

**MWCA Board of Directors  
Spring Retreat  
March 23 & 24, 2011  
Fairmont Hot Springs**

**Minutes *(pending approval)***

***March 23***

4 – 6 p.m. - Board orientation for new board members

A majority of the board showed up to participate in the orientation which reviewed MWCA policies, standards, programs, financials, committees and other such workings in the Association.

6:30 p.m.- Board networking dinner

***March 24***

8:30 a.m. – Call to order- Kellieann asked for board and guest introductions

Board members present: Amy Adler, Dave Brink, Amber Burch, Jeanne Caddy, Jim Gordon, Larry Hoffman, Aaron Kneeland, Melissa Maggio, Kellieann Morris, Gary Olsen, Lisa Surber, Judie Tilman, Jim Visser, Paul Wick, Dan Dobler, Dave Schulz and Joe Weigand.

Members excused: Kenny Keever, Jane Mangold, Danny McIntosh, Dick Zoanni, Dave Burch, Carla Hoopes, Jim Jacobs, Mike Miller, Steve Shelly and John Simons.

Guests present: John Moodry, Mike Mooney and Margie Edsall

***Board evaluations reviewed***

Gary asked for board evaluations to be turned in today and Kellieann and Gary will review the evaluations and they will be ***reviewed and reported on by June. Diana asked for all board members to be sure to put down their volunteer hours.***

***Winter board minutes approved***

Kellieann accepted the minutes as the record states.

***Winners of minutes challenge – Becky***

John Simons won the minutes challenge for the winter minutes but since Mike Mooney was filling in, he received the prize.

***Questions on board packets including financials***

There were questions and clarifications on lobbying/advocacy budgets, John Moodry suggested we have a line item for lobbying, which is different than advocacy.

**Old Business**

Quick review of board orientation binders (updated policies included)

Becky asked the board of their decision to keep the binders or to leave them with staff and Brink felt that the board members should be responsible for the keep of their own binders. There were no questions, ***but Becky stated there would be a significant reward for the most decorated page for the front cover of their binder at the fall board meeting.***

***Healthy Habitats D.C. Team update***

Dave Schulz reported on the activities of the week of HHC which included many, many meetings with the HHC group, congressional delegates and with agency representatives back in D.C. Dave

reviewed the five asks associated with HHC and what we were trying to promote while in D.C. Becky reported that there were some issues cropping up with the committee and she asked the board about the possibility of MWCA “housing” HHC if problems persisted with the origin of this committee. It was felt this should be a last resort option and no motion was made at this time. If MWCA is willing to adopt this committee, it was recognized that it would not sit well with North American Weed Management Association. Several board members and Becky commented that NAWMA’s direction and focus was not sitting well with many in Montana. After what happened this fall, with no Montana or Wyoming delegates being elected to the board, it is questionable whether this organization truly represents all weed interests.

### **Bylaw revisions proposed**

Paul had asked the board to review the bylaw revisions prior to the meeting. Section 2.2 “Voting Members” – there were many suggestions about what constituted a voting member. Amy voiced concerns over voting in area councils. Paul suggested that the areas set their own voting procedures and John stated it could be put into policy and changed. **Kellieann asked for roll call vote to see if all members should be offered the ability to vote on the ballot and issues. 9 yeas and 4 opposed so motion passes that all members be able to vote. A working group to clarify how this will be done, Diana, Amber, Dave Brink, John Moodry, and Kellieann will serve on that working group.** Section 4.8 “Board Composition”, recommended changes were discussed – “may” establish was proposed to change to “shall” establish. Lisa questioned why ag, conservation and industry reps were reduced to one position, and Paul explained it has been too hard to find individuals to run for positions and even then it makes it more difficult to individuals to exactly fit those areas of interest. Section 5.2 Officers, There was discussion of the wording & description regarding president and vice president and it was decided to revert back to original wording. Article VI Committees, it was decided the annual conference would remain a work group as it was classified correctly to deal solely with one purpose, to produce the annual conference. Section 7.2 Checks, Drafts, Etc, There was discussion on who signs checks and fiscal oversight. Amy asked to change the wording to say “such instruments shall be *approved* by the treasurer or approved by the president or VP of the MWCA.” **The finance committee will be asked to be more engaged in an oversight process through webinars on a quarterly basis.**

### **MT legislative update**

Becky reported on all current legislation happening in Montana and in the nation: she reported on HB133, HB166, HB343, HB2, HB621 and MPDES.

### **Specialty license plate update**

Becky reported that Tim Braun with Fossil Creative is agreeable to being paid for back license plate royalty fees through the formula based on annual income, and he agreed to an annual payment each year for license plate royalties. The board already approved of paying him for those back fees. Becky has talked to Debby Barrett and she now sits on the Legislative Audit Committee. Becky is continuing to pursue a legislative audit of the specialty license plates, and has asked that the requirements for plate counts be met by the Dept of Justice as stated in statute.

### **Resolution update & review**

John Moodry went through the current resolutions and he recommended that those resolutions that have specific bill numbers should generally be discouraged. **The board discussed future trainings and it was suggested that our 2012 board orientation focus on resolutions.** John Moodry reviewed the flow chart and asked the board to review that flow chart and submit comment and question to Becky and/or John. John clarified that the resolution work group only makes recommendations, they do not vote and in the interim, the executive committee handles the resolution process, but the entire board needs to ratify every resolution. A date of ten days prior to the fall board

of directors meeting to submit proposed resolutions will be considered. ***The resolution committee will fine tune details of this process prior to the fall meeting.***

### **Central Area Representative**

The position is now vacant. Gary discussed all potential candidates for this position. It was asked of ***Kellieann to approach both Nico Cantaloupo and Janna Kincheloe about the possibility of serving on our board as central area rep.***

### **New Business**

#### **2012 Calendar update**

Becky reported that we were losing money on the calendar and after our first Trust Fund Grant, we promised not to be back as we would be self sustaining. ***Dave Brink motioned to increase the cost of the calendar to \$2 each and Gary Olsen seconded. Jim Gordon called for question, Paul opposed and the motion passes.***

2011 & 2012 MWCA Strategic plan and yearly objectives, board, staff and president  
Review of accomplishment of 2010/2011 objectives, Paul and the board had reviewed their accomplishments in January, so they moved to new objectives.

#### ***New president objectives***

- 1.) Elevate board members' involvement in fundraising for MWCA.
- 2.) Obtain more involvement in the governance committee, ask for more responsibility from that committee, including E.D. evaluations, new member nomination packets, and board evaluations.
- 3.) Strengthen and clarify the resolution process for the organization.

#### ***Staff objectives***

- 1.) Double the number of emergency procedures/processes documented in the MWCA Business Continuity Procedure Manual
- 2.) Update all accounting systems to be in line with the new IRS 990 requirements.
- 3.) Develop MWCA commercial campaign for ads
- 4.) Develop and implement a monthly giving campaign
- 5.) Update all weed ID and management pages on the website

#### ***Board objectives***

- 1.) Devise a welcome package for new coordinators, commissioners, and new MWCA members so they understand what the MWCA is about right from the get-go.
- 2.) Continue to work to increase landowner involvement and membership in MWCA
- 3.) Clarify resolutions and process prior to 2012 legislature
- 4.) Promote weed issues to those involved in natural resources (RMEF, TU, realtors, conservation districts, NRCS, etc.)

## **Committee objectives**

Committees will be asked to get their goals/objectives into the E.D. by April 15.

### **2011 & 2012 MWCA Budget**

The calendar price was changed to \$2 each and the board discussed the raffle. There were suggestions for seven area raffles, to stick with past raffles of a gun and two other shopping sprees and to not even do a raffle. Paul suggested we leave the decision of what to raffle to the coordinator support committee and set a budgeted amount. **Paul made a motion to set a budget for the raffle and let the coordinator support committee determine the raffle items. Amber Burch seconded. Kelliann called for question. Aaron felt the budget should only show actual expense and actual income. All in favor, Gary Olsen opposes. Motion carries. Dave Brink moves the total set expense of the raffle be \$5,000 and Jim Gordon seconded. Discussion was asked for and question was called. Motion passes.** Because of fuel prices, the line item for gas and travel for staff was increased to \$3,000. Technology needs -Diana reviewed the technology needs and budgets in the proposed budget. Paul commented that we haven't come close to using committee expenses for webinars, so we are okay at this point. The only area in technology that will need to be addressed soon is where to house our database. Committee needs -There was a lot of discussion on the annual conference expenses and guest speaker fees. Speaker fees were increased to \$5,000. **Jim Gordon moved to accept the 2011 – 2012 proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Paul seconded the motion. Discussion called for and Paul felt we've been extremely conservative and we still have a safety net. All in favor and Jeanne, Judy and Gary were opposed. The motion carries.**

### **2012 annual conference**

There has been not any action yet regarding the planning for the annual conference, but Becky will talk with Gary and get together to plan for those meetings in the near future.

**At 3:50, Amber Burch called for the meeting to adjourn and Jim Gordon seconded and all were in favor.**