

SOUTH DAKOTA SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND
BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING
APRIL 24, 2020

Board Members Present by teleconference: Dr. Barry Dunn, Jim Faulstich, Steve Halverson, Curt Korzon, DeLon Mork, Larry Ness, Jim Scull and Ex Officio Board Member Kelly Hepler, GFP Department Secretary. Others attending by teleconference: Jeffrey Zimprich NRCS, Senator John Wiik and Representative Nancy York. GFP Staff attending by teleconference: Kevin Robling, GFP Deputy Director, Tom Kirschenmann, GFP Division Director and Executive Director Lisa Weyer.

CALL TO ORDER AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

President Jim Scull called the meeting of the South Dakota Second Century Habitat Fund board to order at 10:02 am CT and a quorum was present. No declarations or conflict of interest were heard. The board welcomed Curt Korzon as a new board member. Also introduced was Legislative Advisor Representative Nancy York and Jeff Zimprich NRCS.

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2020 MEETING

Hepler moved to approve minutes as presented; seconded by Mork and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT & PAYABLES

Weyer explained the financial report and went through payables.

Korzon moved to approve the financial report as presented; seconded by Halverson and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

FOLLOW UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Report of funds at SD Community Foundation – Weyer

John Deppe's RC&D Memorial Fund – This is a fund that was given to the SD Conservation Fund from another organization that went out of operation. We will only get the distributions/interest and will never receive the full principal amount. The purpose of the fund is to be used for conservation habitat in South Dakota.

Second Century Habitat Inc. Fund – This is our endowment fund and we can only utilize the distributions/interest. Kessler started this in 2016 by contributing a dollar amount to be used as matching funds, if needed.

Second Century Pass through Fund – This is not an endowment, so all principal can be used. We have an agreement establishing the pass-through fund as a sub fund of our organization. All dollars contributed to this fund will be held until such time as distribution recommendations are determined by the Second Century Board. More research will be done to gather background information on this fund to better determine how it can be used. Weyer will email out the agreement to all the board members.

Habitat Partner of the Year Award/Criteria – Kirschenmann

Kirschenmann will work on the criteria for board's review at next meeting.

Habitat Decal Update – Weyer

The decals are a token of appreciation for people who donate \$10 or more to the Second Century Habitat Fund while obtaining a hunting license online from GFP.

The Governor would like to take a different route with the design of the decal. The Department of Tourism is working on design options now for the Governor's review and approval. The Second Century Habitat Fund will have the expense of paying for the printing of the decals and postage. At the end of 2019 we had about 2,000 decals that need to be mailed out from donations.

Habitat Crowdsourcing Update – Weyer

The habitat crowdsourcing effort was part of the GFP Second Century Initiative. It allowed the public to provide ideas for improvement to habitat in South Dakota. The list has been narrowed down to six ideas. The winners will be selected by a consensus of the Governor's office, GFP staff, GFP Commission and Second Century Habitat Fund. The winners will receive a free hunting or fishing license, which will be paid by the Second Century Habitat Fund.

POET Donations Status – Mork

Mork stated he reached out the first part of March to the CFO of POET and received notification that they decided to pass on a donation this year. Mork stated it is worth revisiting in the future but will need the Governor's involvement.

Hepler stated a personal thank you note to POET from GFP and Second Century Habitat Fund would be appropriate.

GOVERNANCE

Re-election/appointments with expiration term of 2020 - DeLon Mork, Steve Halverson, Tim Kessler and Larry Ness

Hepler suggested that the committee needs to decide on what they want to do for re-election/appointments then forward those names to the Governor's office.

It was asked if the four want to continue to be on the board. Mork, Halverson and Ness would like to stay on the board. Scull or Weyer will check with Kessler to see if he is still interested on being a board member. Ness stated we need to start showing some positive signs of things that we are doing.

Korzon asked if the organization is trying to get youth more involved. Halverson stated if we can get the youth involved that will help us for future years. Need to broaden the focus beyond habitat.

Mork would like to make a request to meet with the Governor for guidance on the mission of the Second Century Habitat Fund organization.

Request to change by-laws to allow Legislative Advisors voting rights - Hepler

Hepler reported that the intent from the Governor is that the legislative advisors are not voting members on the board but serve in an advisory capacity from the legislative viewpoint.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Report on Mission Statement from Subcommittee – Hepler

Hepler read the existing mission statement. After reviewing the current mission statement, it was recommended to leave the mission statement as is.

Dr. Dunn stated he likes the vision statement but requested that a stronger vision statement may be needed to outline more specifics of what we want to accomplish.

Hepler stated he will go back to the subcommittee and look at the vision statement and bring something to the next meeting.

Mork stated we need to incorporate youth and get the Governor's guidance on this to see if she supports incorporating youth hunting into the organization's mission. Halverson suggested we need to appoint a subcommittee to start working on a program for youth after conversation with the Governor.

Dedicated website and social media for the Second Century Habitat Fund – Weyer

Weyer explained that currently Second Century shares a website with SD Habitat Pays, which is a GFP hosted website. Weyer would like to request approval to obtain price quotes and the option of having our own website/domain for better visibility of Second Century Habitat Fund. The Board agreed this is a priority for the future of the organization.

Mork stated there is a company in Madison that does website design, so he will inquire with them. Mork and Weyer will follow up with costs and information for board approval.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Second Century Working Lands Program – Weyer

- 56 landowners
- 3,533 total acres enrolled
- \$530,000 paid to landowners

Kirschenmann stated we might be seeing an increase in enrollment due to the announcement of the new CRP payment and guidelines.

Weyer stated in our February meeting we talked about a few changes for the Working Lands contract on adding a checkbox for hunting access on the landowner's land. Weyer read the language for the checkbox. After conversation it was decided to leave the contract as is throughout this enrollment cycle.

Every Acre Counts Program – Weyer

Weyer stated she requested a MOU with Pheasants Forever as to what the agreement is to be with the contribution towards the Precision Ag Specialist position. Weyer presented the MOU for the board's review. In the agreement it listed the four states in the Prairie Pothole Region. The Board was concerned with the addition of the other states and that the Precision Ag Specialist would not be solely focused on South Dakota with the monies contributed by the Second Century Habitat Fund. Weyer will inquire with Pheasants Forever to request the removal of the other states. Upon this language being cleared up, Weyer has the approval to sign the agreement.

GFP COMMISSION UPDATE

No update

OTHER ITEMS:

MAWFA Sponsorship Request (GFP) - Weyer

Weyer received a request from GFP as South Dakota is hosting the Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (MAWFA) Conference the end of June and they

are looking for sponsorships. They have different levels of sponsorships from \$500 to \$5000.

Weyer stated there is around \$100,000 in the unrestricted account right now.

Scull made the motion to sponsor \$2,000 for MAWFA; seconded by Korzon and motioned carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURN

Hepler made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Korzon and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Scull adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM CT

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Weyer, Executive Director

Date

Approved by,

Jim Scull, President

Date