

December 7, 2019
MBA Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 10:08am

Treasurers Report:

See notes and Claudia's financial report sent to Financial Committee

Claudia stated that our Quick Books is out dated and needs to be updated but the cost is \$299.00. This was OKed by the board. We might need to update our MBA computer in the near future.

Marlon – Need more than just the President and Treasurer to have the ability to sign checks. Board discussed adding the 1st Vice president as a third signer, requiring still just two individuals to sign checks.

The Board decided to look into the by-laws and go through the process. Meanwhile we will stay with the status quo while we research the by-laws.

Also we discussed the Credit card versus Debit card for members needing them for an event. It was moved to go before the April Board Meeting.

Old business:

Discussion on the Breaks Permits:

Marlon – spoke to the FWP about the 900-20 bundles. They mentioned that this was not the year to bring it up to the Commission.

Stephen – held meeting and those that were in attendance was to leave it be.

Marlon – Senator Kary from Billings was trying to get the issue opened up. Quentin Kujala told Marlon that the FWP is trying to break the 900-20 areas into three separate areas to draw for to minimize the overcrowding.

Ken discussed text from Sen. Kary's letter to the editor and the interviewer. It was pushed by small local businesses so they asked Sen. Kary to carry the proposal. These business claim that small eastern MT. towns have lost business when nonresident hunters were limited. Most of them (nonresident hunters) moved to other places to hunt. Tentative proposals for 900-20 will be posted next week.

Mark – The MBA survey showed that membership wanted 34% to do nothing, 23% hunt where you draw, 33.7% participate in cow hunts, 18% increases permits

Stephen Region 4 likes the hunt where you draw.

Region 3 not so much

Shoulder Seasons:

Marlon – Commission put out motion to drop shoulder hunts in several HD where they showed no or very limited success. (see commission agenda item)

Mark – HD 426 showed crop field damage hunts for permit holders only showed success.

FWP Commission in early October said HD 214 split was due to half the HD under objective and the other half over objective. Road split the HD where it could be managed better. They also that stated shoulder seasons will be discontinued for any HD under objective. If still over objective but shoulder seasons are proving to be ineffective some other measure will be looked at.

Discussion on Shoulder hunts VS Game damage hunts.

FWP is looking into the Elk objectives with a new person looking into the numbers all across the state.

Stephen encouraged all area reps. to be present at the commission meetings, they can also be present at their local FWP offices. Try to attend all regional meetings as well.

Ray asked – As board members do we say we are representing the MBA or as individuals. What is the policy? For area Reps. and DAL's?

It was stated that as a board we need to be on the same page as what the board agrees to or to how the board voted on an issue. We make our decisions at area meeting, surveys and board decisions with our members concerns in mind.

Marlon – The bowhunters of region 2. really don't have much to say about the shoulder seasons here as they have cut back the season dates and went to a more controlled system with permits. We are still trying to get the shoulder seasons out the archery season altogether and have made great progress in that area.

The E- Bike:

Was finally wrapped up we made a few bucks. (see Claudia's report)

Teen bowhunter Camp:

Discussion on Teen Bowhunter Camp

The camp will be moved to Libby this year. It will take place the week after Fathers Day on the Stimson Lumber Co. land, Fawn Creek Campground. We are looking to move the camp (every year) alternating with the Bitterroot every other year. Looking into Bozeman, Billings, Lewistown or Glendive for 2022.

Mark will donate an adjustable bow for a youth for camp

TBM video collaboration with MBA:

Mark, Kevin and Barrett were on the committee to work with the TBM

Asked Tim Roberts TBM president, where the project was headed and progress it had made.

MBA tabled the project until TBM picks up the ball and gives us something to work with.

New Business :

Marlon talked about vetting the write-ins on the election ballot better. We should hold people to be more accountable for attending the board meetings and having area meetings.

By-laws state that we have to accept write-ins but need to vet through bios.

Region 7 has Rick Miller on board to be a rep for reg.7. Discussion was to put him on the ballot for the next election.

Trail-Cams:

There was discussion on the use of trail-cams. Maybe we could push for cams to have identification on them. The only law is that there can be no live feed to another source. User must retrieve the SD card from the camera. As the MBA we don't have a stance on the trail-cams.

Teller Youth Expo:

Marlon is asking for donation for the Teller Youth Expo of \$1000.00 again for 2020. We will ask for a vote at April meeting.

Winter Youth Expo

The Fort Owen Ranch is a new venue to hold events. The MBA – Marlon was in attendance to the meeting for a Winter Youth Expo in conjunction with the local 4H Club. February 15th 2020.

Fort Owen donated the big barn for everything to be held all indoors. They will bring in heaters at their expense. Brian suggests we put together a thank letter from the MBA to the owners.

Finance:

Research First Interstate markets management accounts. Responsibility given to Claudia to look into and report to the finance committee.

Looking into the Sitka Gear Pro Account is about to expire Does anyone know anything about the account?

Wild Apricot:

Want to get a meeting on just how to run the Wild Apricot. Most all of our new folks don't know how to gain access to it.

Area Rep. Reports:

Region 1

No report

Region 2

Most items discussed in old business. Talked about 80% let off bows raising to 85% where does the MBA stand on the issue. Reported to the FWP that we were standing on the 80% as per our survey on the issue. The FWP legal dept. is looking into the issue. Will probably come up at a later date.

Ken asked how do we adjust as the industry changes. We will have to revisit the changes through our surveys. Area meeting and general meetings.

Region 3

No issues of great concern. Talked about the 900-20 permits They had concerns about the lose land in the Gallatin Valley turning into sub divisions, growth in general. There is a need to start planning for 2 HD's for possible limitations. Maybe the County Commissioners meetings will be a good place to start. Contacting the FWP biologists might have some ideas.

Region 4

Mark and Stephen had record number of folks show up at their meeting 11. The motivated folks discussed the shoulder seasons. No one likes them or the proposals for 900-20 permits. Suggested that you hunt where you draw. Would like to see the western side of the state go to the permit system also. They are worried that folks are not using their permits where they draw them. As far as the trail-cams uses they would like to be sure that they are being used legally. On the question of allowing the Mentors to hunt with the youth during the two day youth hunt all were against it. The issue was pulled off the agenda before the commission meeting. Discussed the two day youth hunt over lapping into the archery season, wanting to know why, was because of the teachers meeting and the kids are out of school for those two days. Policies concerns expressed about the new recruits coming into the FWP biologist, and the concerns of their having only book smarts

Region 6

No rep present. The need to get an involved person in that area.

Region 7

Bob Morgan didn't have a meeting but stressed the concerns of no deer on the forest, and concerns about most all the game is on private lands with no access to them. And their continued concerns on CDW.

Region 5

Rich said their meeting had 4 folks show up. They discussed the breaks permits. And Sen. Kary's proposal letter in the Billings paper. All have concerns on the CDW. The FWP changed the regulations to put mule deer on the general tag south of Billings.

Convention:

Convention Committee Jenn, Ken, Shaun and Rich getting things organized. Working off of information from Teri, Cliff and Mandy. Working off the list for donations from last year's convention. Jenn stressed getting cash donations to enable the purchasing items that they want for the convention. Working with a vendors list and splitting up the donation list among the committee.

Board discussion on weather to have the dinner a buffet style or served to the tables the benefits of both. Sent to the committee to discuss cost of each.

Auctioneer Zane needs to be confirmed that he will be it. Wants a room and meals paid for.

Rick Lewallen is setting up the silent auction and wanted to know what items to use for that. Do they purchase items or pick through the donations. Is there a budget for the items? Cliff suggested that they have more people checking in items when they arrive at the convention site. The discussion on that matter was NO.

Brian suggested that the committee make phone call to the donors. Cliff stated that most donations are product and a few personal cash donations.

Brian brought up to give a complementary membership with a large donation of \$300.00 or more. Board agreed to this proposal.

Fairmont has our block of rooms set up and ready to book.

The raffle ticket to sell on line needs to go through the State Gaming Association , and needs to be done for every raffle. There needs to be one to cover the entire event. Ken will work with Claudia to get that done.

Once we have the State Gaming permit then we need to get items to Liberty to get them on line We need meal pricing ASAP The discussion was taken up to purchase extra so if we have late comers there will be plenty of food for them. Auction off the extra prim rib during the live auction.

Make sure we have plenty of space for the Region Games to be set up for happy hour.

Get with Amy at Fairmont to get maximum number of seats for dinner. Buffet VS seat down.

Make sure that we keep track of the Raffle Tickets in each bucket for counting.

Each region is responsible for their own game. Reg. 2 will have the Genius bow shot off for the teen camp. May set up the tracks and scat. Reg. 1 sets up corn hole toss. Check with Jeff Hill to see about the Duck squat game.

Seminars about CWD the Grizzly and FWP on new licensing.

We need more spotters for the live auction or bring in Zane's spotters. But that might cost us more money. Beckie will ask Gene Wensel if he wants a table in manufacture's row.

It was brought up that no hard liquor can be opened during the dinner.

A discussion on the kegs of beer for the bottomless beer glasses and wine.

Stephen made a motion to adjourn

Jerry 2nd

Motion carried

Meeting Adjourned at 3:59pm

Minutes taken by Beckie Doyle 12/7/2019
Reprinted by Marlon Clapham 3/20/2020
Revised by Jerry Davis 3/ 23/2020