

**Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists
Minutes (Unapproved) of the Fall Meeting, September 11, 2015
Horse Barn Theater, Laramie Territorial Prison, Laramie, Wyoming**

The meeting is called to order at 1 pm.

Old Business

On Paul Sanders' motion and seconded by Jody Clauter, the Spring 2015 meeting minutes are approved.

New Business

Membership and Treasurer's Report, Jody Clauter. We have 159 current members, with 145 paid and 14 unpaid. Snail mail delinquent dues notices will be sent after this meeting.

- US Bank:
Outgoing checks: \$500 to Wyoming Archaeology Fair; \$400 to Bill Matthews, Cloud Peak Research; \$225 to UWAR/Jody Clauter, Elk Mountain project.
Sept 10 balance: \$3179.87
- Putnam Account:
Sept 10 balance: \$12031.25

President's Report, Marcia Peterson. According to the by-laws, membership can be revoked for failure to pay dues. Going forward, we will follow the by-laws and revoke membership after two years of non-payment. A letter of revocation followed by a letter of termination will be sent to the lapsed member, although the by-laws are not clear how long members have to submit a payment after the letter of revocation is received. Currently, we would lose 14 members if revocation letters were sent.

Membership and Ethics Committee Report. This committee was formed at the spring meeting, and five membership applications were reviewed and approved. From now on, new committee members will be appointed at each meeting to process applications received since the last review. The committee formed during this meeting consists of Marcia Peterson, Greg Pierce, Jody Clauter, Gene Smith, and Ken Humphrey. (They reviewed and approved seven applications for new membership after the meeting.)

Vote to Amend the By-laws. The vote is on whether the WAPA by-laws will be changed from:

Section V. MEETINGS

3. Modification of these By-laws requires a 60 percent affirmation by the voting membership.

To Section V. MEETINGS

3. Modification of these By-laws requires a 51% sustainment by the voting members present at the meeting.

If we can change this provision of the by-laws, we can then proceed to make other necessary changes to the by-laws by majority vote at the meetings. This has been an ongoing obstacle for WAPA, and we would like to resolve this and move forward. Voting numbers for amending the by-laws are not good, however. We have 159 members, so we need 95 votes to amend the by-laws. After voting during this meeting, we have 58 votes (57 yes, 1 no). We need an additional 43 'yes' votes for the amendment to pass. Marcia will next send out a voting reminder on the listserv and then to the personal emails of those who haven't yet voted.

Moneta Divide PA Update. Marcia, the WAPA representative, reports that the EIS and PA are progressing. Encana has sold their interest to Athon. There is tremendous tribal interest and involvement; Kathy Miller Boden, acting BLM state archaeologist, hopes Athon will fund an ethnographic study. Let Marcia know if you have comments to bring up at the next PA meeting.

WAPA Donations. We have given out \$1125 this year. Marcia reminds all that funding is available, and if you have a request, send it to her.

Archaeological Conservancy. As their first acquisition in Wyoming, the Archaeological Conservancy acquired about 20 acres of land near Legend Rock following negotiations with landowners Richard and Addie Wagner. Mike Bies would like to present the Wagners with a 3D plaque costing about \$2,500. About \$1,000 would be needed to cover the cost, following a potential donation of time by the plaque's maker. A WAPA donation of \$250 to defray cost is discussed. Questions: will WAPA's name be on the plaque as a donor; will we get to review the language; will the plaque be inside the visitor's center to avoid vandalism; what does it look like. The donation discussion is tabled until an image of the plaque is available, when it will be posted on the listserv.

SAA Repatriation Committee Update, Dave Vlcek. This committee will meet with the National Park Service (NPS) to discuss how to improve NPS Notice of Inventory Completion (NICS) practices. It was previously felt that the NPS review committee was formed largely of tribal people with few museums or contractors represented. Vlcek will attend the November meeting.

Will Husted. We recognize his recent passing, and several members speak in his honor. Sending a card to the family is discussed. Danny Walker is writing the obituary for *Plains Anthropologist* and asks the WAPA membership to contribute their memories to him.

Contractor Reports

Metcalf Archaeology, Kelly Pool. Ruby Pipeline-Wyoming project final report CDs are now available. Let Pool know if you'd like a CD or a Dropbox download forwarded to you. Five articles on results of data recovery excavations have been submitted to *The Wyoming Archaeologist* for publication.

Bonneville Archaeology, Dave Vlcek. They are rehabilitating a fire lookout tower that will be opened to the public. Also, they are doing high altitude research in the Bridger-Teton National Forest, which will be reported at RMAC in a few weeks in Marcia Peterson's symposium on high altitude archaeology.

SWCA, Paul Burnett. SWCA recently updated a probability model for Larry Todd, the Park County Historic Preservation Commissioner, which spans the entire Shoshone National Forest. It and previous models have been used to assist post-burn surveys in the forest, and this year they were used in conjunction with an ice patch likelihood study developed by Craig Lee to identify a number of sites with material melting from ice patches. SWCA continues to work on the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre wind energy project. Data recovery on that project may begin next year. They are in the midst of completing the reporting phase of a large seismic project between Baggs and Rock Springs, which will significantly add to the site database for that part of the state. They are continuing work on a series of CO2 pipelines extending from Big Piney to eastern Montana. The Riley Ridge to Natrona project consists of a pipeline from Big Piney to an area west of Casper, where it will connect to an existing pipeline. That project is in the pre-Draft Environmental Impact Statement phase, with the draft expected to be completed in January, 2016. SWCA is also assisting with ongoing tribal consultation for the Pumpkin Buttes.

TRC Mariah, Nathan Fleming. They are busy with WYDOT and oil and gas work, which is holding steady for them. Projects include seismic work in the Powder River Basin and wind farms in North Dakota. They are looking for a senior crew chief/asst. project manager and will be posting the job on the listserv.

Alpine Archaeology, Casey Dukeman. They have turned in the Overland Pass Project (OPP) artifacts for curation. They have done some work near Ft. Laramie this year.

Wyoming Military Dept., Ken Humphrey. Ken reports finishing up the field season with a UW field crew.

Danny Walker reports Ft. Laramie has lost about 14 to 15 m of riverbank to recent erosion, with specific issues in the quartermaster dump area. Overall, there are concerns with the NPS and erosion at Fort Laramie. Also, Vol. 2 of the Medicine Lodge Creek report is getting closer to being printed. Vol. 2 will present all the satellite sites that were excavated in the 1970s. Printing will cost about \$50-60,000, and they have some money available but need much more.

Announcements

- Danny Walker discusses the SAA posting on the potential closing of the Illinois State Museum and its larger meaning. He will forward this posting to the listserv.
- Wyoming BLM sent end-of-year funds to Project Archaeology for their Investigating Migration curriculum. They are looking for Section 106 projects that might be connected. Section 106 mitigation money could be garnered for this project, which involves a lot of GIS. The curriculum can be downloaded from the Project Archaeology website.
- Ranel Capron, BLM state archaeologist, will be leaving Wyoming at the end of September to take a new position in Washington D.C. as BLM Federal Preservation Officer. Kathy Miller Boden is now acting state archaeologist.
- Members are encouraged to follow BLM and OWSA on Facebook. UWAR is now posting an artifact of the week on the OWSA Facebook page.
- Spring WAPA meeting will be held at Little America in Cheyenne on Friday, May 6, 2016.
- OWSA and SPCR will host the Archaeology Fair tomorrow at this park, from 10 to 3 pm.
- Available funding: (1) Deadline for Frison Institute’s fall round of grant proposals is September 15, 2015. Students can request up to \$1,000, and faculty and professional archaeologists can request up to \$2,500. (2) The WY Cultural Trust Fund grant deadline is October 1, 2015. (3) WAPA funding is available.
- New positions: Mike Page is the new manager of OWSA Archaeological Survey. Rachael Shimek is the new UWAR curation assistant.
- Upcoming meetings: RMAC meeting is in Steamboat Springs on September 24-27. Plains Anthropological Conference in Iowa City on Oct 14-17.
- Need for volunteers: Medicine Lodge Creek testing, Sept 15-22nd. Contact Mike Page.
- Rich Currit wants us to be aware that the state of Wyoming is seeking to take primacy (or, regulation) of uranium mining from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The problem is that the NRC wants to give primacy to the state with no Sec. 106 consultation. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of uranium plays in the state on federal land or in reserved federal minerals. The ACHP says this movement is an undertaking, and the NRC says it’s an administration action. It is an opportunity for public comment—a lot of sites could be impacted.

The meeting is adjourned at 2:30, following a motion by Jody Clauter and seconded by Paul Sanders.

Meeting Attendees

Nathan Fleming	Paul Sanders	Ross Hilman	Judy Wolf	Damian Kirkwood
Gene Smith	Paul Burnett	Richard Currit	Rachael Shimek	Greg Pierce
Zach Garhart	Heidi VanEtten	Marcia Peterson	Ranel Capron	Danny Walker
Ken Humphrey	Casey Dukeman	Dave Vlcek	John Laughlin	Jody Clauter
Jessie Starks	Josh Boyd	Kelly Pool	Kathy Boden	