

WAPA SPRING 2000 BUSINESS MEETING
April 12, 2000
Lander, Wyoming

Meeting called to order by Craig Smith, President.

Secretary's Report

Ranel passed out copies of the newsletter to new members. Minutes were published in the last WAPA newsletter. Question whether there were any changes and/or additions. None were mentioned. Moved and seconded to accept the minutes as printed in newsletter. Passed.

Treasurer's Report

Julie is in Africa, so we don't have the treasurer's report. We will publish it in the next newsletter for the membership. Paul Sanders said he knew that WAPA had \$9579.99 in the Putnam account.

Agency Reports

BLM -- Tim Nowak

BLM is working on a handbook that should be completed by the end of the calendar year. This handbook will provide information to our field offices. A second handbook specifically for consultants will also be created. We are also looking at reporting standards and considering the future electronic submittal of reports, possible requirements of GPS for site datums, among other things. We feel that we have to deal with this because of the myriad technological advances and we want to let everyone know what standards they should be looking at.

Our one-day bottle workshop with Rich Fike from Montrose, CO BLM went well. Consensus is that the next professional workshop should be on geomorphology. We hope to get Fred Niles to come for a 2 day workshop.

BLM has also been in discussion with the Department of Anthropology to create long term regional ethnohistoric studies. Some of this is based on coal-bed methane (CBM) work and the relative lack of Native American consultation information for the areas, so the Powder River Basin will be first. UW seems quite interested because they don't have an ethnohistoric program and very little research opportunities for grad students in this area. We think we might be able to develop something good for the university and we think we can get BLM funding to do this in 2000.

Russ Tanner reported that Rock Springs BLM has been working on a lot of geophysical projects. Expect also to have 3 research projects going on this summer -- North Table Mtn/Bozovich site (College folks), Marcel will be at Krmpotich site; and Bob Kelly will be at Pine Springs.

BOR - Dale Austin

We may be doing some survey out at Pathfinder Dam in the future, since they are talking about raising the reservoir level. It won't happen this year though. We may also do some survey at Seminoe and some work at the Boysen Government Camp; currently doing a HABS/HAER of the Interstate canal.

USFS -- Thunder Basin National Grasslands -- Ian Ritchie

We are wrestling with CBM and all the water that is expected to be released. We are working with SHPO and BLM to determine the area of potential effects for CBM. We have a few PIT projects going on. They will be in the archaeology calendar. By the way, Sue Struthers had a baby girl and is on maternity leave.

Black Hills NF -- Dave McKee

We have two PIT projects going this summer. We've also been working on a programmatic agreement for the prescribed fire program and we are in the middle of deferred maintenance program, figuring out what we have and what it would take to get it up to snuff. We have gotten money to get sites evaluated and repair historic structures.

Shoshone NF -- Steve Keller

Cultural program is still really screwed up. No money received. Trying to do a Windows on the Past program.

Medicine Bow NF -- Deana Wood

Working on the forest plan revision -- we have four places where cultural resources might exclude other uses. Work ongoing on deferred maintenance and tons of timber sales.

Targhee NF -- Merry Hayden -- is in a shared position with USFS/Targhee and NPS/Grand Teton

Targhee -- Ali Abasabe (?) is new archaeologist. He will be doing a PIT project in Idaho and a project on the back side of the Grand in the Teton range, using local volunteers.

Bridger Teton -- Working on a historic structures inventory. Jamie Schoen spent most of winter going through artifacts on the Fremont Lake dig and he hopes to have it published soon. He used school kids from Pinedale -- went through classroom lessons and then helped with fieldwork.

Grand Teton -- We are starting the archaeology program from scratch. Currently putting sites and reports in order and starting a compliance program. Working with park managers to get them more interested. Working on national programmatic agreement on burns.

Fort Laramie NHS -- Danny Walker -- Reported that they had the money to initiate a complete geophysical survey of main activity area and parade ground, but it got pulled by Denver. Local site is working hard to initiate a long-term program on archaeology out there.

F.E. Warren AFB - Rick Bryant

Going to lot of old sites previously recorded, doing testing and evaluation for NRHP. During week of September 18-29th we have a team from NPS coming out to repair a log cabin and provide a training program for the base carpenters. If anyone else is interested, please see Rick for details.

USFWS - Galen Burgett

Galen is the Region 6 (private lands) archaeologist. They do habitat restoration on farms and ranches, cost sharing with landowner, etc. It is relatively new in Wyoming and there are no projects on ground right now, but expect they will be coming. They are small scale projects but a lot of them. He is stationed out of Spearfish, SD. Rhoda Lewis handles the refuges. We are slowly leading FWS into a realization that cultural resources does need to be dealt with. Rhoda has done a good job raising awareness.

SHPO - Judy Wolf

Working on a lot of programmatic agreements -- like controlled burns with Big Horn National Forest and Black Hills; road maintenance on the Medicine Bow; Pinedale anticline; research design for Beaver Creek; CBM is taking up a lot of staff time; complex land issues.

Todd Thibodeau -- Has been working up at Kerwin (?) up in the mountains above Meeteetse. There are 14 standing structures and an active monitor at a mine site; have used dollars creatively up there. Have a good partnership with Shoshone NF; DEQ/AML and general public who volunteer up there the 1st week of August. Looking to have the forest start doing some interpretation.

Not much work has been done in the last 15 years at Heart Mountain, the Japanese internment camp. Now working on stabilization of Heart Mtn foundations. There is a friends group looking to raise money. It is administered by BOR and they have offered dollars for stabilization.

Consultants

Metcalf Archaeological Consultants -- Mike Metcalf -- currently working on a research design for Beaver Creek oil/gas field SE of Riverton. There are lots of discoveries up in the area -- pit features with very little surficial indications. Coordinating with Craig Bromley and Judy Wolf, maybe creating an advisory team with some academics to guide the process of the research

design. Looking at 3 different approaches -- a couple of them are aimed at predicting discoveries. Talking with Eric Ingbar and Bill Eckerle about that. Also some techniques to go in ahead of construction with small bore hand drills at close interval, backhoe trenches, shovel testing; expedient recording of hearths without context; looking at pit features as archaeological resources; and methods to analyze content and cultural context. Alternative mitigative strategies. It's all a work in progress right now. Company seems to be willing to put money behind it. If this works it could have implications for Jonah.

Also we will have the report for the 1992-93 Uinta Basin pipeline done this summer. It will be available for the cost of reproduction.

OWSA -- Paul Sanders

Finally got Trappers Point site report out. There are two volumes for sale (\$55) and basically that is cost of reproduction. Will be doing number of projects across state, for WYDOT and Guernsey and YNP (FHWA projects).

Danny Walker reported on the UW repository inventory. BLM (and other fed agencies like BOR) have been helping us financially in doing a box by box inventory. Basically each individual item will be inventoried and computerized; currently have 3 students working half-time to do nothing but work on the inventory. Great research potential. Should take about 3 more years to finish.

He also will be working on a small pithouse site above Beaver Creek next month. It is an upland site near Riverton. If you are interested in helping, see him.

Jana Pastor -- WWC has put out the BYU Seeskadee report. It is the first GIS archaeology application in the state. BYU is putting it out for \$85 a piece. Lots of color pictures of GIS, is 2 volumes and has 6 excavations in it.

Russ Tanner -- Wyoming Consulting Committee has had 3 meetings so far. There have been a dozen or so nominations sent on to Keeper; all have been for structures. Talk by Dudley in Evanston on Historic Chinatown; Chuck Reher at Pine Bluffs; testing participated in by committee in Yellowstone. Committee would like to see more prehistoric arch sites nominated.

John Albanese -- Also on the Consulting Committee. Seems like the government/agencies are about only ones who submit those types. Private contractors don't take them on. Under-represented by far. Don't know what it would take to get more prehistoric sites on the NRHP. Encourage you if you have a worthwhile site and do your civic duty and write a nomination.

Old Business

Todd Thibodeau -- Regarding the lobbying effort that was approved at the last meeting in Sundance. I have not been able to do much. We wanted to hire a part-time lobbyist to handle several organizations, but haven't done that yet. John Albanese has volunteered to assist. The issue is not dead, just on hold. The framework is there; the dues are paid up through end of year.

John Coe (director of WY Arts Council) knows someone who has expressed an interest in helping us do this.

Todd will keep us informed of progress in this arena.

Craig Smith -- Mentioned that in the past WAPA has reviewed environmental documents. So if anyone has those types of documents to review, please forward them to me.

New Business

Ranel read list of new members. Motion made and seconded to approve all of them. Motion passed.

New Members

Carol Agard
Kolleen Bean
Debbie Braithwaite
Cher Burgess
Galen Burgett
Beth Burghard
Fred Chapman
Carmen Clayton
Brian Culpepper
Dan Eakin
Dene Ewan
Julie Hatcher
Merry Haydon
Neal Heupel
Ed Jess
Jeff Keahey
Marv Keller
Steve Keller
Danny Krug
Tom Larson
Mark Latham
Therese Miner
Dan Mulligan
Carol-Anne Murray
Erica O'Dell
Kevin O'Dell
Rennie Polidora
Joe Randolph
Houston Rogers
Karen Rogers
Sarah Rothwell
Andrew Sawyer

Brenda Shierts
William Vincent
Dale Wedel
Rob Wilson
Dan Wolf
Deana Wood
Teresa Wriston

Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month -- Judy Wolf

Showed everyone the new poster on Obsidian Cliff with theme of Connecting the Continent. Paul Sanders wrote the text for the brochure, which is a new item this year. Be sure and place the brochure with the poster. Agencies and/or companies who contributed money will get copies of the poster.

Ranel needs calendar activities by Monday. Let her know if you want calendars to put out in your offices.

Tee-shirts will again be for sale. Money raised goes into the fund for next year. This year's shirt depicts the Turtle petroglyph from Castle Gardens.

Our speaker this year will be David Hurst Thomas on Saturday, September 30 at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. Thomas will have a book signing at the reception for him at BBHC, Friday after the WAPA meeting. His new book is entitled "Skull Wars."

Our next meeting will also be at the BBHC, on Friday September 29 at 1 pm. We are working on having a field trip on Saturday a.m.

Questions from the Executive Committee:

What sort of training/symposiums would WAPA like to have?

Do we want to tie into BLM training.? Tim indicated that the BLM training schedule is pretty erratic, but they will be open.

Should we continue to tie the Fall WAPA meeting to WAAM lecture?

Should we have the Spring meeting tied to some kind of training?

Other possibilities is to tie to WAS.

What other things would you like to do?

Danny Walker -- Agrees with combining with WAS -- believes the biggest public outreach we can do is interact with the amateurs. Even to combining with training. The WAS meeting is next weekend in Cody. There are 8-9 papers being given and everyone is welcome. Would like to see all three of these things joined together: WAPA meeting, training, WAS meeting and papers. Added that Bruce Bradley is the banquet speaker.

Mike Metcalf -- The Colorado organization has done 3 things to boost attendance -- training or workshop as focus, a general paper session every time and sometimes a focused symposium on

specific topic. Also joint meetings sometimes has helped boost attendance (like with WAPA or UPAC).

John Albanese -- one thing we don't have is a lot of the contractors coming to meetings and we need to tie them back in. Concerned we don't have enough non-government people coming to meeting. We need the private organizations. I don't want to see this turn into a government operation. Too lopsided.

Mike Metcalf -- Would like to see some papers done on fire-pit research. That would fill a current need for information.

Joe Randolph -- what about new technology; data analysis??

Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Newsletter

WAPA News comes out twice a year. We need news items from you. Please e-mail them to Craig Smith. We agreed that the newsletters would come out after the meetings. We will use e-mail to notify people of meetings.

Letter from Washakie Museum

Paul Sanders reported that he received a letter addressed to WAPA from Washakie Museum. They are asking for contributions of \$500 but any amount is appreciated. They are trying to renovate the museum and are estimating a need \$12,000 for improvements.

We currently have a donation policy on where we spend our funds. Most has gone to WAAM and regional conferences like Rocky Mountain, Island in the Plains, Wyoming History Day. In addition, we have a \$100 limit unless specified otherwise.

Craig Smith will write a letter to them telling them about our policy and that we will not donate to them.

Bill Current -- Suggested putting the donation policy in newsletter.

Wyoming History Day

A judge is needed for the WAPA award at History Day. The State Competition (winners go to Washington DC) will be this coming Monday in Casper. It is designed for research done on a specific theme by Junior High and High School students in Wyoming. Some of the papers are excellent. It is one of the better things we do to get youngsters involved in history and research. We sponsor a \$100 cash award for an archaeology paper. John Albanese volunteered to be the WAPA judge.

Danny -- All the winners are photographed and those photos are provided to the organization giving the award, so you should be able to get a photo to put on the web site.

Miscellaneous

Danny Walker -- reminded everyone to get e-mail addresses around to folks. WAPA does have a website and all past articles for few years are archived there. Also share information about archaeology websites with each other.

Jana Pastor -- Great Basin Conference is in Ogden this year -- October 5-7, 2000. She will be putting together a symposium on Southwest Wyoming.

Mary Hopkins -- Colorado Council of Prof Archaeologists and the Colorado amateur group funded context documents for the state and all 5 are out. Get them from Megg Van Ness at CO SHPO for \$15 a piece. They are very good documents based on drainage basins. They were actually funded through grants from gambling money.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Assenting votes won (like there would be any dissenting votes!) and meeting was adjourned.