



Board Meeting Minutes
Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition
(Board Meeting Minutes: January 6, 2010)
(9am central time – Conference call)

Board Members:

Present: Jim Carr, Scott Cotton, Sherry Vinton, Jim Luchsinger, Paul Swanson

Others Present: Twila Phillips, Bob Broweleit, Marcy Hunter, Kort Kemp

Proceedings:

· *Meeting called to order* at 9:00 a.m. by Chair, Jim Carr

· *Treasurer's Report:*

- Twila did not have bank statement to give treasurer's report because they come in on the 5th or 6th of each month. Scott Cotton requested we hold meetings after the 10th of the month.

· *Coordinator's Report:*

- Marcy read grant balances. The group did not have questions.
- Marcy reviewed upcoming items such as, the bird tour pie grant is due 1/8/10.
- Jim Carr's poster is designed and needs approved by him - Jim approved the poster. Marcy needs events and info to add to the NGLC website and asked board to send to her to post. Marcy announced that Joseph May was selected as the new State Range conservationist and starts Jan. 31. The rangeland & pastureland conservation award applications are due 1/8/10.
- Marcy is working on skype and facebook accounts for NGLC. Twitter is an option that has not been explored.
- Marcy included a list of upcoming events on the agenda for the board. Jim, Marcy and Kort discussed upcoming meetings for Terry Gompert in Norfolk and Pierce and decided to figure out dates and who was going to present after the call.

· *Old business:*

- Nov. 2, 2009 board meeting minutes were amended and approved. Jim asked Marcy to create a different format for the minutes that would be easier to read.
- Tax Exempt Status was reported by Bob and Scott. Bob received a letter of rejection from secretary of state and a certificate was requested. Bob created the certificate and emailed to the executive committee. The executive committee amended and approved, Jim needs to sign with original signature and get back to Bob. Scott stated that we need the letter of adoption and then should have everything complete. Scott and Bob were going to work on that.
- Grazing conference reimbursements from board members and producers have not all been received. Marcy requested receipts.

· *New business:*

- 2010 Grazing and Bird tour was reviewed by Marcy. The dates of June 2 & 3, 2010 are set at the Switzer Ranch and speakers include: Switzer's, Bob and Aaron Price, Walter Schacht and Larkin Powell, Audubon and NRCS will be doing plant and bird ID, Bob Budd will be speaking on habitat. Sponsors are WWF with \$725, Grassland Foundation with \$725, Marcy is meeting with STF in February to discuss, Nature Conservancy will either offer volunteer help or pay for refreshments. Bob suggested Lower Loup RC&D as a volunteer and Marcy and Sheila Luoma discussed this during the week. Sheila is going to help with plant ID. Jim asked Marcy to contact Kyle Graham with SD coalition because he showed interest. Scott and Sherry requested that articles sent out to publicize event not be edited by other organizations. Scott suggested NGLC put information on website and provide link to other organizations to use. Scot is going to check on continuing credits for SRM. Sherry asked Marcy to contact Marge Beatty about continuing education for teachers. Paul suggested Marcy ask Larkin for a

summary on the research done about grazing and benefits to birds. Bob asked Marcy if there was a press release completed yet, Marcy said once the money is approved she will work on a press release and send to Bob and list serve.

- NGLC Quarterly Newsletter and mailing list for purchase was reviewed by Marcy. A mailing list of ranchers is for purchase for around \$900 for 2,600 approximate names. Scott was asked about his mailing list, but he said it can not legally be shared. Board members asked instead if NGLC could submit articles to Farm Bureau, Farmer's Union, Nebraska Cattlemen, Prairie Fire, NRDs and NET. around the state. Board members would take turns writing articles. Marcy was asked to prepare schedule for articles and deadlines. Articles could be posted on NGLC's website. Board members were asked to think about a list of topics. Marcy to contact Sheryl Stubbendeck and Mike Fitzgerald to discuss articles. Board agreed to discuss at next meeting.
- Cowboy Logic reimbursement for Arden Wohlers was reviewed and the board decided to pay him \$125 now and the rest upon him showing documentation of sharing the information. The board amended and approved the decision to pay ½ now and ½ is contingent on evidence of sharing information.
- Bookkeeping and Quick Books Pro was pushed to the next meeting
- Review estimates for padfolios and table throws pushed to next meeting
- Rangeland Monitoring Program – Jim started the discussion acknowledging a resume he had for an applicant near Lincoln. Marcy reviewed the RMP contact lists and numbers with Kort having 25 complete and 24 left to do on list and Justin having 23 complete and 18 left to do on list. Marcy sent RMP NRCS and NET budgets to the board for review. Kort recommended two college students, one from Chadron and one from Lincoln (possible interns) during the 12 weeks of the field season May 15-Aug 15 to complete 35 points each. Kort created a map sent to the group which shows a 120 mile radius for each intern. Kort suggested they stay in that radius to reduce cost of travel and overnight stays. Kort also suggested that the interns go through JM Neil contracting company to get paid. He suggested we pay JM Neil \$20 and they keep 35% commission but handle the taxes so that the contractors do not. Scott felt the rate was too high and that interns should be paid around \$8.25. Kort suggested a higher rate to get better applicants and to be more competitive. Kort discussed a \$2500 travel allotment for interns as well. Chuck Butterfield stated that we need to get announcements for internships out by end of January to be competitive. Marcy spoke for Sherry who had to go off the call and said that she suggested we get the job posts out asap as well. The board mentioned that interns will need to be provided with a list of contacts and possibly schedules. Kort and Marcy are going to meetings now to sign up people for RMP and the CSP program should have signees as well. Kort will train the students but will not supervise them. Kort is going to provide an estimate for his contract cost per monitoring site completed, per meeting, and per training session. He also said he may be able to go to meetings while Marcy is on maternity leave. The group discussed meeting with NRCS to discuss future with NGLC and NRCS. Bob is going to organize the meeting with Steve Chick. After the meeting NGLC will be able to finalize a contract with Kort and advertise for the internships if they move in that direction. Marcy will need to order materials for new kits which will need assembled and distributed. Board will discuss at next meeting.

· *Additional business:*

- Jim, Scott, Bob and Twila discussed next board meeting dates. They asked Marcy to email dates Feb. 17th, 22nd, and 23rd to Sherry for approval.
- Agenda items for next meeting need to be emailed to Marcy. Scott wants to add maternity leave discussion for Marcy at next meeting.

· *Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.*

· *Minutes submitted by Coordinator, Marcy Hunter*