

2020 Summer Membership Meeting
via Zoom
<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/96290136369>
Wednesday, September 23, 2020 6:00 pm
AGENDA

Arizona Section, SRM
2020 Officers

Erin Thomas
President

Emilio Carrillo
President-Elect

Joshua Grace
Vice President

JD Eddy
Andrew Habgood
Directors- North

KC Curley
Brett Myers
Directors-South

Ashley Hall
Secretary & Treasurer

Emma Weiss
ASU Chapter President

Brian Koppy
U of A Chapter President

Andrew Brishke
Past President

1. Welcome/Call to Order 6:06pm AZ time

2. Approve Winter Meeting Minutes

Josh moves
Jeff Seconds

3. Financial Report – Ashley Hall (see attached spreadsheet)

4. Officer/Committee Reports:

• **Past President**

Andrew B: I am recruiting new officers. We are looking for Secretary/treasurer position. I am hoping to have multiples for each person. I don't have anyone yet for Director N or S.

• **President-Elect**

Emilio: it was a new experience putting a together a virtual meeting. We had to put somethings together from scratch because we couldn't do the camp out we had planned. We are still in the works for the winter meeting. I'm still exploring ideas the hot topic for our section is helping out the NM section with the ALBQ 2022 meeting. Andrew A has done a great job with the new website, I will let him talk about that.

Iric: what is the timeframe for deciding if the winter meeting will be virtual?

Emilio: it depends on the status of the pandemic. The national meeting will be virtual in 2021. I think that speaks volumes to that concern. We will have national SRM update us on Friday. I want to wait to see how it plays out in the next few months. They are predicting another wave coming through.

Iric: FS in in AZ is telling us we won't be going back to work by then. At least for northern AZ. If we decided to do virtual now, we could start to market a winter virtual meeting.

Emilio: yes the agencies are something to consider because they are a big part of the meetings. Right now I'm thinking it will be virtual. Jeff Schalaus is suggesting in chat that we plan for virtual.

• **Vice-President**

Josh: I don't have much to report. We will talk about ABQ 2022 later. I agree that Andrew A has done a great job with taking us to the next level virtually.

• **Directors North and South**

JD: we are still making things happen on the ground here in northern AZ

• **Membership – Joey Dahms**

135 members 33 expired 24 people with AZ listed as an additional section

• **Public Relations – Andrew Antaya**

Andrew A: Erin and I have talked about where we can take this. I think our outreach program should be exploring alternative avenues that we haven't used fully in the past. I'm thinking we do a better job outreaching to Tribal, Hispanic, Black communities that have a role in our organization. There are also fewer people come from ranching backgrounds but there are interested in rangeland conservation. Maybe folks with an equestrian background or different natural resources field. At this point we are just getting off the ground for public relations and outreach we need a few more people on this committee.

- **Native Range – Erin Thomas**
- **Young Professionals – Brett Myers**
- **Rancher – Alanna Riggs**

- **University – Larry Howery**

UA's enrollment is up this year, 20-25 undergrads and 3-4 grad students.

- **Awards – Jason Martin**
- **Auction & Fundraising – Alisha Phipps**
- **NRCWAY – Kim McReynolds HSYF update,**

Andrew: it is going to get difficult for NRCDs to sponsor NRCWAY, they may not even be allowed to any more. It will be difficult to do it with support from them going forward. The camp fees will have to go up without their sponsorship. I don't have all the details. We also need to take care of the Trust.

Dennis: is that coming from changes of policies with NRCDs?

Andrew B: its coming from AZ state land dept. or wither the main associations of NRCDs change in policy

Josh: this district gets money from different sources and some districts have money that they raise on their own. Some of the money coming from the state legislature and those have to be spent in a certain way.

We will now have to enter into a contract with every district that wants to provide money and how we are providing them a service. We will have to sit down and write a blanket contract and see if it is something the finance people at state land will approve it.

Dennis: I don't know to what extent we have gone to farm bureau or cattle growers. Perhaps they would consider putting some money towards it.

Andrew B: I will reach out to cattle growers and see what they say. In my county farm bureau is dedicated to ag in the classroom but I can reach out

- **Science – Elise Gornish**
- **Newsletter Kelsey Hawkes**

We can re-think the budget allotment for the newsletter. I have been sending post cards out to the few people that want the newsletter through the mail to get the number of copies I have to print and send down and transition to more delivery by email.

Ashley: yes, maybe we want to revisit the budget track and evaluate how to move money around in the budget.

Iric and Erin: thank you to Kelsey for the newsletter!

2. Unfinished Business

- **US Drought Monitoring Program Update**

Andrew: I've asked Mike Crimmins, the program hasn't moved very far because of COVID. The main idea is making our own AZ centric map because of how spotty our bimodal precip is. I'm not sure how many people talk to crimmins its really tough to move USDM sometimes.

- **Ecological Site Priorities Update**

Andrew B: I submitted the AZ Section priorities to the Parent Society, not sure if there has been any movement. I sent it to Danny Coffman with the advisory council so I'm not sure where that has moved.

Ashley: We had a meeting recently in Tucson with NRCS folks, and their priorities were not AZ priorities how will this work?

Andrew: not sure how that is going to work if National can just put pressure,

Emilio: NRCS is looking for where we need to focus our work so I'm not sure that has filtered down yet.

Ken Gishi: We had an ESD work group that was discussing priorities but now there are many vacancies.

We have stressed the need for adequate ESDs. Soils division is also doing a restructuring so there will be people moving around within the next year.

3. New Business

- **Co-hosting the Albuquerque 2022 National Meeting**

Emilio: NM section asked Erin if we would be interested in co-hosting the 2022 National meeting. We sent out a survey and got a list of volunteers. We met with NM two weeks ago to talk about where we could assist them. They are still in the initial staged because of the pandemic. They are very welcoming of us to assist them. The next step is to work with them on putting together a MOA with what tasks we are going to work on.

Josh: Andrew and Ashley are going to be the co-chairs and then Emilio and I will communicate directly with NM to divvy up tasks. It sounds like we have a lot of UA student interested in helping is when we do our MOA we split out a percent of the profits that would come to our section and budget some of that ahead to get students to the meeting because that is where most of where the ground work is.

Andrew B: I do want to be clear it is going to require more than a committee of one for most of these. The people that stepped up to that survey that wanted to help they are probably want those to chair those. We have concurrent session.

Ashley: We will send out a call for volunteers again we got about 15-20 the first round.

- **Looking ahead to the Section Winter Meeting**

Emilio: Bob Stieger approached me at the last meeting to do something in conjunction with the Nevada Section. It would be a meeting about the Mohave livestock association, ranchers, Anita Waitte, providing information about the desert tortoise. The meeting would be in Laughlin. With the pandemic, it looks like it might need to be virtual. Josh Grace is responsible for the next summer meeting. If we do this virtually in the winter and a tour in the summer. I know this is a focused topic, but in the past, we have done focused topics. Another possibility is the Deep Well Ranch research and history. That could also turn into a winter meeting virtually then doing a tour in during the summer. We could have more background on research followed up by a summer tour for a few different things.

Josh: My opinion is to move forward with a winter virtual meeting since the Parent Society has done the same thing. If we do virtual in the winter I agree it would be good to have a summer meeting follow up.

Emilio: if we commit to an in person meeting at any venue would we be on the hook for paying? We should look into that.

Josh: There are liability issues for insurance at meetings that we still don't have.

Ashley: We need to figure this out because we have not paid for insurance at meetings in the past.

International Range Conference – October of 2022 the call for papers was extended as well.

- **Monthly Webinar & Fundraising Proposal**

Iric: Webinar series for fundraising. Heather dial, Shai, Alisha, Josh and I came up with a plan for a webinar. We broke it down into different donation levels.

Andrew B: I can provide zoom links. But I want to bring up, companies are hurting right now due to the pandemic, should we be asking for sponsorships?

Iric: I'm ok with it, as long as we aren't asking restaurants, there are some people that might be able to do some things. I do agree with you.

Andrew A: I can coordinate with any companies as far as getting their logo on the website etc.

Andrew B: I think we should start slow with asking for donations and see how it goes.

Dennis: the concept is good because we need the financial support but we have to be careful about endorsements of a certain company in that they just support what we are doing.

Andrew B: sponsors could do a commercial.

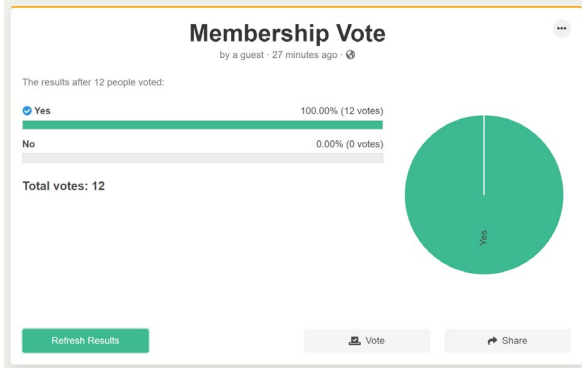
Dennis: A vote on the concept might be a good idea just to solidify the decision.

Andrew A: can post a link to a poll in the chat.

Josh: I agree not all sectors are hurting I think we can start to get it up on the website.

Erin: you have the suite of webinars in line to go once this gets approved right?

Iric: yes, we do



- **Housing Jessica's Scholarship Fund**

Iric: originally when we wrong this up it was supposed to be held in the national SRM through NARAC. Through that fund we will send native American students to the national meeting, originally it was supposed to be high schoolers, but last year it didn't happen. This year we just went out and found two people from Hualapai. One is a freshman is high school the other was a freshman at a community college. You can't house a memorial fund with 3 people, there are only three of us right now Heather, Erin and I. NARAC isn't really a great place to house it. I think it should be housed through AZ Section. That would entail receiving applications which should come from all sections nationally and working with the Parent Society to get that advertising out, which has not been done to this point. Or there could be other places to house the workload of it.

Erin: I just wanted to start this discussion; does it fall under the purview of existing committees?

Andrew B: if I remember the original scholarship was to open for HSYF nationally, but if AZ is doing all the work does it go to an AZ person?

Iric: It is open for suggestions.

Erin: It is going to be open to more people to include high school and college students. College students might be a better selection for this. One of the students that got the scholarship this year is in college.

Dennis: there is a company to that provides smaller assistance to local organization and are available or consultation and managing donor funds. It wouldn't hurt to have a conversation with them. It's a non profit and there is no charge for their services. If the scope is national, then the Parent Society should take care of it. If it's something as AZ Section, then it should be a AZ community foundation.

Iric: If the Parent Society is brought into it, right now we have about \$6,000 in the account, hopefully that is the catalyst to get to \$40K in the next 3-5 years. They are housing the funds and have no problems with that it's just the day-to-day business of people applying and deadlines etc.

Andrew B: I think Susan Pater recommended someone that handles non-profits for the NRCWAY fund that we could talk to as well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Arizona Section Society for Range Management Budget Track

	Proposed	Actual 2020
Income		
Winter Meeting	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 7,593.59
Summer Meeting	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
SRM Annual Dues	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 635.00
Winter Meeting Auction	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,580.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 11,808.59
Expenses		
Awards	\$ 800.00	\$ 820.74
ASU/UA scholarships	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00
AZ Corp. Comm. Fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
ASU student chapter	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
UA student chapter	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
HSYF Student	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 381.96
Section newsletter	\$ 800.00	\$ 26.60
Misc.	\$ 300.00	\$ 87.78
SquareSpace (Website)		\$ 94.57
NRCWAY donation	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
NRCWAY 1/2 auction	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,790.00
Winter Meeting	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 12,137.21
Summer Meeting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 15,360.00	\$ 18,798.86
Balance	\$ 140.00	\$ (6,990.27)

2020 Meeting Profit

Winter 2020	\$ (4,543.62)
Summer 2020	\$ -