

June 2006

## Meeting Minutes, June 2006

National Smokejumper Association Board of Directors

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## **National Smokejumper Association**

Board of Directors Meeting

June 17, 2006

Cave Junction, Oregon

**Absent Wenatchee: Stutler, Corbet, Johnson, Jensen**

### **Attendees:**

Doug Houston, President  
Chuck Sheley, First Vice President  
Dave Bennett, Secretary  
Charles Brown, Treasurer  
John Helmer, Director  
John McDaniel, Director  
Larry Lufkin, Director  
Gary Johnson, Director  
Bill Moody, Director  
Murry Taylor, Director  
Larry Longely, Director

### **Absent:**

Jim Cherry  
Karl Maerzluft  
Joe Stutler  
Leo Cromwell  
Mark Corbet  
John Twiss  
Roger Savage  
Nels Jensen  
John McBride  
Tom Uphill

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting-Dave Bennett**

The minutes of the March 4, 2006 meeting were approved as read.

### **Treasurer's Report-Charlie Brown**

- More membership dues have been received, other income from associate members created unforecast income.
- The NSA received 1% on donations from 15 watches @ \$39 each from the Bozeman Watch Co.
- **\$1500 was donated to Forest Service museum fund.** NSA has now fulfilled its obligation to the FS Museum.
- The twelve month retained earnings are approximately \$42,583.
- Total authorized for stocks is \$100,000; \$85,000 of which has been invested to date.
- All membership areas are above forecast except the 10 year members.
- The 2007 Reunion Committee has received \$4000 advance; more might be required. Cliff Dalzell (MSO 61) is the reunion treasurer.
- Chuck Sheley noted many reenlistments that account for many of the memberships.
- Investments led by John Helmer are doing well.
- Budget for 2007: Total revenue is budgeted at \$43, 500, with \$27,000 membership revenue. Merchandise budget: \$3000. We have only been doing about \$1200 per year with Western Heritage but factors indicate that we can do \$3000 in 2007. SJ video and Cold Missouri Waters CD will add to merchandise revenues. Reunion merchandising will add to that.
- We will have additional CDs made of the Smokejumper video; we are currently out of inventory. **Need update and set responsibility to get done.**

John Helmer moved to approve the budget, seconded by Larry Longley, and motion carried.

### **History-Larry Longley**

University of Montana project on Oral Histories, which is comprised of interviews with pioneer smokejumpers will be placed on the website. Good representation will be included for all bases. The preference is for long-term jumpers, and high priority on early jumpers. The 1984 oral history project is basis. There were 144 histories that will be the basis for three hours of interviews for the web site. University of Montana website, then Ross Toole Archive portion of the Mansfield library.

Bill Moody reported that corrections and additions to the display at the Evergreen Museum are being contemplated. There may be a cost related to making updates to the Evergreen display, which may be a multi-year project.

Dave Adkins has been our attorney on Evergreen MOU issues. He is very busy now and may not be able to help further.

### **Investments-John Helmer**

A total of \$85,000 invested to date. John has recently purchased more Capital Southwest stock in behalf of the NSA. John gave a summary of major holdings in the Capital Southwest portfolio. The manager is 75 years old and there is no apparent successor. Total return to date on our investment is 24%.

### **Merchandise Report-Chuck Sheley**

Doug will transition into the Merchandise Manager job now held by John Twiss. Doug will work with Western Heritage. The NSA needs a monthly report as stated in the contract. **Are we getting a monthly report?**

Doug talked with Evergreen Museum about getting some merchandise back in the museum store. Doug will send a suggested list of merchandise.

Jumper bases can also sell Smokejumper DVDs. **Some of the 300 copies of the Cold Missouri Waters DVD will go to Western Heritage.** Others will go to jumper bases, reunions, Evergreen Museum. Doug will handle this. **STATUS?**

Western Heritage plans a mailer to B list jumpers. John McDaniel will provide a list of B jumpers (1597 names) to John Twiss. Western Heritage will send an NSA application form with brochures. There are issues with Western Heritage. **STATUS/**

Larry Lufkin suggested that a silent auction might be a method to raise money for specific uses. The Rocky Mountain Elk makes lots of money this way.

### **Reunion Report-Doug Houston**

The 2007 Boise Reunion Committee still has a lot of work ahead of them. Chuck Sheley will do first mailing for the reunion using his bulk mailing permit and infrastructure.

Related topics are:

- Bill Moody is chairing a NCSB reunion in 2007.
- Murry Taylor said there is a 2009 AK reunion planned, that will commemorate fifty years of smokejumping in AK.

**Membership**-John McDaniel

John has instigated "Project Find". Nine volunteers have joined the project and they are making good progress. John has sent out 154 letters as part of Project Find. Letters are to people who have high probability of being an ex jumper. John's helpers have access to proprietary search engines, some of which are available only to members of law enforcement.

Chuck Sheley will include in each edition of the magazine about 50 names of jumpers for whom we need contact information. Jim Cherry will soon make a mailing in pursuit of new Life Members.

**Trails Program**-Doug Houston for John McBride

Volunteer signups are up 20% from 2005; there are 140 people on 16 six-day projects. More structure repair projects are on the list for this year. The MSO 1956 rookie class is turning out en-mass for one project.

The Art Jukkala Scholarship Program-two @ \$2000 scholarships to family members of KIA? Deceased? smokejumpers.

Two Trails programs will tentatively be performed with Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation (RMEF). Funding is currently pending for these programs; RMEF is being solicited for the funding support. John will be at October meeting. The Kick off for Trails program kthis summer is dinner on July 15 in Missoula. There are now three trails regions: Montana, Colorado, and Alaska.

**West Yellowstone Foundation/National Smokejumper Center (NSC)**-Doug Houston

Doug Kichen is the champion, and has Forest Service backing. \$10,000 has been provided by the Forest Service to kickoff the enterprise. Plans are to create a miniature smokejumper base. The NSC is a 503 non-profit organization that will stand alone from the NSA.

**Ed Ward's Son Finn Ward**-Doug Houston

NSA will create a link to the Smokejumpers.com to accept donations towards treatment for Finn Ward. **WE CREATED AN NSA ACCOUNT WHICH IS HANDLED BY OUTSIDE PERSONS. GOOD IDEA?**

**Save the Gobi Project**-Roger Brandt; Park Ranger from Oregon Caves

Roger is moving towards getting the Cave Junction Base included on National Register of Historic Places as a historic landmark. The State of Oregon has nominated the base, and passed on the recommendation to the National Register. The recommendation is presently in a waiting period-very likely to be approved. There may be local issues with this recommendation from conflicting land use priorities. County Commissioners are bent on developing the airport and tearing down the old base structures.

NSA will write a letter of support that will find its way to the Commissioners. Bill Ferman, a politically influential ex jumper in Oregon will be contacted for advice and potential support.

**NSA By Laws-Doug Houston**

Doug presented revised draft by laws prepared by Jim Cherry that consist of Mission and Vision statements. The primary driver is to assist Jim Cherry in attracting new Life Members. Discussion was that by laws aren't necessarily the only document that Jim could use to communicate with prospective Life Members. We could create another document specifically entitled "NSA Mission and Vision Statement" that would serve Jim's purposes and not immediately modify the by laws. John Helmer moved to authorize the Mission and Values statement for immediate use by Jim Cherry and for use by the NSA, but not to change to the by-laws. Motion seconded by Dave Bennett, motion carried.

**Life Member Fund Resolution-John Helmer**

John handed out a Life Member Fund Resolution draft.

**Next Meeting**

Saturday, October 07, 2006 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - NSA board meeting in Wenatchee, WA

**Adjourn**

Moved and seconded to adjourn.