

SOUTH DAKOTA HABITAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
CONFERENCE CALL
PIERRE, SD
DECEMBER 18, 2017

Board Members Present: Doug Balvin, Steve Halverson, Christine Hamilton, DeLon Mork, Dick Muth, Larry Ness, Terry Schultz, Jack Theeler. Present via conference call were Tony Bour, Scott Lawrence, Jan Nicolay, and Jeff Scherschligt.

Staff Present: Keller Hepler, Wayne Winter, Tom Kirschenmann, Tanna Zabel, Emily Kiel, Rachel Comes and Kharla Vock.

CALL TO ORDER

President Scherschligt called the meeting of the South Dakota Habitat Conservation Foundation Board to order at 1:00 p.m. CT and declared a quorum.

MINUTES

Bour moved to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2016 meeting. Seconded by Hamilton and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Bour moved to elect Steve Halverson, Tim Kessler, Les Lindskov, DeLon Mork Larry Ness, Jan Nicolay and Jeff Scherschligt to new terms beginning in 2018 and ending in 2020. Seconded by Lawrence and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Muth moved to elect Christine Hamilton as President, Jan Nicolay as Vice President and Steve Halverson as Secretary/Treasurer for 2018. Seconded by Mork and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

STATUS OF IRS APPLICATION FOR NONPROFIT LETTER OF DETERMINATION

Winter provided an update on the status of the IRS application for nonprofit status. IRS is requesting a change to the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation to comply with their requirements.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Winter presented Amendment #1 to the Articles of Incorporation. This change is being requested by the IRS and changes the Dissolution Clause so that section of the

application complies with IRS requirements. Schultz moved to approve Amendment #1 to the Articles of Incorporation as presented in the meeting materials. Seconded by Nicolay and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Winter provided the financial report from First National Bank and the South Dakota Community Foundation noting total assets and funds available in our accounts.

PROJECT UPDATES

Matt Morlock from Pheasants Forever discussed updates on the Saline Soils in Pheasant Habitat, the Nesting/Rearing Habitat on Working Lands and the Aberdeen Pheasant Coalition projects and CRP Habitat Enhancement Project in Duel County.

Steve Donovan from Ducks Unlimited discussed updates on the James River Watershed RCPP, Firesteel Wetlands, Swan Lake Restoration, Mallard Dam Repair, Hyde County Right of Way, SD Highway 37 ROW Habitat Improvements, Vig and Kemnintz Restoration and Summit Tract Restoration projects. There will be a small amount of unused funds after some of these projects are completed.

Theeler moved that unused grant funds from DU projects to be refunded to the Foundation and placed in a tracking fund to be used for future habitat projects. Second by Ness. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

STATUS OF GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE

Hepler suggested to the Board that they need to determine what direction the Foundation wants to go, and then discuss those potential projects with the Governor. The Board should build a strategic vision and notes that the Governor is looking for progress.

REVISED DU PROPOSAL

Steve Donovan from DU discussed that they have received a private \$1 million donation to help with soil health programs. He mentioned that if DU could get approval to use the Governor's challenge money, they could apply those funds as match with other federal funds to use towards habitat projects. Hepler advised that DU speak with him, President Hamilton and the Governor's staff to discuss options when the direction and focus of this Foundation is better defined.

Theeler made a motion that the Foundation develop a strategic plan. Seconded by Mork and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. President Hamilton will work

to arrange for professional assistance with developing a strategic plan and set the meeting date for this effort.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Winter stated the bylaws require meetings be in March and September each year. Hamilton suggested Winter send an email with potential dates and the Board members can choose the best dates for them.

Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m. CT.