

**Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists
Minutes of the Fall Meeting, September 6, 2019
Laramie, Wyoming**

The meeting is officially called to order at 1:02 pm by President Becca Mashak.

Spring 2019 Minutes

RESOLUTION: On (Michael Page's) motion, the Spring 2019 minutes are approved as posted on the WAPA website. All in favor.

Executive Committee/Treasurer and Membership Report (Jason Bogstie):

- As of 9/5/2019, the balance of the WAPA checking account is \$5,415.71 (minus pending \$86.79 transfer from PayPal) and the balance of the Putnam account is \$16,984.59.
- Expenditures since the Spring 2019 meeting consist of:
 - \$500.00 to SPCR for the Archaeology Fair
 - \$675.00 to Rocky Mountain Anthropological Association (RMAC 2019 Coffee Break Sponsorship)
- As of 9/5/2019, WAPA has a total of 134 members (plus 3 pending applications). The Membership and Ethics Committee (*Paul Burnett, Danny Walker, & Rachael Shimek*) will review the three pending applications after this meeting (Note: All three applications were accepted). A total of 28 members are currently unpaid and will be dropped if payment is not received by the end of December.
 - **RESOLUTION:** On (member unknown) motion, the Fall 2019 Treasurer's Report was approved. All in favor.

Old Business:

- **Listserve/Website** (*Becca Mashak*): At the last couple meetings, John Laughlin had mentioned that he is interested in someone else taking over the listserve & website duties. No one has come forward. One suggestions has been made regarding the situation: WAPA could have a person on the executive committee in charge of the listserve; either the secretary, a student representative, or we could make it an entirely new position. However, creating a new position would mean a vote to change by-laws. John Laughlin mentions that Michael Page had just recently volunteered to take over the listserve duties but John thinks tying it to the executive committee is a better idea. Naomi Ollie agrees.
 - **RESOLUTION:** Danny makes a motion to include the listserve/website duties under the secretary position on the executive committee. All in favor.

New Business:

- **Wyotrack** (*Becca Mashak*): John Laughlin asks if its worth talking about Wyotrack if Shane isn't here to hear WAPA's issues. Becca Mashak suggests that we attempt to make the conversation about the Wyotrack issues more productive, instead of just going through everything that is wrong with it. Richard Currit suggests that we find common problems that are a priority that we can ask WYCRO to tackle first. Naomi Ollie asks whether it warrants a separate committee? Gene Smith adds that we need a contact to send concerns/issues to. Richard Currit asks if we should have members send issues to the Listserve and compile them? Paul Burnett thinks a

committee would be helpful to compile it all. Rachael Shimek agrees that it will be more productive to have a committee. Paul Burnett states that having a SHPO rep on the committee could help by adding that perspective as well. Rachel Shimek agrees. Russell Collett adds that we should also include a deadline for members to post the comments to the listserv by and also argues that members should add a constructive solution suggestion to their comments. Michael Page states that there are a lot of solutions that SHPO can't even deal with; the contractor (Erin) has to deal with them. Rachael Shimek says if we can give Erin a list with the priorities and some solutions, that would definitely be helpful. Discussion of some of the main issues people are encountering. Richard Currit states, yes, we should set up a small committee and then send out this issue to the listserv and then the committee can look at the responses. Paul Burnett says our concern is how we collect digital data so we should make sure the committee is representative. Rachael Shimek adds that we should make sure there is an agency representative (BLM & FS) on the committee too. Michael Page offers to be the chair of the committee and ask if we could get him some contacts.

- **RESOLUTION:** On (Paul Burnett's) motion, the idea to start a committee to deal with the Wyotrack issues/solutions was approved. All in favor.
- **Location of Fall Meeting** (Becca Mashak): Since the email inquiring about Fall meeting location suggestions was sent out, only two people have approached WAPA with alternative ideas. 1) Bonnie Smith suggested the Tensleep Preserve with Indian Gulch as field trip (accommodations are available at preserve for everyone to stay). However, the preserve is booked a year out so Bonnie would need to know right away. (Note: Becca Mashak informed Bonnie Smith of the deadline and she is planning to put together a proposal for the Spring 2020 meeting.) 2) Bill Elder also came forward with an idea but it fell through. Rachel states that it is hard to vote on the Tensleep Preserve idea because we don't know what the cost is. Spencer Pelton adds that the preserve is expensive. Paul Burnett argues that the last time WAPA had the meeting in Tensleep there was very low attendance. Richard Currit suggests that if, each year, no one comes forward with a well-thought out idea for an alternative location, then the fall meeting should just default back to Laramie. Becca Mashak adds that we should have a time limit for ideas to be put forth. Richard Currit suggests that the time limit be the spring meeting so we can ask questions and discuss. Leanna Flaherty agrees, stating that setting the time limit for the spring meeting makes sense because we would then (theoretically) have enough information to vote on it. Becca Mashak asks if WAPA should go ahead and put this idea out to the members?
 - **RESOLUTION:** On (Danny Walker's) motion, the idea to make the spring WAPA meeting the deadline for alternative fall meeting location suggestions was approved. All in favor.
- **State Archaeologist Position Update** (Judy Wolf): Within two weeks there will be some movement regarding who will be interviewed.
- **Spring Meeting 2020 Location** (Julie Francis): Should we discuss where the 2020 spring meeting is being held? Becca Mashak states that it would be in Sheridan, held in conjunction with the WAS meeting.
 - **RESOLUTION:** On (Richard Currit's) motion, keeping the spring WAPA meeting in conjunction with the WAS meeting was approved. All in favor.
- **Student Representative for WAPA** (Morgan Robins): It has been suggested that WAPA consider having a Student Representative on the executive committee. A student would likely be attending more conferences and perhaps more knowledgeable about new technology. Michael Page states that we would have to change the by-laws, unless it was just a voluntary position that was not officially part of the committee. Michael Page inquires if there is a student

anthropology group/club at UW. Rachel says yes, there is - the Wyoming Anthropological Association. Becca suggests that it could be open to any student. Paul Burnett says he would like to see the role more defined but agrees that having a student representative would promote funneling the pipeline of talent to the organization. Richard suggests that if we did have a student liaison to represent student interests then WAPA could pay their way to the meetings. Becca Mashak agrees that it would encourage participation. Richard Currit states that if we could do it without a vote then let's do that (because Becca, as president has the power to appoint a position.)

- **Fee/Fee/Fed Issues** (Paul Burnett): At the last meeting it sounded like there has been a need between SHPO and BLM field offices to come up with a consensus; is there any news about that? Kathy Boden (BLM) reports that they have not had a meeting yet but just finished consulting with SHPO. The BLM will be having meetings about this to see if we need to issue any clarification letters, and if so, to whom. Paul Burnett states that he has identified a difference between how the Casper and Buffalo offices handle the issue and its confusing and creates a situation where consultants can make mistakes often. Becca Mashak adds that it is her understanding that the Buffalo office didn't want fieldwork authorizations whereas Casper would still take them. Discussion of some of the issues. Kathy Boden mentions also that the Buffalo field office is the only one using the term "off lease" and says that BLM definitely wants to get more consistency among the field offices and how we convey information to SHPO. Paul Burnett states that we are trying to be collaborative but this is creating friction with the field offices. We definitely want to keep this dialogue open.

WAPA Advocacy, MOAs and PAs:

- **Coal Draw MOA** (*Richard Currit*): The project is indefinitely on hold at this point.
- **Moneta Divide PA** (*Kathy Boden*): Still in working groups on the PA and are hoping to get a draft out for all the committees to review soon. Jaci Wells states that they are also hoping to have an in person meeting in early November to get the finer details hammered out.
- **The Programmatic Agreement Among The Wyoming Military Department, National Guard Bureau, Wyoming SHPO, and the ACHP Regarding The Manner In Which Wyoming Military Department Will Meet Its Responsibilities Under Section 106 of the NHPA** was signed by the ACHP in March and there is an update meeting with SHPO in two weeks.

Committees

The following committee was formed:

- **Membership and Ethics Committee:** Paul Burnett, Rachael Shimek, and Danny Walker

Requests for Funding:

- **Danny Walker:** Regarding the sheep net, we need to re-date the wood. We've done a re-date on the cordage but if we get a second date on the wood we could throw out the old Paleoindian date and settle the controversy. Bob Kelly thinks it is a good idea to re-date the wood as Danny won't be able to publish if he doesn't get a second date. Discussion of costs.
 - **RESOLUTION:** On (Julie Francis's) motion, a request to fund a second date on the sheep net cost with not to exceed \$600.00 is approved. All in favor.
- **Marcia Peterson:** The previous request from OWSA for funding to help cover the costs of an intern is tabled again until the Spring 2020 meeting. OWSA did go ahead with the internship

program using the money they had from the Vore Foundation and had one intern over the summer and it all went well. If OWSA asks for money in the future they will have a better idea how to present the request.

Contractor/Agency Reports:

Becca Mashak states that WAPA put out a call last week for contractor and agency reports/updates. A few were received before the meeting.

- **Western GeoArch Research (Bill Eckerle):** Bill Eckerle of Western GeoArch Research reviewed and synthesized available geoarchaeological and Quaternary geology reports for studies undertaken in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Substantive previous studies include work by the University of Wyoming Anthropology Department, National Park Service Midwest Archaeological Center, Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, Cannon Heritage Resources, Western GeoArch Research, and the USGS. Eckerle used information from these studies to construct a landscape-scale, spatial-predictive, archaeological site burial model for Jackson Hole, extending from Flagg Ranch to South Park. This investigation was conducted for Cannon Heritage Resources, Inc. as part of data recovery for the Lower Valley Electric, Teton Village Powerline. The report is entitled *Geoarchaeology of Jackson Hole, Teton County, Wyoming: Prehistoric Site Stratigraphic Provenience and Landscape-Scale Site Burial Potential* and is included as a chapter in the final project report by Cannon Heritage Resources.
- **Denver and Sheridan SWCA:** Sheridan SWCA is currently looking for a Principal Investigator. Please contact Naomi Ollie with any questions on the position. SWCA—Sheridan and Denver offices continue to work on various oil and gas projects across Wyoming. AML and some transportation work continues as well. Chokecherry monitoring is on-going for the Denver office. No major discoveries due to nature of disturbance. SWCA Denver is also working on Eastern Wind River Basin Ethnographic study to help Casper Field Office management decision planning.
- **BLM Rock Springs (Gene Smith):** Gateway West has finally started up. So far there have been 200 variances, each variance is considered an undertaking, and several sites have been found. There has been a slight increase in Oil and Gas APDs and a bit more so in pipeline development. Gene has also started a long term project of trying to document Bow Stave Trees of Wyoming. He's visited the White Mountain Petroglyph Trees, the Split Rock Tree and visited a site northwest of Baggs that has a downed tree that possibly shows evidence of removal of bow staves. Though his sample is too small to be significant, there seems to be a correlation between large rock outcrops (bluffs) and the trees being on the northwest side of these locations. All of the staves so far have been removed from the eastern side of the tree (which faces the rocks). It might be that the sheltered side of the tree has advantages over the weathered side of the tree.
- **Danny Walker:** May be coming in on second wagon at the Battle of Red Buttes site near Casper because they are finding tons of bullet casings and a mule shoe. Continuing to metal detect. He is getting thoughts on where the mass burials of 20 soldiers might be.
- **Rachel Shimek:** Last pieces of a Late Woodland vessel at Hell Gap Locality IV (almost a complete vessel now).
- **Spencer Pelton:** Powars II erosion abatement, working with the AML program. They are going to remove a big haul road and pile up a berm against the side to stabilize the site. Site will be preserved forever as a result.

- **BLM State Office (Kathy Boden):** TransWest Express and Gateway South Class IIIs are happening right now. Otherwise BLM has been pretty quiet. Mary Jo Rugwell is the acting State Director (after the previous State Director retired) and there are a lot of other acting positions right now all the way up to Washington DC. Additionally, they are moving BLM Washington HQ and scattering folks across the west. Wyoming is supposed to get the oil & gas and coal people. BLM leadership is moving to Grand Junction.
- **Naomi Ollie:** The various counties are doing their own RMPs. Mary Hopkins adds that if WAPA wants to meet the new County Commissioners, Mary can arrange something.
- **SHPO (Mary Hopkins):** Heather Rockwell was hired in July as the new Deputy SHPO. If you are struggling with Wyotrack, definitely give Shane/SHPO a call. There is a lot left to be done and we know that. SHPO is meeting with BLM soon about Wyotrack and if consultants want to meet with SHPO as well, that can be arranged. Tomorrow is the Archaeology Fair; thanks to all who are volunteering and a shout out to Judy Wolf, Marcia Peterson, Marieka Arksey, and Madeline Mackey for all the work. The review board meeting is coming up in Cheyenne on the 27th. Also, we submitted the Dinwoody Complex NRHP nomination recently. The Archaeology Month Speaker is John Verano and the presentation will be on September 26th. He will be speaking about Peru. Additionally, Sam Levin is the new WYCRO employee; he working on GIS elements of the SHPO website.
- **OWSA (Michael Page):** The survey has been really busy. Just finished up with excavations at Medicine Lodge Creek for the campground expansion near Ship Rock.

RESOLUTION: On Michael Page's motion (seconded by Julie Francis), the Fall 2019 WAPA Meeting is adjourned. All in favor.

Meeting Attendees (from the sign-in sheet):

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| 1. Gene Smith | 20. Tara Hamilton |
| 2. Brigid Grund | 21. Judy Wolf |
| 3. Lou Redmond | 22. John Laughlin |
| 4. Nathan Fleming | 23. Danny Walker |
| 5. Paul Burnett | 24. Spencer Pelton |
| 6. Ken Humphrey | 25. Mary Hopkins |
| 7. Paul Sanders | 26. Michael Page |
| 8. Brian Waitkus | 27. Becca Mashak |
| 9. Russell Collett | 28. Naomi Ollie |
| 10. Bill Scoggin | 29. Jason Bogstie |
| 11. Julie Francis | 30. Leanna Flaherty |
| 12. Kathy Boden | 31. Rachael Shimek |
| 13. Jaci Wells | 32. Richard Currit |
| 14. Robert Kelly | |
| 15. Heather Rockwell | |
| 16. Madeline Mackie | |
| 17. Marieka Arksey | |
| 18. Marcia Peterson | |
| 19. Adam Guinard | |