

WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Minutes of Business Meeting held April 16, 2004 at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming. These minutes were taken by Vice President Russ Tanner in the absence of Secretary Ranel Capron.

WAPA President Bill Current called the Spring, 2004 meeting of the Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists to order at 1:00pm, Friday, April 16, 2004

About 30 WAPA members were present including President Bill Current, Vice President Russ Tanner, Treasurer Tom Larson and Member at Large Judy Wolf.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the Fall, 2003 meeting in Estes Park, Colorado were provided to members prior to the meeting. The membership requested the minutes not be read at this meeting. A motion was made by Danny Walker, seconded by B J Earle to approve the minutes corrected to indicate that the new State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) historical architect is Patrice Halin. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was read by Tom Larson. There have been no major expenditures since the last meeting.

Judy Wolf, chair of Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month, requested to withdraw \$500.00 from the Archaeology Month account, in order to contribute towards the Frison Institute's guest speaker.

Treasurer Larson advised the membership that the Putnam growth accounts are now yielding higher earnings than they were at the time of our last meeting. Larson had been authorized to change these savings to another fund of his choice, at his discretion, but with the recent improvements in earnings he had opted not to make any changes.

John Goss made a motion, seconded by Craig Smith, to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.

Agency Reports

Bureau of Land Management– BLM archaeologist/historian Russ Tanner reported that the Final Draft of the National Historic Trails Contextis scheduled to be given to BLM field specialists for their review at the BLM-SHPO annual meeting in early May, 2004. Following comments from the field the SHPO and National Park Service (NPS) will be asked to comment on the study. Following any appropriate revisions the Context Study will be released to the public probably by late summer, or early fall. Dave Vlcek pointed out that in the mean time BLM is developing NHT planning strategies in the Pinedale and Rawlins Resource Management Plans (RMP).

Tanner also mentioned that the Rock Springs Field Office Preliminary Final Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan (CAP) will soon be finished. A record of decision is expected in December, 2004.

Pinedale Field Office archaeologist Dave Vlcek reported that the Pinedale RMP team has been given some additional time to consider suggestions from cooperating agencies (e.g. county and state governmental agencies). Lance McNeese of TRC is doing the historic overview and synthesis for the Pinedale RMP.

Vlcek introduced Sam Drucker, the newly hired archaeologist at the Pinedale Field Office. He also reported that the Snake River RMP had been through public review and a record of decision should be signed soon.

Buffalo Field Office archaeologist BJ Earle reported that Coal Bed Methane production continues at a fast

pace. She also said that levels of coal production are increasing in recent months. BLM Archaeologist/Historian Russ Tanner said a request for proposals for a Historic Transportation Context Study of the Powder River Basin will soon be issued by the BLM Wyoming State Office.

United States Forest Service

Medicine Bow National Forest (NF) archaeologist Gary DeMarca reported that Region II Heritage Program Lead Terry Leistmann is working on a programmatic agreement with the Wyoming SHPO.

The Medicine Bow NF will be undertaking a survey of 'residence property tracts' (cabin sites and tracts) this coming summer. The study will be done by local forest staff with NPS architects providing assistance.

Several Passport in Time projects are proposed for this summer including a study of tipi ring sites, a cave survey and a study of the LaPrele cabins and guard station.

The Medicine Bow NF also has an indefinite deliverables contract about to be signed.

Bridger-Teton NF archaeologist Jamie Schoen reported that their 'residence property tracts' inventory will be done in-house and not under contract. The BTNF also will be using Fuels funds to do some inventory.

Schoen also reported that Will Reed is the new Region IV Heritage Program Lead based in Ogden, Utah.

Schoen also said that Ken Cannon, NPS Midwest Center has a proposal in to test the Stinking Springs rock shelter on the Hoback River, near the confluence with the Snake River.

Cher Burgess reported that the Linea Sundstrom will be doing a study of rock art in the Black Hills NF, and Charles Reher, University of Wyoming, will be testing a rock shelter. USFS archaeologist Dave McKee should be contacted regarding these projects.

National Park Service

Yellowstone National Park archaeologist Ann Johnson reported that there will be a contract for a data recovery plan related to Fuels Reduction in the park.

Elaine Hale, also from Yellowstone National Park, reported that a data recovery project will be conducted near Obsidian Cliffs using Department of Transportation funds.

Jacquelin St. Clair, Grand Teton National Park reported that several historic structures will be rehabilitated for 'adaptive re-use.' GTNP will also be doing a study of wickiups and traditional use studies. The University of Wyoming will be doing an ethnobotany study. The 'Teton Enclosure' site was proposed for use on an Archaeology Awareness Month poster but Native Americans requested that it not be publicized. GTNP will also be doing some study of a number of sites studied by Gary Wright of the State University of New York in the 1970s.

Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist

Danny Walker reported that his remote sensing work at Fort Laramie National Historic Site was very successful last year and will continue this summer. Contact Danny to volunteer to work on this project.

Other Projects

BJ Earle reported that State Parks will be doing a NPS battlefields study of the Fetterman Battlefield near Buffalo.

University of Wyoming (UW)

Professor Robert Kelly reported that two new archaeology professors, Todd Surovell and Nicole Waguespack have been hired at UW.

Dr. Kelly also mentioned that the Anthropology Department is now scattered in four buildings on the University of Wyoming campus. There are plans to building a new building just for the Anthro Dept. but those plans require the State Legislatures appropriation of funds for the new library. Building the Library will necessitate tearing down the present Anthropology Building (in the old Law School).

Dr. Kelly also mentioned that there is some question whether or not the Curation Facility will remain in the Anthropology Building, or even on campus. There are some, including the president of the University who are of the opinion that curation is a state government function rather than a university function.

State Archaeologist Dr. Mark Miller also addressed the issue of the Curation Facility explaining that management of the facility is currently under his job description.

Following discussion Russ Tanner made a motion, seconded by Danny Walker, that WAPA send a letter to the University of Wyoming President, supporting keeping the curation facility as a university function housed in the Anthropology Building. A team of Russ Tanner, Bill Current, Mark Miller, and Robert Kelly will work on the letter. The motion carried.

State Historic Preservation Office

Mary Hopkins discussed the GPS (Global Positioning Systems) standards. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) standards call for using North American Datum (NAD) 83, instead of NAD 27. The Wyoming Cultural Records Office (WYCRO) has gone to using NAD 83 which is the latest technology. Mary said the formula for converting between the two datums will be posted on the WYCRO webpage. The decision to use NAD 83 was made by the BLM National Cadastral Team; it was not a local decision.

Dr. Danny Walker, assistant State Archaeologist, distributed the report developed by Art Reese on the SHPO reorganization. If anyone has questions they should call Wendy Bredehoft or Art Reese.

Old Business

Awards

Several plaques are being prepared for awards that WAPA has voted to give over the past couple of years. The plaques should be finished soon and will be presented at the Fall, 2004 WAPA meeting.

Fall WAPA Meeting

The Executive Committee proposed holding the Fall meeting in conjunction with the Anthropology Department and George C. Frison Institutes Workshop for the Wyoming Archaeological Society. The meeting will be on September 23, 2004, in Laramie prior to the Frison Institute lecture. Dr. David Meltzer, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, is the guest speaker, scheduled for 3:00 p.m. that day. The Department also has planned a tour of laboratory facilities and the SHPO Records office facility on campus. There will be a tour to the Hell Gap Site on the following day, Sept. 24, 2004. Judy Wolf, chair of the Archaeology Awareness Month committee reported that the committee has agreed to help fund the guest speaker.

Richard Currit made a motion, seconded by Danny Walker to hold the Fall WAPA meeting on September 23, 2004 in Laramie in conjunction with the WAS Workshop. The motion carried.

Meeting with the Wyoming Association of Professional Historians (WAPH)

Russ Tanner reported that he had invited members of WAPH to attend this WAPA meeting or to meet in conjunction with WAPA. However, the time was short to get notification out the WAPH members and then WAPH president Kevin Anderson became ill and was unable to do any more follow up.

Russ made a motion, seconded by BJ Earle that WAPA send a formal letter to WAPH inviting them to meet together with WAPA at the Fall, 2004 meeting of WAPA in Laramie. The motion carried.

Newsletter

Dave Reiss has agreed to publish the WAPA Newsletter. Please send any information for the Newsletter to Dave.

New Members

The Executive Committee reviewed resumes and applications for membership from Louis Redmond and Jason LaBelle. The Executive Committee recommended approving these people for membership in WAPA. Robert Kelly made a motion, seconded by Sam Drucker, that Redmond and LaBelle be approved for membership. The motion carried.

Wyoming Consulting Committee

President Bill Current reported that the Executive Committee has written a letter to SHPONational Register Historian Sheila Bricher-Wade indicating WAPA has appointed Russ Tanner to serve as WAPA representative on the Consulting Committee for another six (6) year term.

Russ reported that no new archaeological sites have been added to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). He also advised WAPA members that there are four archaeologists on the Consulting Committee (Russ, John Albanese, A. Dudley Gardner and Mary Lou Larson) on the consulting Committee. As a result nominations of archaeological sites should receive a fairly friendly review by the Committee. Russ asked WAPA members to consider nominating more archaeological sites for listing in the NRHP.

Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month (WAAM)

WAAM committee chair Judy Wolf reported that our 2003 poster (Hawkin Site with bison skull) won third place in this years Society for American Archaeology poster contest. New Mexico won first place. Judy reported that the 2004 poster (stone circles) will be ready for distribution soon. She also showed the new WAAM t-shirts which show a rock art image from southwestern Wyoming. Shirts were available for sale by Judy and the WAAM team. Judy reported that the WAAM team has contributed \$500.00 to the University of Wyoming Anthropology Department for the WAS Workshop speaker (Meltzer) at this falls meeting.

Danny Walker made a motion, seconded by Mark Miller that WAPA contribute \$200.00 for Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month activities. The motion carried.

Governmental Affairs Committee

There was brief discussion of the Governmental Affairs Committee and the need for WAPA to comment on numerous planning documents soon to be issued by several government land managing agencies (BLM, USFS, NPS).

New Business

Registry of Public Archaeologists (RPA)

Danny Walker encouraged Wyoming archaeologists to consider applying for listing in the Registry.

University of Wyoming Occasional Papers

Danny Walker advised that he has made reprints and, in some cases, CD Rom versions of all of the Occasional Papers. Danny has them available for purchase now.

The Wyoming Archaeologist publication of the Wyoming Archaeological Society

Danny Walker reported that the next issue is ready to do. However, it is two issues behind and Danny needs more articles and other information to put into the publication.

Changes in the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office

A wide-ranging discussion took place concerning the changes, the study by Mr. Reese, and the way in which the attitudes of the minerals industry affects the practice of cultural resource management and archaeologists in Wyoming.

Following about two hours of discussion a motion was made by Marty Rodgers that the President of WAPA write a letter to the Director of Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources expressing:

1. a positive tone and constructive approach;
2. interest in the SHPO program and recent changes;
3. an interest in having input to SHPO's role and decisions effecting the operations of the SHPO office (indicating that WAPA wants to be an 'interested party' for certain consultation processes); and
4. concern that 'professional standards be maintained', and indicating that WAPA would like to meet with Mr. Noble and Ms. Bredehoff.

The motion was seconded by Dave Vlcek and Mark Miller. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Elaine Hale that WAPA send a second letter to Mr. Noble indicating the profound need for the SHPO office to hire a Historian. The letter should indicate that by SHPO having a historian involved in review of Federal undertakings there will be less delay and more consistency statewide in how historic resources are managed.

The motion was seconded by Tom Larson. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Gary DeMarcay that WAPA write a letter to the BLM State Director requesting 'interested party' status in the negotiations for the new BLM-SHPO Protocol for implementation of the BLM Nationwide Programmatic Agreement in Wyoming. The letter should be sent to BLM State Director Bob Bennett and copied to Mr. Noble, Ms. Bredehoff and Wyoming Governor Dave Fruedenthal.

The motion was seconded by Jana Pastor and Craig Smith. The motion carried.

In light that WAPA was writing a letter to gain interested party status for the BLM protocol, it seemed appropriate that a letter also be sent to the USFS. Thus, a motion was made by Judy Wolf that WAPA send a letter to the US Forest Service Region 2 Regional Forester requesting 'interested party' status in negotiations between the USFS and SHPO relative to the Programmatic Agreement between SHPO and Region 2.

The motion was seconded by Gary DeMarcay. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Richard Currit that WAPA establish an *ad hoc* committee to investigate ways to improve the cultural resources planning processes and knowledge of these procedures by industry users and by the general public. The motion was seconded by Craig Smith. The motion carried. The committee is charged with writing a draft report for the membership at least two weeks *prior to* the Fall WAPA meeting. (e.g. September 1, 2004. President Current appointed Dave Vlcek, Jana Pastor, Richard Currit, Craig Smith and himself to 'brainstorm' the issues to be addressed by the committee. The formal committee was not appointed at this time.

Pump III Meeting

Mary Hopkins, Wyoming Cultural Records Office manager, indicated that there would be a PUMP III Project meeting from 2:30 to 5:00 pm on May 3, 2004 at the BLM Rock Springs Field Office in Rock Springs.

Adjournment

Danny Walker made a motion to adjourn the WAPA meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Vlcek. The motion carried.