the meal - \$10 for



adults, \$5 for kids. The \$2000 will be a line of credit that the YAC can draw on as needed.

Motion by Willy Conrad, second by Bob Knight to approve a gift of \$2000 for the celebration (funds from the GOF), to be reimbursed as needed, and provide a monthly update to the President. Motion carried unanimously. Charles has directed the YAC to do the celebration "right," and if you need some help, let the BOD know.

**SRM HSYF** – if the section cannot pay for the returning delegate(s) to the HSYF, SRM will reimburse the section for the HSYF President. The Texas Section paid for Robin Morris's associated expenses to attend as HSYF President (those not covered by SRM).

**OTHER:** 2005 HSYF-Allison placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, Crystal placed 8<sup>th</sup>, and Bryan placed 12<sup>th</sup>. This is the highest net placing for the entire section. RANGELANDS will print *all* HSYF papers from this year. YRW brochure – Hoyt mailed them out to all BOD members, developed by Bruce Healy, for distribution. The YAC is actively raising money for the 2005 YRW.

**YAC Treasury Report: 12/21/03 Balance \$418.42.** Hoyt also handed the itemized treasury report to the BOD to viewing.

**Planning (Jenny Pluhar, Chair)** – Emails provided. Planning Committee has recommended that the 2006 TSSRM Annual Meeting be held in Del Rio. It is felt by the current BOD that there is adequate member/organization to host this meeting in Del Rio. Motion by John Walker, second by Hoyt Seidensticker to accept planning committee recommendation for Del Rio to host the 2006 TSSRM Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from Bob Whitson - no action taken. (Kerrville CVB was not affected by the BOD's action of 01/03, thus his request does not apply until South Padre participates in the Kerrville meeting.)

**Resolutions Committee** – Discussion on correct terminology and process was held due to the confusion of committee guidelines. Committee guidelines were reviewed by John Walker and will provide the correct version for the Handbook.

**Public Affairs Committee** – John Walker will provide the correct language for the Handbook.

**TSSRM Website** – Motion by Charles Anderson, second by Willie Conrad for John Walker to pay for reregistration of the section's website and submit bill for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

**SRM Board of Directors Summer Meeting** – discussion on inviting the SRM Board of Directors to hold their summer meeting at Junction prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Charles Hart will mail a letter to the SRM Office extending the invitation.

Meeting recessed for the night (2/5/04) at 9:40 am.

Meeting reconvened on 2/6/04 at 8:15 am.

**ORM Award** – (discussion on email from Ellen Humphries, TSCRA - proposal for joint award) Stephen Zuberbueler, ORM Committee Chair present for the discussion. The TSSRM winner would go up to the SRM ERM contest *and* to the NCBA Environmental Stewardship



Award. Logistics would need to be worked out for a joint award to be considered for any partnership(s) on our award – we do not want to change our award. Do we need to partner with other group(s)? What does a partnership(s) do to the perception of the TSSRM? (*Remember that the ORM award is for range land management, not range land use management.*) Do we want (need) a different award category(s)? What is the cost/benefit ratio? Benefits are more nominations, more exposure, more prestigious award. Cost is potential loss of exclusivity of our award, is it the type of exposure we want? **Motion by Charles Anderson to pursue an agreement with TSCRA, and to approach TSGRA, Tx Wildlife Assn, and other groups to be partners in this type of an award. Second by Bob Knight.** Discussion – investigate to see what TSCRA is really looking for before we go to other groups. Write down a list of concerns over a TSCRA partnership and meet with them in March – it is such an outstanding concept that this should be a model for other partnerships. We want to meet with you in person to discuss this partnership in greater detail. **Motion carried unanimously.** Stephen Zuberbueler, Bill Pinchak and Charles Anderson have agreed to attend the TSCRA meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> as TSSRM representatives (Stephen will submit report of meeting to Charles Hart). *If the meeting is successful*, Charles Hart will develop ad-hoc task force committee(s) to work with each of the group(s), which may operate as a “subcommittee” of our ORM committee to develop an awards process by building affiliations to highlight sound rangeland management. (Also, a final proposal will be developed for both boards to review for the summer meeting.)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointments:** **Motion by Bob Knight to approve all appointments. Second by Bill Pinchak. Motion Carried unanimously.** Bruce Healy, Secretary & Administrative Handbook; Harold Bryant, Treasurer; Jan Wiedemann, Archivist; Nick Garza, Newsletter Editor; and Robert Moen, Audit Coordinator.

**Section Dues** – Request by SRM Office to standardize section dues. **Motion by John Walker to adopt the SRM Advisory Council recommendation to standardize dues. Second by Hoyt. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Electronic Newsletter** – John Walker will contact the SRM Office to obtain the email list for the Texas Section and distribute the next newsletter via email. John will also contact NACD (or current newsletter publisher) and Nick Garza to coordinate.

**Rangeland Career Flier** – table until we get an actual request from the SRM Office. TSSRM will pursue this.

**SRM Awards Committee information update:** If there is a tie among nominees, the first tiebreak is section recognition. Outstanding Young Range Professional – maximum age raised from 35 to 40. Outstanding Achievement – increased from 0.2% to 0.3% of membership, and divided into two categories: Academia/Research and Land Stewardship (e.g. - ranchers, agency professionals).



SRM Advisory Council report by Charles Hart & Charles Anderson.

**Budget** – Motion by Bob Knight to approve the budget as amended during the meeting. Second by Willy Conrad. Motion passed 7-1.

**TSSRM Webpage** – who is the section point of contact? Secretary is the point of contact. Add to the duties of the Secretary in the Handbook.

**TSSRM Board/Committee Oversight** – each Board member will oversee a group of committees – as assigned by the President. Charles Hart will assign committees

**USDA Conservation Security Program** - the public comment period is now open. Does TSSRM want to comment? Jim Ansley will be appointed chair of Public Affairs – and this committee will address the TSSRM input. John Walker will submit the information to the rest of the board, and the Board will submit an individual comment.

**TSSRM 2004 Annual Meeting:** Have a professional interaction session/job fair during the annual meeting and also a meeting between NRCS HRM and the Colleges – good idea? Recognize the students the same day. Colleges will be notified before the end of spring semester.

**Next Meeting:** Friday/Saturday June 18 & 19 in Junction (1:30pm to noon). SRM 2005 will also be meeting on June 18 & 19 (noon to noon). We will also invite the SRM Board for their summer meeting. We can then also attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Charles Anderson will check on local arrangements and notify the board of location.

**Harold Bryant report:** Dan Caudle says the previous \$3500 approved should have been for the Michael Martin Murphey reservation, not Bass Hall. This was paid by the SRM Office and will come out of the seed money to be provided to the 2005 Annual Meeting Committee. Motion by John Walker to authorize TSSRM Treasurer to loan SRM Office the \$3500 for the Michael Martin Murphey reservation, with a contract that we will be reimbursed the \$3500 on or before the 2005 Annual Meeting, second by Willy Conrad. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from Dan Caudle to approve a motion for an additional \$3500 as a contingency for Bass Hall if SRM cannot pay for this. *Motion to pay Bass Hall reservation previously approved with a contract that we will be reimbursed \$3500 on or before the 2005 Annual Meeting, notify Harold Bryant to pay as needed.*

Motion by Bob Knight that the delegates of TSSRM recommend to the SRM Advisory Council that SRM increase seed money for annual meetings to \$10,000. Second by Charles Anderson. Motion Carried unanimously.

**Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.**



**Motion by Bill Pinchak, second by Bob Knight to adjourn the meeting. Meeting  
Adjourned at 10:43 am.**

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Bruce S. Healy, Secretary

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Charles R. Hart, President

### **TSSRM Position Statement High Fences and White-tailed Deer February 5, 2004**

In Texas, white-tailed deer are a public resource thriving in habitats found primarily on private lands. Sound habitat management on private lands is essential for ensuring sustainability of the rangeland resources and for producing quality deer and deer hunting, which provide an economic benefit to landowners, rural communities and the State economy.

The use of high fences to confine white-tailed deer and other ungulates has specific and legitimate uses in wildlife management and research. However, high fences without proper management of the land and wildlife resources also create the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts. Public support and confidence in wildlife management activities on private lands may be undermined when confined deer are maintained at artificially high population levels that adversely affect habitat for deer and other wildlife species, either from intensive feeding programs or under-harvested deer herds.

The Texas Section - Society for Range Management promotes sound stewardship of rangelands regardless of fencing design. With regards to herbivory, grazing intensity is the primary factor affecting the health of rangeland, not the fence design. The Texas Section - Society for Range Management supports private landowners in developing, maintaining and protecting habitats on their lands, including the ethical use of high fences. The Texas Section - Society for Range Management encourages anyone using high fences to thoroughly understand the potential impacts, and management responsibilities behind the fence. Landowners considering constructing new high fences should first commit to sound stewardship of the rangeland resource. Deer populations should be managed to minimize risks to the habitat and other animal species. White-tailed deer and other ungulates confined within fences should be maintained at numbers that do not exceed the natural carrying capacity of the habitat, and that prevent habitat degradation. The Texas Section - Society for Range Management also supports public ownership of native wildlife resources in Texas.

***Approved BOD 02/05/04***



## **Record of Motions**

Motion by Bob Knight, second by Ray Schimcek to waive the payment for journals purchased by the Youth Activities Committee at the 2003 Endowment Fund Auction. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bob Knight to send a beta copy to USDA to have it closed captioned, second by Bill Pinchak. Vote 6-2, motion carried.

Motion by Charles Anderson, Second by Hoyt Seidensticker to approve \$500 seed money for the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bill Pinchak, Second by Ray Schimcek to have the Section pay for Supper and Breakfast. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bill Pinchak, second by Bob Knight for TSSRM to adopt this (High Fence-White Tailed Deer) position statement. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bob Knight, second by John Walker to approve \$3000 out of the TSSRM endowment fund reserves for the (TSSRM Youth Activities 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary YRW) Video Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Willy Conrad, second by Bob Knight to approve a gift of \$2000 for the (TSSRM YRW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) celebration (funds from the GOF), to be reimbursed as needed, and provide a monthly update to the President. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by John Walker, second by Hoyt Seidensticker to accept planning committee recommendation for Del Rio to host the 2006 TSSRM Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Charles Anderson, second by Willie Conrad for John Walker to pay for reregistration of the section's website and submit bill for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Charles Anderson to pursue an agreement with TSCRA, and to approach TSGRA, Tx Wildlife Assn, and other groups to be partners in this type of an award. Second by Bob Knight. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bob Knight to approve all appointments. Second by Bill Pinchak. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by John Walker to adopt the SRM Advisory Council recommendation to standardize dues. Second by Hoyt. Motion carried unanimously.



Motion by Bob Knight to approve the budget as amended during the meeting. Second by Willy Conrad. Motion passed 7-1.

Motion by John Walker to authorize TSSRM Treasurer to loan SRM Office the \$3500 for Michael Martin Murphey reservation, with a contract that we will be reimbursed the **\$3500 on or before** the 2005 Annual Meeting, second by Willy Conrad. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay Bass Hall reservation previously approved with a contract that we will be reimbursed \$3500 **on or before** the 2005 Annual Meeting, notify Harold Bryant to pay as needed.

Motion by Bob Knight that the delegates of TSSRM recommend to the SRM Advisory Council that SRM **increase seed money for annual meetings to \$10,000**. Second by Charles Anderson. Motion Carried unanimously.

Motion by Bill Pinchak, second by Bob Knight to adjourn the meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 10:43 pm.

## **Record of Commitments**

**Bob Knight** volunteered to work with Nick Garza to submit the G. Rollie White Foundation Grant Request.

**Charles Anderson** and **Bob Knight** will take the lead for coordination with 2005 Planning Committee.

**Bruce Healy** to send Charles Hart the latest version of the Handbook and he will distribute to the BOD – update Resolutions Committee, I&E and College Activities. John Walker will receive the latest version also for posting on the internet. Handbook Coordinator to bring hardcopy to all BOD meetings for reference, but all future distributions to the BOD will be via CD. *Add the new position statement to the Handbook.*

**Secretary** will forward copy of adopted High Fence Position Statement to Newsletter Editor and Webmaster for appropriate publication.

**Charles Hart** will mail a letter to the SRM Office to extend an invitation to the SRM Board of Directors to hold their Summer Meeting in Junction prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of YRW.

**Stephen Zuberbueler, Bill Pinchak** and **Charles Anderson** have agreed to attend the TSCRA meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> as TSSRM representatives (Stephen will submit report of meeting to Charles Hart). *If the meeting is successful, Charles Hart* will develop ad-hoc task force



committee(s) to work with each of the group(s), which may operate as a “subcommittee” of our ORM committee to develop an awards process by building affiliations to highlight sound rangeland management. (Also, a final proposal will be developed for both boards to review for the summer meeting.)