

SOUTH DAKOTA SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND BOARD
ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE MEETING
December 14th, 2022

Board Members Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Adam Bender, DeLon Mork, Jim Faulstich, Jim Scull, Tami Nelson, Kevin Robling
Board Advisors Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Paul Lepisito, Izaak Walton League, Bruce Toay DU

GFP Staff Present by Zoom/Teleconference:
SCHF Contracted Staff: Brian Bashore, Executive Director, Chase Rose, Bannack Group, Sal Roseland

CALL TO ORDER AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Adam Bender called the meeting of the South Dakota Second Century Habitat Fund board to order at 1:30 CT and a quorum was present.

APPROVE MINUTES OF October 26TH, 2022 MEETING

Motion made by Secretary Robling, moved to approve minutes as presented; seconded by DeLon Mork and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bashore, Reported on the quarterly statements prepared by Casey Peterson won't be done until after the 15th as that is when we have the previous months statements all in by and the next quarterly statement will be for the year end of FY 2022. Bashore reported financials from the current budget report with a couple key items of total income increase due to award of two grants. We had 10k donor from Sal's hunters and another 2k in charitable year end contributions and Fox Print paid 5k as part of their 5yr pledge of 25k. Truck and Boat raffle numbers are at 102k as of today. I am sending out year end appeal emails and letters for a last push for the end of FY 22. Investments show a loss due to market volatility but that is to be expected as will be the gains. Standing balance as of \$1,815,000 of unrestricted funds. Bashore explained how we will begin to start having much more restricted funds as we get more into grants and larger donors. Bashore updated on the renewal of Casey Peterson for FY23 and has signed the engagement letter and will be looking to switch to a Bill Pay system recommended by Casey Peterson which should save us approximately \$500 a year and make paying bills a much more efficient process.

Audit is in full swing the firm has everything they need and we should have some results early in 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marketing/Fundraising Committee (Bender)

Bender discussed GALA plans and that we have secured a date for June 3rd 2023 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Bashore explained the space was the same as that was used for the Governors Hunt. And we have a block of (15) rooms at the Sheraton Hotel as well. Adam in-treated that will be a lot of moving parts and welcomes all board support and feedback. This will be our big shot raise significant money. Jim Scull asked for an idea of what this GALA looks like. Adam explained we do not have a ticket price yet, we are researching a big name speaker and their will be several live and silent auction items such as prints, hunts and many other items. Much more planning is on going. Secretary Robling mentioned that Jim Scull even is very successful and we should tap into Jim experience. Jim Faulstich asked about entertainment, Bender said yes we are working on entertainment but have no final commitment yet. Sal reminded the board that June 3rd is the end date for the raffle and winner will be announced that night.

Habitat Programs Committee (Faulstich)

Jim Faulstich updated the board on a few concerns that have come up such as “Reasonable Use” which is stated in the Working Lands contract. State statue requires reasonable use when licensing dollars are used, allowing flexibility for land owners. Bashore asked Tom to refresh the biologist that are working with the landowners about the state statue that requires this. Jim F, brought up the signage that was purchased for the Working Lands properties and Tom K is going to work with the biologist to get these signs put up where the landowner is willing to. The committee is making a recommendation to add a 10yr contract to the Working Lands program so that we are in better position to apply for grants and give landowners more options. Jim F is making a motion of \$75 an acre for a 10yr enrollment into the Working Lands program as duplicated from the 5yr contract with increased price per acre. Secretary Robling second the motion, motion carried for 10yr Working Lands Contract.

Bashore gave an update on the two grants awarded by NFWF. These Grants are reimbursable funds through 2024 but still waiting for final review and further information from NFWF to get these rolled out. These are restricted funds and the CCP grant is for East River and the Conoco Phillips Grant is for West River. The Northern Great Plains grant has moved it deadline back to March (500k) which will be applying for. Bashore is working with Casey Peterson Accounting to get access to Quickbooks so he can manage the funds of these grants for reports vs purchasing additional software to do so.

Secretary Robling asked about adding this 10yr program adding value to donors. Sal reinstated that yes very much so as most all the donors are wanting a much longer program vs our current 5yr program to see longer sustainability.

Development Director (Sal Roseland & Chase of Bannack Group)

Chase, showed his year end report and touched on that fact that most of these opportunities are annual contributions. East Dakota Water Development District has verbally committed 125k towards the CREP. Best opportunities in the pipeline are Smithfield, and they are voting today on their invest for Big Sioux CREP. We are waiting to hear about a couple of local grants and should know this month. Turner Foundation Bad River CREP is still in discussion. I have a call with the Koch foundation next week which is very promising.

Sal stated Dakotah bank was giving a donation this month but didn't know a dollar amount. Sal also stated the Watertown Utilities group was going to donate us a 50k a year for 3yrs but possibly 5yrs. Summit Carbon has met with Sal as well and they are making a contribution but not sure how much until the approval of their pipeline. Glacial lakes energy is a work in progress. Lots of great things coming stated Sal. Sal also spoke about our meeting with Eco metrics and the capabilities and benefit of using their resource.

Executive Director (Bashore)

Bashore went over the Year end wrap up report he prepared (see attached report) and explained each page in detail. This is only an internal report not the annual report. Bashore stated he has received Non-profit status from US Postal Service. This has been an issue as we have changed the name a few times and it has not been updated with the IRS. Bashore has submitted all the proper paperwork to get his updated. State level is up to date. Bashore stated that we are at 885k with the award of the two grants for funds raised in 2022 with some more to come yet before year end.

Programs Update

Bashore mentioned we had one new Every Acre Counts contract in 2022. Other program updates have already been discussed in other reports. Secretary Robling mentioned getting Anthony Bly on the next meeting for an update on EAC. Secretary Robling thought we would be able to present a check to SDGFP for Big Sioux CREP at the January Commission meeting.

GFP DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSION UPDATE

No one present for an update.

OTHER ITEMS

4 (elected) vacancies to be filled. Adam explained that two potential board members have been submitted to the Governor but we have heard nothing back. Secretary Robling is working on this just as he has for the past 6months.

DeLon Mork and Tim Kessler board terms expire in January of 2023. A motion was made by Jim Scull and 2nd by Jim Faulstich to re-elect DeLon Mork to a 2nd (3) term. Motion approved unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

February 8th at 12:00cst at Cedar Shore Resort.
Board approved Bi-monthly meeting to continue into 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

ADJOURN

DeLon Mork made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Jim Faulstich seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.
Adam Bender adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Bashore, Executive Director Date
Approved by,

Adam Bender, President Date