

SOUTH DAKOTA SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND BOARD ZOOM/TELECONFERENCE MEETING April 20th, 2023

Board Members Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Adam Bender, DeLon Mork, Jim Faulstich, Tami Nelson, Secretary Robling
Board Advisors Present by Zoom/Teleconference: Paul Lepisto, Izaak Walton League

SCHF Contracted Staff: Brian Bashore, Executive Director, Chase Rose, Bannack Group, Sal Roseland

GFP Staff Present by Zoom/Teleconference: NA

CALL TO ORDER AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Adam Bender called the meeting of the South Dakota Second Century Habitat Fund board to order at 3:00pm CT and a quorum was present. Moved Chase to the begging as he has another meeting to get to.

APPROVE MINUTES OF February 8TH, 2023 MEETING

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

Development Director (Chase of Bannack Group)

Chase, Provided an update two more NFWF grants that we just submitted. Northern Prairies grant for 500k was submitted a month ago. And the American Beautiful grant was submitted today. We submitted a grant for South Dakota Community Foundation which was declined last year and submitted for 25k this year.

In terms of the Gala Event, Syngenta has provided 25k once again. First Interstate Bank, Bad River Ranch each purchased a table. SITKA donated a \$500 gift card. Smithfield is likely to have 1 or 2 tables. Brian and I had a call with Scheels and expected to hear something back soon. TC energy can not attend so won't sponsor but did invite us to submit a 24k grant. Chase listed several other companies that he has reached out to and said they were coming just needed to get a head count. Tami asked about Vance Thompson Vision and secretary Robling stated he would reach out to KUI. Secretary Robling asked about the American Beautiful grant and what the amount was and to be used for. Chase explained it was for 500k and to be used for Working Lands.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bashore, Reported \$1,188,364.98 is the current balance of today. Bashore pointed out the only object in red which was the Working lands program expenses have exceed 435,060 paid out and budgeted 300k. We are still waiting on NFWF Grants and could be a couple more months until we are able to invoice. These are matching fund grants which we have already met out match commitments. Secretary Robling asked about ticket sales for Gala. Bashore stated it's 69k invoiced. GFP license check of was deposited the other day for \$6,200. The Winter Storm Campaign funds are up \$8,212 to be matched 1-1 from SCHF.

Audit is complete and the only discrepancy was the overpayment from GFP from the Big Horn Sheep license which needed corrected. SCHF need to create and implement new and updated policy and procedures which was the only negative finding. Other wise the audit showed that everything is recorded and filed properly. DeLon Mork asked about how the auditor was to work with. They were good to work with a little behind schedule but way ahead of when others offered to done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Director (Sal Roseland)

Sal has been focused on Gala donors. He stated an uptick in tickets sales is coming soon he feels. He had a 50k commitment from Pheasant Forever but communication has stop for some reason. Sal is reaching out to see where we are at on this. Secretary Robling will reach out to PF CEO- Marilyn Vetter about this and introduce Sal. Sal spoke about the WHC conference is Baltimore coming up in late June.

Executive Director (Brian Bashore)

Bashore reviewed the annual report and mentioned it was posted on our website for anyone to view. Bender explained how important this report is and his contact at Beretta read it and reached out. Bashore spoke about creating a Leave a Legacy fund for donors that wish to leave endowments and to be included in final planning. We have received some memorial to start this fund. Bashore has a meeting with Catherine Barranco of the South Dakota Woman's Republican group that want to support SCHF as their non-profit they support in 2023. They want to host a party at the Shipwreck bar in Madison and raise funds for SCHF. They are also offering up some volunteers for the Gala. Tami Nelson chimed in before she had to board her flight. She stated she spoke to Ben at the Govs office and that he would have an answer in two weeks and Tami said the board would like to make the decision if it's to much for the Governor to deal with. Bashore updated the board with a couple new names for potential new board members.

Habitat Programs Committee (Jim Faulstich)

Jim Faulstich zoom audio wasn't working so Bashore started off for him. Bashore stated the Habitat Steward Award nomination are due May 1st. We only have one nomination at this point. Secretary Robling asked for the list of Working Lands names to be reached out to. The GFP NAWCA grant was approved and we committed to 25k that will be invoiced when ready. SCHF did approve the 100k for Cristin Weber PF job and the MOU has been signed. Working Lands is well over budget and Bashore has 12 contracts in hand that we haven't approved yet for over 334k at 721 acres we want to be able to approve yet. The new 10yr incentive is very popular as well as expiring CRP contracts. Bender stated this is a good problem to have but the reality is we need the money and for these grant funds to come sooner than later. Jim F, recommended reaching out to other NGO's about funds that could help under their program. Secretary Robling suggested to reach out to Matt Morlock about RCPP opportunities and he would pay for it out of his department budget if he has to, "by no means do I want to turn anyone away from singing up for the program" Bender reiterated that this is a good problem to have but the board needs to be fiscally responsible so just be patient. Jim F. Mentioned he would've never anticipated this type of demand with commodity prices being what they are so this is something we need to get before it's gone.

Marketing/Fundraising Committee (Adam Bender)

Bender discussed GALA and reminded everyone to keep pushing for silent auction items and ticket sales. Bender spoke about a call with Russ Olson and his goal to get a 100k from this Gala from the energy companies. Willie and Coffey video will be out with in the next week. Ticket sales are not where we want them at this point. DeLon reached out to his contact at Lawrence & Schiller for pro-bono. KELO land interviews, 5-6weeks worth. Sit downs with local newspaper. Pitch Dakota news now and KELO news and pitch Rotary club of Sioux Falls as well 3-4 weeks of billboards free of charge and use local connections to 10 business to buy 5k worth of tickets to share with employees. Tami has a couple baskets coming in from some lodges for the silent auction and she is meeting with the decor company next week about floral stuff and Sec. Robling will provide some antlers.

Programs Update

Bashore will put together a financial forecast on where we are at and what is committed to in contracts to so we can sign as many contracts as possible. Bashore asked Secretary Robling to provide SCHF what the 300k looks like on the ground for the Winter Storm Initiative.

GFP DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSION UPDATE

Secretary Robling has a meeting with the Governor on Monday and will go over the Run of Show with her and the speakers.

OTHER ITEMS

Board Vacancies have been discussed. We have some advisory vacancies and Matt Gottlob will be invited to be part of it and we need to see how Morlock can participate with NRCS. Jim F. Mentioned that we don't involve these partners on our meetings very well and we need to reach out and get them more involved. Paul Lepisto expressed that he didn't know why he was on these calls as an advisor but has never been asked or advice.

NEXT MEETING

June 19th at 2:00 CT via Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

ADJOURN

DeLon Mork made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Josh Cluff seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

Adam Bender adjourned the meeting at 4:22 pm CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Bashore, Executive Director Date
Approved by,

Adam Bender, President Date