

SOUTH DAKOTA SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND BOARD
ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2021

Board Members Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Adam Bender, Tim Kessler, DeLon Mork, Tami Nelson and Jim Scull. Ex Officio Russell Olson, GFP Commission Chair and Ex Officio Kevin Robling, GFP Department Secretary.

GFP Staff Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Tom Kirschenmann, GFP Wildlife Director, Rachel Comes, Executive Secretary.

Others Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Sal Roseland, Development Director, Ed Hruska and Jenna Schweiss, Bachand & Hruska P.C. Law Firm and Chase Rose, Bannack Group.

CALL TO ORDER AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Scull called the meeting of the South Dakota Second Century Habitat Fund board to order at 10:05 am CT and a quorum was present. No changes to the agenda and no declarations or conflict of interest were heard.

APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 2021 AND NOVEMBER 3, 2021 MEETINGS

Kessler moved to approve minutes for October 13, 2021 and November 3, 2021 as presented; seconded by Robling and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

BANNACK OVERVIEW OF SERVICES (CHASE ROSE)

Stated has been with the board for just a few weeks and starting with two key elements one is the case statement which is a product overview which will put all three of the board's priorities Working Lands, River Crep and Woody Habitat in one document and the second element is the feasibility statement. So far have put 76 names on the list and will reach out to the board for help in growing that list. Will work hand in hand with this group. Need to know boundaries for clients. Roseland believes this will be a good partnership.

Chase said if board members are willing to help expand the list that is a key priority right now. Great having multiple people working on fundraising. The story of SD is what sells. If someone is on the list that a board member knows if they would let Bannack know that they have a personal relationship with that person or company. Stated would not reach out without having the board involved. Chase said when we get into the campaign the board will be part of this. In terms with the list that is a key priority having the board included. Chase asked if could get phone numbers and emails to him for board members.

FINANCIAL REPORT (PETERSEN)

Petersen went through the dashboard financial report dated as of September 30, 2021 that was included in the packet.

Was asked where income from the Buffalo Hunt, Can-Am and Governor's hunt is. Petersen stated it will most likely be in the 4th quarter as this report only went through September 30th. Getting checks in every day.

Robling stated need to prepare for Working Lands Program payments to producers of \$325,000 yearly. Petersen said he needs to look more into this. The accountant has this setup for reoccurring payments so that no payments are missed.

Was asked on the John Deppe's RC&D memorial fund and Petersen stated he wasn't familiar with the account but would investigate that and check with the accountant on this and report back to the board.

Robling moved to approve the financial report dated as of September 30, 2021 as presented and to look into the John Deppe's RC&D memorial fund to get more information on that account; seconded by Olson and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Sales Tax: Working with Casey Peterson Accountant in Rapid City and have visited about how active the board has been with generating dollars. They were confident in directing us to go ahead with specifically the income generated from the sales of the Boss Shot shells so we bought the shells and sold them and made some profit and there recommendation was to go through the board and remit a fall sales tax payment on those. They recommended we remit the 4.5% sales tax on the shells. Real sales through the end of October was at \$19,104 earned income and would remit on that. Casey Peterson would remit the payment. Have applied for a sales tax license so would give the board the opportunity in the future to sell more shells or other things.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marketing/Fundraising Committee (Bender)

Bender reported that they are making sure all the things are getting done from the Governor's hunt. At next Committee meeting will lay out plans for 2022 with some actionable items and key time lines and will report at the next meeting.

Scull asked Bender if could put a protected income budget together from the committee. Bender will work on it and bring that information to the next meeting.

Robling stated has visited with the Governor briefly regarding the next big event and there is a potential opportunity for a Gala in February or March. Keep that in mind and keep it focused on Second Century Habitat and could possibly do some items for that. Maybe it could be even later in the year.

Bender asked if we do this does Gala does this lessen our involvement in the Buffalo Round Up or in the Governors Pheasant for next year. Robling stated he will check on it.

Habitat Programs Committee (Faulstich)

Kirschenmann updated on the working lands program saying GFP is handling any contracts or questions on the program as they come in. He and his staff will work through that or if interested in enrolling he will handle that in short term. Hired on the eight positions and getting them ready to work with landowners.

Stated after next subcommittee habitat meeting may want to formalize some of the potential dollar commitments on some of the priorities identified that being crep, woody habitat and the working lands program as to what dollar amount to allocate to each program.

Have submitted the Big Sioux River Crep application proposal to the national office of USDA. Last week heard back and given the green light to negotiate communications with them to pull together the actual formal agreement between USDA and the State of SD. Will start conducting weekly or biweekly meetings for calls with USDA to formalize that. With this coming on it will be one of the major discussions that will want to have with this board in terms of dollar commitments toward that program moving forward. Right now anticipate to enroll 25,000 acres minimum at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million on an annual basis for the next 10-15 years as non-federal match. For the Woody Habitat program with additional biologist on the ground we believe the enrollments will go up as there is a high interest in this program. Same with the Working Lands Program. Need to figure out how much to allocate to each program from the subcommittee and bring it to the next board meeting.

Scull asked if we need other programs besides the three listed. Stated Bannock had a list of five. Offer public hunting opportunity on those lands that are enrolled in CRP. Suspect that crep is going to be probably the most attractive. Scull stated another one for the list could be on Every Acre Counts. Robling stated 46,000 acres enrolled currently in Every Acre Counts.

Robling stated the feasibility study should capture what resonates the most with the donors.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Working Lands Habitat Program (Tom Kirschenmann)

Stated the main thing to share with the board is that as contracts come in right now or if there are questions on it those will come to Kirschenmann and between him and his staff will work with our landowner cooperators to get persons enrolled or address any questions or issues they may have going on with the program. Don't have an updated spreadsheet at the moment the one Weyer had shared with the board is the most recent one that she had and don't think anything's been added since that last time. Approaching 7,000 acres.

GFP DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSION UPDATE

Department Secretary, Kevin Robling

Habitat and access at the front. Will continue talking about habitat access to every staff person we have in this department the whole goal is to meet the producer where they're at and not have them have to meet us and we are going to be actively pursuing producers knocking on doors going to have coffee with them at co-ops and gas stations this is a whole new approach and we are eager to hopefully be successful and have staff be successful in enrolling new lands into habitat and access.

Commission Chairman, Russ Olson

Thanked everybody for their hard work. From the Commission side staying focused on the issues that are in front of us now going into the legislative session. Want everyone to concentrate on programs we have out there.

OTHER ITEMS

Establish Executive Committee

Scull, Korzan, Mork, Kessler, Robling

Olson moved to approve establishment of executive committee being Scull, Korzan, Mork, Kessler and Robling as presented; seconded by Bender and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Legal Services

Scull stated have a letter of service from Bachand but don't have state contract yet.

Robling stated there is two ways to do it for legal services the letter of service or a state contract. Robling believes we are covered with the letter for legal services. Would need a motion to accept the letter as written with the hourly rate as \$195 an hour.

Kessler moved to approve the letter of Service from Bachand & Hruska P.C. Law Firm with an hourly rate of \$195 on an as needed basis as presented; seconded by Robling and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Development Director Contracts

Roseland stated that 80% of the legislators were at the Governors hunt and got to see what this board is doing. Talked to several legislators on the different habitat programs and has received a lot of calls and text with interest from legislators wanting to help.

Roseland left the meeting at 11:16am so could have discussion on Development Director Contract.

Scull stated modified the agreement with Sean Blanchette for the contract for Development Director Services which is included in the packet today.

Several comments and concerns on the bonus structure. When looking over the compensation package asking if it is 5% of the \$2 million or 5% of the \$80,000. Stated the Executive Committee should have a call with Roseland to clarify his position.

Comes will setup a zoom call with the Executive Committee and Roseland.

Executive Director Vacancy

Robling has given Scull an example job description. Have a lot of work to do to fill this vacancy. Board needs to think about all the factors that need to be included in the contract. We need to think about how we keep the records, computer, financial reporting etc. Scull believes we first need to get the job description done.

Robling said wants to make sure the board members know the direction that we are leaning toward based on previous conversations we have had on the Executive Director position. It would be the desire of GFP to have this position separated from the Department of GFP and be a contract position. It would not be a FTE provided by State Government. This could be an Administrative Assistant position as they would be doing more of the day to day things.

Bender stated have adoption of concept for position from October meeting in place. Scull stated will work on checking into a contract and will work with legal counsel on this.

NEXT MEETING – Executive Committee

DECEMBER 8, 2021 10AM – NOON CT/9AM – 11:00AM MT VIA ZOOM OR BROOKINGS

Scull suggested Zoom for the next meeting.

ADJOURN

Kessler made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Bender seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Scull adjourned the meeting at 11:41am CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Comes, Executive Secretary

Date

Approved by,

Jim Scull, President

Date