

**WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS
SPRING MEETING
APRIL 7, 2006
CHEYENNE, WYOMING**

At 1:06 PM, President Bill Current called the meeting to order. Bill thanked Mary Hopkins and Judy Wolf for their efforts in getting the meeting room and coordinating the spring WAS meeting.

Secretary's Report – Bill asked if the membership had read the minutes and provided a copy for review. Danny Walker moved that the minutes be accepted as posted on the list serve. Mark Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Tom Larson pointed out that this is the first time in years that the expenditures have outpaced the dues received and suggested that we may have to raise the dues soon. There was no new report on the investments. The question was raised if we could reduce expenses by using electronic mail alone, but Tom replied that the mailing costs paid off in terms of dues received and should be kept. Julie Francis made a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted. Mark Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agency Reports

University of Wyoming-Department of Anthropology

Mark Miller announced that the Public Archaeology class, which teaches the students about the laws pertaining to CRM and the importance of public outreach, has been accepted as a regular course and no longer will be taught as a seminar.

The new anthropology building is due for completion in March of 2007, and the compact shelving for the repository has been restored to the building plans.

Danny Walker will be excavating at Sand Draw Dump this summer and would like volunteers.

University of Wyoming-Archaeological Repository

Danny Walker passed out a list of common problems associated with curation collections and asked those preparing collections for curation to please be aware of the problems and try to avoid them. The list will be sent out on the WAPA list serve for those who were not present at the meeting. Marty Rogers offered, upon request, to travel to any office which would like help in training staff in proper cataloging and curation procedures. The new CRM tracker will require the repository to notify the BLM when collections are received at the repository, and again when they are accepted as correct and curated. The repository is currently working on a complete inventory of BOR property under a contract with the BOR which involves bringing all collections up to the federal standards for curation.

Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist

Dave Eckles discussed the ongoing work at Boulder Ridge in the Shoshone National Forest being done by Dan Eakin. The sites are Proto-historic-Historic. Judd Finley and Laura Scheiber will be working on these sites along with Dan this summer.

State Historic Preservation Office

Mary Hopkins announced that Milward Simpson was the new director of Cultural Resources and that he was very interested in and concerned about Wyoming's cultural properties. She introduced Joe Danielle, who is the latest archaeologist hired by the SHPO office and a PhD candidate at UW, and Dr. Jeff Pappas, a historian, who is the new National Register Coordinator. She also mentioned that Matt Bennett, historian, and Audrey York, CLG Coordinator, had been hired along with Kristy Hamilton, Preservation Tax Incentives Program Coordinator. Nancy Weidel is in charge of a new program honoring 100 year old ranches.

The new WAPA and SHPO websites are up. Hopefully, Eric Ingbar has solved the spam issue with the BLM. Let her know if you have any problems with logging on.

The new BLM protocol is signed and four training programs in May are planned around the state. The CRM tracker is being revamped and training will, hopefully, be at each individual office.

New protocol talks have been initiated with the USFS.

Funding was received for the additional shelving required for WYCRO (cultural records) in the new anthropology building and public training on private and public land issues.

SHPO will be presenting CLG workshops at the Wyoming Association of Municipalities conference in Riverton in June.

Richard Currit stated that the Section 106 workload is as heavy as ever and now includes planning for wind energy development.

Judy Wolf reported that the Cultural Context Committee has been meeting for about a year now and has set its priorities. The contexts chosen are, in order of priority:

1. Southern Wyoming Transportation Corridors.
2. Hunter-Gatherer Sites in Wyoming.
3. Mining in Wyoming (hard and soft rock).
4. Irrigation in Wyoming.
5. Homesteading, Ranching and Stock Grazing in the Wyoming Basin.
6. New Deal Projects in Wyoming.

The Committee will go to the legislature next year for the required funding. The contexts will probably be done on a contract basis.

Mark Miller let everyone know that the next SHPO newsletter will contain an article by Dan Eakin on the Boulder Ridge sites. People not on the newsletter list can sign up through Jeff Pappas or sign up online for the SHPO list serve.

Bureau of Land Management

Dave Vlcek noted that the Resource Management Plan and overview for the Pinedale Field Office is being spearheaded by Lance McNees, TRC Mariah. It is extensive and full of data. The Pinedale Anticline Working Group Cultural/Historical Task Group is emphasizing public outreach and education with lots of data available for research. Kierson Crume has transferred to Alaska, and they are hoping that his position will be filled.

Mike Bies said Worland is celebrating its centennial this year and interested people could go to the website <http://historicworland.com> for the history of the area. The Resource Management Plan will be sent out soon. It was also mentioned that the Colby Site display at the Washakie Museum had been redone this winter.

Patrick Walker said there will be one more position available in Rawlins for an archeologist. The Rawlins Field Office is a Pilot Office under the Energy Act and lots of new jobs are being filled. The Resource Management Plan is now out and they are dealing with comments and working on an EIS. The JO Ranch was acquired through a land trade and they are trying to assess the needs of an 1880's sheep ranch.

B.J. Earle noted that Buffalo is also a Pilot Office and now has permission to hire five archeologists. Elizabeth Burghard has taken a management position with BLM in Cedar City, Utah, and Rob Wilson will be going with her, so their positions will need to be filled. They are planning a spring meeting between the BLM and contractors to hash out their difficulties. The Buffalo Field Office currently has 18,000 acres in their inventory. They are training a new person in digital mapping.

Judith Reed, Wyoming State Office, noted that the new protocol between BLM and SHPO had been signed. She also pointed out that the BLM protocol has written in opportunities for public outreach and site stewardship.

United States Forest Service

Ian Ritchie, Douglas Ranger District/Thunder Basin National Grassland, announced that Fred Chapman is working on recording sites. The USFS is working on a programmatic agreement with the state. There is an ARPA case under investigation in the Thunder Basin. There is an increase in work due to oil, gas, coalbed methane, and the railroad.

Wendy Sutton, Bighorn National Forest, said they are carrying on with the normal projects and trying to get some large archaeological districts together.

Wyoming Department of Transportation

Julie Francis explained there was a funding crunch due to inflation and that they were only going to be able to do half of the normal number of projects with the same amount of funding. They are finishing up the EIS on the Hoback Junction project, working on the prison roads in Torrington, and will plan on data recovery at the Game Creek Site south of Jackson next summer. They may have adopted a historic bridge for the first time

which has been placed in Buffalo for use as the Buffalo greenway pedestrian bridge and is an example of the adaptive reuse of historic bridge properties. In 2006, they will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the interstate system. Interstates have been exempted from the Section 106 process (with very few exceptions) so do not record the interstate as a site!

USAF-Warren AFB

Rick Bryant announced that they have their own curation facility which is available for research, but all materials are base related. Most of the work done on the base is done on the buildings as the base is a historic site. They are working on clearing out old artillery from their historic areas. There are no traces left of Camp Carlin.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Joe Randolph said they had tried to get a grant for a THPO, but due to political issues, it didn't work out. They are working on resolving recording issues with the energy development going on. A lot of sites were found last summer and reports were sent to SHPO and are available. They are trying to get over the non-releasing policy.

Marv Keller, from the Billings office, stated the tribes are not sure they want to proceed with coal bed methane.

Old Business

NRHP Nominations

Bill Current said we are still in the process of compiling a list of sites for nomination to the NRHP. If you have any suggestions, get them to Bill.

Web Site

The web site is up and running thanks to Mary Hopkins and Sam Trautman. Mary also said that the new list serve supported attachments. She wasn't sure about the size limit, so if your attachment is too big, let her know and they will post it on the website.

Newsletter

We need articles for the newsletter, so send them in.

Public Outreach

Danny Walker said the *Wyoming Archaeologist* is 5 issues behind due to a lack of articles. He noted the articles are not sent out for review and can be of any size. The membership agreed that public outreach is important and encouraged members to write up sites they are working on. Everyone was reminded that they can not disclose any location information and to try to avoid naming site by landmarks or mentioning them in the text. While it was acknowledged that everyone was very busy already, it was suggested that the site reports could be easily adapted for publication by deleting the location information.

Mary Hopkins reminded everyone that the new Cultural Trust Fund has \$10 million available for cultural projects including everything from arts to historic preservation, and

that she wants archaeological projects submitted from the start so they will always be viewed as eligible.

New Business

New Members

The following new members were accepted into WAPA: Mike Polk, John Laughlin, Dena Seder, Joe Danielle, Eric Gant, Gene Smith, and Charles Bollong.

Archaeology Month

Judy Wolf announced that the new posters were available.

By-Laws Committee

Tom Larson reported that the by-laws had not been reviewed since 1998 and some areas are in need of clarification and/or revision. He suggested we form a By-Laws Committee to investigate and talk about what needs to be done. The idea would be to have changes ready to vote on at the same time as the ballots are cast for the new officers. Julie Francis moved that a By-Laws Revision Committee be set up with Tom Larson as the chair. Rick Bryant seconded the motion which passed. The committee members will be Tom Larson as chair, B. J. Earle, Bill Current, John Albanese, and Julie Francis. Copies of the by-laws can be obtained by contacting Bill Current. Please post suggestions on the list serve or email them. The goal is to have a draft of the proposed changes by July as the ballots go by snail mail. Julie also reminded everyone it is important to vote as no vote is a negative vote.

Election of Officers

Russ Tanner was not in attendance but sent an initial slate. Rick Bryant nominated Julie Francis for member-at-large and Dave Vlcek nominated Sam Drucker for member-at-large. A request for nominations will also be placed on the list serve. Some confusion existed over when the current board's terms expired. The general opinion was that the board has gone past the time for elections. It was also noted that the current by-laws don't specify a rotation for the member-at-large positions. Julie Francis moved that the current officers stay in office until the next election and Dave Vlcek seconded the motion. The motion passed. The slate of officers submitted by Russ Tanner is:

Ed Schneider – President

Dale Wedel – Vice-President

Marty Rogers – Secretary

John Laughlin – Treasurer

Dale Austin – Member-at-Large

Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month Account

A discussion was held regarding whether or not there should be separate accounts for the WAAM and WAPA funds. Julie Francis expressed concern that the funds could potentially make it look as if the WAPA was making more money than allowed as a non-profit organization for the IRS. She pointed out that the by-laws require our funds be

spent on educational purposes. She also felt those writing checks would be confused if they wrote a check to WAAM and their check wound up in the WAPA account instead.

Judy Wolf had previously asked that the WAAM money from the t-shirt sales be held in the WAPA account as the money is much easier to access for funding speakers than in the SHPO account with the state. A discussion ensued that looked at several alternatives, but the decision was that more study and information was need before a final decision is made.

Julie Francis moved that the WAAM funds be moved into a separate account for now and that meetings take place between State Parks and Cultural Resources (SPCR) and WAPA to craft an agreement defining the responsibilities of each and that WAPA not accept any more WAAM money until this body makes a decision based on the information gathered. Ian Ritchie seconded the motion. The motion carried with two dissenting votes.

Alliance for Historic Wyoming

Leslie Wiggans from the Alliance asked the membership to support the organization. The Alliance grew out of the concern over the potential sale of Martin's Cove, which is managed by the BLM, to the Mormon Church. Leslie and Barbara Dobos decided to form the group to protect Wyoming's historic resources. The Alliance for Historic Wyoming is incorporated, has a board, and is under review by the IRS for non-profit status. Board members are Mary Humstone, Tom Bell, Barbara Dobos, Jason Marsden, and Lesley Wischmann. Their purpose is to gather information if projects are pending and send out alerts and samples of letters of protest to send. You can sign up for their email mailing list on historicwyoming.com.

WAPA Service Award

Danny Walker expressed to the organization the gratitude of Wil Husted for his WAPA Service award last fall in Park City. Wil said he was still overwhelmed by the fact he received the award and what it meant to him. He wished to be in Cheyenne to talk to the group himself but was unable to make it.

Fall Meeting

The meeting is planned for Pinedale. Dave Vlcek said that the Sublette County Library is booked along with a block of 20 or so rooms at the Amerihost Hotel at the government rate. Tours of rock art sites are planned and t-shirts will be sold.

Richard Currit moved we adjourn. Julie Francis seconded the motion, which passed.

Those in attendance:

Bill Current, Current Archaeological Research
Tom Larson, LTA, Inc.
Patrick Walker, BLM, Rawlins
Wendy Sutton, USFS, Bighorns
Marty Rogers, OWSA
Judy Wolf, SHPO
Joseph Randolph, BIA
Rick Bryant, USAF
Julie Francis, WYDOT
Marvin Keller, BIA
Mike Bies, BLM, Worland
Sam Drucker, BLM, Pinedale
Paul Sanders, OWSA
Chuck Bollong, SWCA
Scott Phillips, SWCA
Dave Reiss, OWSA
Joseph Danielle, SHPO
John Laughlin, OWSA
Danny Walker, SHPO
Richard Currit, SHPO
Mark Miller, OWSA, State Archaeologist
Ian Ritchie, USFS, Thunder Basin National Grassland
Brian Waitkus, OWSA
Stuart McKenzie, WAS
Dave Vlcek, BLM, Pinedale
Jeff Pappas, SHPO