

**Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists**

Fall Meeting  
September 23, 2004  
Laramie, Wyoming

CALL TO ORDER -- President Bill Current called the meeting to order.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Minutes from the Spring Meeting were not read, since they were distributed to the membership via the list-serve. Ranel Capron thanked Russ Tanner for taking the minutes at the Jackson meeting.

Beth Burghard moved to accept the minutes as corrected and Russ Tanner seconded. Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Tom Larson reported that we have \$19,180.25 in total assets. We have \$7,343 in the checking account and \$11,836.54 in the Putnam accounts. Tom received \$1,110 in dues and spent \$334.16.

Chris Arthur moved to accept the report and Ed Schneider seconded. Passed.

AGENCY REPORTS

Pinedale BLM - Sam Drucker reported that they had received money for stabilization at the Wardell Buffalo Trap. He also reported that they had a new Associate Field Manager for Resources, Cathy Gunderson.

Buffalo BLM - Elizabeth Burghard told the group that the Buffalo Field Office had been mandated by Congress to approve 3,000 APDs this past fiscal year. As of next Thursday, they would be at 2,700, so 94% of the goal. She thanked everyone who worked up there and the SHPO for working with BLM.

Casper BLM - Chris Arthur said that the testing begun in 1984 on the CO2 pipeline was finished and 6-8 sites will have been dug. He also indicated that they were midway through the new Resource Management Plan process. WAPA should be on the list to receive a copy for comment.

Rock Springs BLM - Russ Tanner reported that the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan protest period had ended and they were working through comments received. He expects there to be a Record of Decision by the end of the calendar year. Russ also said BLM has finished a National Historic Trails Context Study; comments from field offices have been submitted and he is compiling them now. He also mentioned that Anadarko paid for the study of a section of the Cherokee Trail. WAS is doing revisions. Last, Russ mentioned developing contracts for context overviews - the first has been awarded to Frasier Design on transportation history in the Powder River Basin. Ranching also will be next.

National Park Service - Grand Teton National Park - Jacquelin St. Clair indicated they had found 7 new sites in a developed area. They are doing a wickiup study jointly between GTNP and Yellowstone NP; three have been found already; they are being

videotaped.

NPS – Yellowstone National Park – Elaine Hale mentioned their staff had moved into the new Cultural Heritage Building. She said the OWSA crew had been doing some testing associated with Obsidian Cliff and a FHWA project; they'd also been in the backcountry. A Clovis point and a Folsom point were sourced back to Obsidian Cliff. They have a draft context on the History of Administration of Yellowstone National Park that has been sent to the SHPO. They are waiting for photographs. Due to money constraints, the advertisement for Branch Chief was pulled.

OWSA – Have finished the survey at Martins Cove. Surveyed 940 acres and found 29 sites, mostly prehistoric. Besides the Tom Sun Ranch National Historic Landmark and the Martins Cove National Register site, they have 3 other prehistoric sites that will be eligible, and there is a dump site associated with Tom Sun that might be. They did not find any evidence of the handcart burials (not in the area claimed to be the site or in the leased area). They have also been busy doing WYDOT projects.

Wyoming Army National Guard – Karen Kempton is the new archaeologist for WANG. She said they have been surveying all their lands over the past few years. They are proceeding with their ethnographic study on Camp Guernsey and hope to use it as a context. They would like to get more involved in WAAM activities. Dave Reiss started surveying out at Guernsey in 1991. They have 28,000 acres there and the site density is very high.

State Historic Preservation Office – Judy Wolf introduced Phil Noble, Art Reese and Claudia Nissley. Reese indicated that their goal (and that of the governor) was to be the best SHPO in the nation. Claudia indicated that there will be a great deal of change and they expect to be hiring some folks to fill vacant positions.

USFS – Rick Laurent (Bighorn NF) said the forest plan was out as a draft. You can get it via website or CD. He wasn't sure when comments would be due. Healthy Forest Initiative is a big part of the plan. They have lots of dead trees due to drought. There are small contracts available for timber sales; will be doing some prescribed burns, range work. A judge upheld the USFS decision on the 22K acres at the Bighorn Medicine Wheel site. There was a news article on it this week.

University of Wyoming – Chuck Reher mentioned that there is a cooperative project at the Williams Spring site in the Black Hills this summer. They will be expanding the block excavation where there is a high artifact density; want to minimize the impacts that are happening through grazing and road construction. Also work being done at Medicine Lodge Creek -- believed to be a Crow component (protohistoric items); did some minimal testing and have confirmed that it is under the parking lot. Doing an inventory of the rock art, taking digital photos under different lighting conditions. High Plains project is still ongoing.

NRCS – Jay Meyer mentioned that they had 200-300 small projects last year. Tested a site with a Late Prehistoric component on the surface and encountered an Early Archaic hearth with few artifacts. In one area where flood irrigation is being converted

to pivots, ran into some trail segments that had been plowed, but were still recognizable.

Current Arch Research – Bill Current mentioned they found a lot of tipi ring sites this past year, nothing major encountered though.

TRC Mariah – Ed Schneider said they were digging 6 sites on the Lost Creek pipeline (from Jeffrey City to Rawlins). Also work at Muddy Creek and lots of seismic.

#### Old Business

Awards – Bill mentioned that WAPA would be making a few awards before the lecture this afternoon (for Elizabeth Ono Rahel – the graphic designer of our posters and also for Audrey Shalinsky, chair of the Anthropology Department at UW).

WAPH (Wyoming Assoc of Professional Historians) – Russ mentioned that the president is Kevin Anderson. He has not been able to get in touch with Anderson, but he'll keep trying.

Newsletter – Bill said that Dave Reiss has agreed to work on the newsletter. Please send messages about your work to Dave or the list serve. Deadline will be 12/31/04.

Wyoming Consulting Committee – John Albanese and Russ Tanner are representatives. John recently retired as the chair after 23 years. He said they get very few archaeology nominations. We are negligent in not doing this – we need to nominate more sites. Government agencies are reluctant to put forward nominations. We are way behind in comparison to other states. Russ mentioned there was a multiple property nomination of sites along the Yellowstone River. He also said that it was preferred to use “pre-contact” rather than “prehistoric” or “Archaic” – that it devalues Native American ancestors. There are other nominations going forward, such as dude ranch sites and the Kerwin Jail. There is a meeting tonight in Dubois about this.

Claudia asked if WAPA could come up with a list of those sites that should be on the National Register of Historic Places? Consensus was yes.

**Action Item – have WAPA members brainstorm a list of sites that we believe should be nominated to NRHP.**

Dave mentioned that this would be a good topic for the newsletter. Send him a list of your top 5-7 sites. The site must have a site number and be in the SHPO files.

John said that Hells Half Acre was collected on for years. Apparently John Goss is hoping to get a grant to work on the huge site that is there and nominate it.

Rick Laurent mentioned that the USFS is looking at landscapes and has identified 8 cultural landscapes with trails, villages and sacred sites. They would nominate properties in that way (as landscapes).

Jim Stewart mentioned that Native Americans do not want the sites publicized. Also don't think the ranchers do.

### **New Business**

**Curation** – Marty Rogers indicated they would be making revisions to the guidelines and standards, but nothing major. They will go back to having a continuation page on their catalog sheets. If you have problems, please call to try and work it out. Some of the past problems include: editing the database printout; make sure the bags are correct before sending them to the facility; pack the heavy objects in the bottom of the box or in a separate box; need to catalog by type and provenience; each item that is point plotted must have a separate catalog number; mark sherds on the inside not the outside; indicate the landowner status (we will not curate private property items without a donation form); number all individual items 1 cm in size or larger; indicate the size of your screen; if you know the UTM's, please provide those, quads and legals also; with dark artifacts, use titanium white acrylic artists paint. Send 2 copies of the database, 1 copy of the artifact illustration. She needs originals or high quality copies of the field notes, any drawings, level forms, maps, etc.

Marty mentioned that there will be no price changes for curation. Also, e-mail requests for your next catalog numbers for a site; don't call.

**Upcoming Meetings** – Plains Conference is October 13-16 in Billings; SAAs will be March 30 to April 3 in Salt Lake City; Spring WAS meeting is April 29-30 in Rawlins; RMAC is in Park City, UT in September 2005. Craig Smith is one of the organizers.

A motion was made by Russ Tanner that the Fall 2005 WAPA meeting be in conjunction with the RMAC. Chris Arthur seconded the motion. It passed.

**Website/list serve** – we expect to send out a notice in January about membership. If you are two years in arrears with your dues, you will not be allowed to access the list-serve. It is for members only.

Bill asked if anyone was interested in volunteering to run our website. Since Karen Kempton has moved over to the Guard, she has had to take the WAPA web site off the state's server. Karen mentioned that it was also in an old format that will need to be updated. Mary Hopkins mentioned that she thought Sam Trautman would be able to do this for us. She will talk to him and have him get back to us.

### **Other topics**

**Lithic Landscapes** – Brian Waitkus brought up a discussion on lithic landscapes in southwest Wyoming. He does not feel that anyone is using the information being gathered. Bill Current mentioned that he did a consolidation of data after the first two years of recording landscapes. Russ Tanner said that BLM just asks that the landscape be noted in the report. Brian said he thought the level of recordation required varied from office to office.

**Maps from Arch Month** – Mary Hopkins indicated that she has generated some maps that she is planning to put up on the website. Some of the queries have been on fluted

points, PaleoIndian sites, housepit sites, etc. She mentioned that part of the patterning is of course where industry works. Chuck Reher mentioned that a query for bonebed and kill sites would also be useful.

Wyoming Archaeologist -- Danny mentioned that the **Wyoming Archaeologist** needs articles.

There was a motion to adjourn by Brian Waitkus. Tom Larson seconded the motion. Approved.