

**A&H Board Meeting
Hines, OR
October 21, 2014**

Attendees

Board:

Barry DelCurto; Ron Borisch; Jim Morrell; Alan Christensen; Dave Stiefvater; Doug Baily;
Craig Ely

ODFW Staff:

Matthew Keenan, A&H Program Coordinator; Christina Schmidt, Administrative Assistant; Tom
Thornton, Game Program Manager

Regional Coordinators:

Jon Paustian; Nancy Breuner; Tom Segal

Chair DelCurto called the meeting called to order at 8:07 a.m.

Review of the July 2014 Meeting Minutes

Doug moved to approve the July meeting minutes as written; Dave seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

Board Member Reports

Craig Ely:

Craig wasn't able to make it to the last meeting due to his daughter's wedding. Recreationally, he was able to get in a packing trip and will be going elk hunting.

Doug Baily:

Doug reported that a cougar killed his goat and a lamb. He killed the cougar and reported it immediately.

Dave Stiefvater:

Dave said the gun raffle has really caught on at the Ontario Recreational Access project. He figures 85-90% of access area permits are being submitted. He suggested giving away more than one gun.

Alan Christensen:

Alan had nothing to report.

Jim Morrell:

Jim expanded his big game "no kill zone" from Oregon to Canada. He still has an elk tag to fill here in Oregon.

Ron Borisch:

Ron announced that he was resigning from the board. He has just over a year left but this will be his last meeting. Weyerhaeuser bought out Longview Timber and are going to a fee hunting structure, so he felt that it was a conflict of interest to advocate for opening up private lands when he's working for a company that is going to charge fees for hunting access.

Barry DelCurto:

Barry had nothing to report. He let Ron know that he's been a big help to the board and he is sad to see him go.

State Coordinator Report

Matt expressed his appreciation to Ron for his 7 years of serving on the board.

Project Updates

- Moody Fire Seeding Project approved by Director's office; ready to go
- JWTR Travel Management Area – sold to Green Diamond
 - Green Diamond seems like they're willing to cooperate and participate the same way that JWTR did

NE Region Site Visits

- MR King
 - Helped put up signs and permit boxes
- Fur Mountain Access Area
- Fox Valley Access Area

Gun Raffle

- Press release on the gun give away went out

A&H Access Area Online Survey

- The online survey is for access areas or TMA's that don't have access area permits
- Not live yet but close
- A link will be sent to board members when it goes live

Discussion

- Ron asked if the online survey was linked to mandatory reporting; he's wondering if it might be confusing to a hunter who fills out the survey, they might think that filling out the survey counts as reporting.
- Matt said that it doesn't link to mandatory reporting. They've discussed having a link to the online survey from the mandatory reporting page because most people go through that page but decided that was not a good idea because hunters might click the online survey before reporting, take the survey, and assume they had reported. Right now they only plan to have the online survey linked to the A&H webpage.

Auction and Raffle Advertising

- NW Sportsman
- NW Sportsman Atlas issue calendar
- RMEF Legacy Calendar

Mobile Oregon Hunting Access Map (OHAM)

- Making a lot of progress, expect to be done and usable by the end of the year.

Matt let the board know that this would be his last meeting. He has accepted a position in Prineville as the Assistant District Biologist.

Discussion

- Tom Thornton let the board know that Keith Kohl would be the acting A&H Program Coordinator so that there is not gap in service. They're looking at opening the position up as a job rotation through the end of the current biennium. There's a chance that part of the program, instead of being 100% A&H, could be picked up by some Pittman Robertson funds. If that does occur then the person in this position would most likely be doing some other things in addition to A&H. That's all speculative until the budget is firmed up.
- Craig asked if there had been any opportunity for the chair of A&H to have any input into the A&H Program Coordinator position hiring process.
- Tom is not sure what occurred 7 years ago when Matt was hired.
- Matt said the A&H Chair was on his interview panel.
- Craig suggested that they continue to include the chair.
- Jim suggested, being the Ron Borisch is leaving and they'll be recruiting for a new member, that the board be included in the ranking/scoring of board member applications before the applications go to whoever makes the final decision.
- Tom replied that he's not sure exactly how that process works, he knows that some of it is laid out in statute, but he'll see how they can fit the board into the selection process.

A&H Budget Report

Matt Keenan, A&H Program Coordinator, provided an update of the current A&H Program budget (refer to A&H packet).

Discussion

- Dave asked if the board could get a copy of the spreadsheet that showed how the projects were prioritized.
- Matt will make sure the board gets an updated hard copy of the spreadsheet in the mail. The only new project added since the last time Matt handed out the spreadsheet is the Brogan Pasture Fire Seeding Project.

2015 Board Meeting Schedule

- Jan 12 & 13 - Salem
- April 20 & 21 – Tillamook or Bandon

Motion:

Jim moved to approve Tillamook as the location for the April board meeting; Dave seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

- July 20 & 21- Salem
- October 19 & 20 - Baker City or Halfway

Motion:

Doug moved to approve Halfway as the location for the October board meeting; Dave seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

Discussion

- Alan suggested Bandon in the future to see the New River Aleutian Goose project.

Auction Event Sign-up

2015 AUCTION EVENT SCHEDULE

2015 Auction Tag	Organization	Date & Location	A&H/ODFW Representative(s) to attend	
Elk	Ducks Unlimited, Sunset Chapter	Forest Grove, OR February 7, 2015	1. Alan	2. Dave
Deer	Mule Deer Foundation, National Convention	Salt Lake City, UT February 20, 2015	1. Barry	2. N/A
Deer	Mule Deer Foundation, Linn-Benton Chapter	Albany, OR March 7, 2015	1. Alan	2. Doug
Elk	Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation, Pendleton Chapter	Pendleton, OR March 21, 2015	1. Craig	2. Dave
Elk	Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation, Medford Chapter	Medford, OR March 28, 2015	1. Doug	2. Dave
Deer	Oregon Hunters Association, Capitol Chapter	Salem, OR April 4, 2015	1. Jim	2. Craig
Deer	National Wild Turkey Federation, Central Oregon Chapter	Bend, OR April 11 ,2015	1. Jim	2. Craig
Elk	Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, Oregon Chapter	Hillsboro, OR May 2, 2015	1. Alan	2. Doug
Combo	Oregon Hunters Association, State Convention	Lincoln City, OR May 16, 2015	1. Barry	2. Jim

Discussion

- Jim reminded Matt that the board would like to have nametags for the auction events to better identify who they are and who they represent.
- Matt said he'd work on getting the board members nametags.
- Alan suggested adding text to the auction/raffle winners hunt pictures that they display at events so that they know which tag they had and where they got the deer/elk.

Public Comment

No public comment at 9:42 a.m.

Regional Council Appointments

Southwest Regional Advisory Council

The Southwest Regional Advisory Council has a Hunter Representative and a Landowner Representative position available. The regional council voted to appoint James Fields to the Hunter Representative position and voted to appoint Gerald Meyer to the Landowner Representative position.

Discussion

- Vince explained that Gerald Meyer was the only applicant for the Landowner Representative position and he wasn't sure if Gerald met the criteria. Vince wasn't sure what the criteria for the Landowner Representative position are. Gerald is not a forester or rancher, he owns some property on the Umpqua River, and his family owns property in Christmas Valley which they let people hunt ground squirrels on.
- Dave asked how much land Gerald owns on the Umpqua River.
- Vince replied 1 acre.
- Matt reminded the board of past discussions regarding the criteria for a Landowner Representative and how they felt a Landowner Representative should essentially be someone that makes their livelihood from their land, not necessarily does it have to be a source of income, but that they are in some way using and working the land.
- Alan asked what Barry's thoughts were on what the criteria should be.
- Barry feels that in order to get a real landowner representation, it should be someone who is hands on and making some kind of a living from the land, but doesn't necessarily have to be the main source of how they make their living.
- Dave asked how involved Gerald was with his family's property in Christmas Valley.
- Vince replied that he believes they just visit the property, he doesn't think its productive land. They let people hunt squirrels and he's not sure if they do any grazing but doesn't think so.
- Alan doesn't feel that Gerald fits the requirements of a landowner representative.

Motion:

Alan moved to appoint James Field as Hunter Representative as recommended by the advisory council; Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

Motion:

Craig moved to not appoint Gerald Meyer as Landowner Representative as recommended by the advisory council. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

Regional Coordinator Reports

Vince Oredson:

Vince has been busy advertising for the C2 Ranch adult archery deer hunt. It's a late hunt that starts in November. He's had 200 applications so far for 6 spots. He has also been busy getting the new patrol officer for the Jackson TMA squared away.

David Stroppel:

David has been primarily working with Doug Cottam, Brian Wolfer, and Nancy Taylor in preparing applications for TMA projects coming up for renewal. Rich Owens, the South Willamette Advisory Council chair's first term is up and he will not be pursuing a second term, so David will be opening the position up to other members of the council. He also has a hunter representative who's up for his second term and David thinks he's interested in reapplying.

Tom Segal:

Tom let the board know that the Moody seeding project that was recently approved is underway.

Nancy Breuner:

Nancy updated the board on Open Fields projects, Dixie Meadows and Aspen Valley Ranch. Both properties are hunt by reservation only. Reservations opened up on August 1st and the deer hunts filled up within 6 minutes. Dixie Meadows allows 19 hunters of those there are 6 deer hunting, success as of right now has been one antelope, deer hunting conditions weren't ideal due to full moon and it being so hot and dry. Access area permits showed an average satisfactory rate of 4 out of 5 for the Dixie Meadows property, hunters like that they have 7,000 acres to themselves. The Dixie Meadows project was only a 3 year contract and this is the last season. The landowner is not interested in renewing the agreement. Nancy will be sending a courtesy letter out to everyone warning them that if they put in for an Ochoco tag they won't have an opportunity to hunt on the Dixie Meadows property. The Aspen Valley Ranch project is in the Maury unit. Aspen Valley had more deer hunting interest, there were 12 deer hunters signed up, and the success has been 4 deer harvested. Elk season has just started, not sure what the success rate has been so far. The Aspen Valley Ranch project has 2 more years to go and the landowner is interested in renewing the agreement after it expires. The landowner is particularly interested in doing some juniper removal and prescribed burns. Nancy has been talking with the landowner about expanding hunting opportunities to include turkey.

Jon Paustian:

Jon has been busy with hunting season; his by permission properties are very busy. Access area permit compliance seems to be up. He'll be collecting permits at the end of the year and will be analyzing the data in January/February.

Project Review

2014-13 Hancock Forest Management Access Project

Regional Coordinator Jon Paustian, ODFW Technician Patrick Hayden, Hancock Forest Management representative Steve McClelland, and ODFW Grande Ronde Watershed District Manager Nick Myatt presented this project (refer to A&H Board packet for the Regional Council Review and application for detailed information on the project).

This is a renewal project that will provide full-time staffing for an ODFW technician for 10 months each year during the period of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2017. Working with Hancock Forest Management and ODFW biologists, this technician will: (a) prepare gates and signage in advance of hunting seasons as well as maintain the latter during hunts; (b) patrol

Travel Management Areas (TMA) year round; (c) set and maintain remote motion sensor surveillance cameras, and (d) report project results in written format. These activities have made the Sled Springs MDA a success, and have ensured that public access and hunting are supportive of state law and landowner resource-protection rules.

Discussion

- Jim asked Steve if they were to receive a cut in funding what areas would they have to cut back on.
- Steve replied that they'd probably end up dropping an entire TMA.
- Nick added that the other potential impact of reducing funding would be possibly having to make the position a seasonal position instead of a permanent position. A&H only funds the position for 10 months so they already have to seek other funding for an additional 2 months and Nick is not sure how successful they would be in finding other funding for more than the 2 months.
- Jon added that if the position became seasonal they would most likely be hiring a different person each season that would have to be trained and training a new person each season would be difficult because it's a lot of acres/miles to cover.
- Steve agreed with Jon and said a seasonal/temporary person would not work because they'd spend so much time training a person each season. Steve feels that it's critical that they employee be somebody that can be there on a regular basis.

Motion:

Dave moved to approve the project as written; Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 6:0.

Meeting adjourned 11:03 a.m.