



Central Rockies SER Meeting Summary

Wednesday May 30, 2018

CSU: Forestry 114

Call number: [970-491-2612](tel:970-491-2612)

In attendance: Brett Wolk (CSU)

Calling In: Mike Curran (Univ. Wyoming), Jessie Dillon (Cedar Creek), Denise Arthur (COGCC), Carla DeMasters (Secretary), Chris Binschus (COGCC), Drew Raybern (Jefferson County open space), Megan Bowes (City of Boulder), Cini Brown (Univ. Wyoming).

1. President's Report

- CeRSER elections Update
 - Big Thanks to Megan for running election
 - One nominee for each of position, no ballots per bylaws.
 - Transfer of duties official as of this conference call.
 - New officers:
 - Mark Paschke (President)
 - Brett Wolk (Past President)
 - Jessie Dillon (Vice President)
 - Carla DeMasters (Secretary)
 - Mike Curran (Outreach Committee Chair)
 - Jessie Olsson (re-elected to Membership Committee Chair)
 - Randy Mandel (Scientific Committee Chair (in Jan))
 - Jayne Jonas-Bratten (re-elected to Communications Committee Chair)
 - 2 student positions – will be figured out in fall.

2. SER Global Update

- SER 2018 North American Continental Conference: Spokane, WA, October 15-19, 2018.
 - Doodle poll to set date for time at meeting when all chapters in CONUS can get together to form more cohesive unit. More conversation and connection within North American chapters. Co-hosted by SWS.
- SER Certified Restoration Ecologist program - how can we support this more? (Not covered on call)
- SER restructure updates (Not covered on call)

3. Treasurer's Report \$\$

- Total acct. balance - \$16,266.19
- The Leadership in Restoration workshop cost - \$975.36 after revenues from sponsorships and registration
- Two student scholarships have been awarded to date totaling - \$968.60

4. Secretary's Report

- We currently have 141 members - up from last time.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Trace back where these members came from.**
 - Drew: At least 3 are from JCOS
 - Question: Is there an organizational membership or is it individual –
Brett: In the past there has been, not sure if there is now.
 - Drew: We would be interested in this information
 - Megan: Looking up online – will email she finds. – can get organizational at \$275. She sent out link.
- Updating email listserv – we need to clarify which listserv we are adding people to and what purpose of listservs are for.
- **ACTION ITEM: Secretary get together with membership and communications committee chairs** to discuss membership benefits for CERSER (pay only for listserv? Or is it more open and how we want to communicate with people.)

5. Student Guild Report

- Update on student board elections
 - Mike: Handed over U. Wyoming restoration club presidency.
 - Brett: Trouble getting CeRSER student representatives nominated and elected with only two seats and three student chapters.
 - Mike: The Wyoming student club president had questions about how to get two student reps on board.
- Colorado State U.
 - Brett: Started campaign to plant 1 million trees – last update they had sold about 70 within the first week. Each tree has a unique barcode – citizen science – can track growth and survival of trees – large scale experiment.
 - Will help 3 student chapters connect as well.
- U. of Colorado – Boulder:
 - Megan: The CU Boulder chapter is in transition, but Megan didn't know the details of the club. Tim Seastedt is the faculty advisor.
 - Brett spoke with Tim recently and Tim brought a few students to the recent CeRSER workshop, seems promising to grow in the future.
- U. Wyoming :
 - Mike: Growing sagebrush seedlings, and with money from WY outdoor council give them away at farmers markets.

6. Scientific Meeting Committee

- HAR-CeRSER Conference March 12-14th, 2019
 - Co-hosting again with HAR – have reserved space at CSU ballroom, very initial planning stages, link sent out about how to volunteer at each committee. Now is the time to be creative and suggest committees. - Sign up to volunteer!
 - Cini: Have chairs for all committees now, except student committee.
 - Always great to have folks helping out = lighter work for everyone.
 - Brett: Different committees – program, advertising and media, vendors and sponsorships, logistics, student committee chair, workshop/tour committee, finance.
 - Cini/Brett: Missing a chair for the student committee and workshop/tour.
 - Jessie: I was nominated for workshop committee.
 - Brett: Student committee chair still open.
 - Mike Curran volunteered to lead the student events committee.

7. Outreach Committee Report

- Wyoming/Jackson Hole pub talk?
 - Mike: Hoping to continue pub talk series – have talk with Andrew Rae from NPS – willing to give a talk in Jackson Hole in July – restoration in Yellowstone. After that would be nice to do another one in CO.
 - Question: Is outreach committee just volunteers? Mark and Mike have agreed to put on workshop at erosion control meeting in DEC?
 - Brett: Coordinate with folks in MT to have a joint event in Jackson.
 - Brett: Do we want to just sponsor or make it an CeRSER event?
 - Mike: Can help organize pub talk after workshop to get people out and signed up for being members of CeRSER.
- HAR-CeRSER Summer Tour and evening event
 - Brett: Jessie are you involved with summer tour?
 - Cini: I reserved buses – 2 buses – going back to some sites visited right after flood in 2014. Last time did STV, LT, BT rivers. Incl. Drake on BT. Will be interesting to see how sites have progressed from that point. Randy Mandel and Tim Hoezle have been working on this.
- April 18th Ecological Restoration Leadership and collaboration workshop
 - The Partnership and Leadership in Ecological Restoration Workshop organized by the Central Rockies Chapter of SER was attended by 33 persons and was held in the American Mountaineering center in Golden, Co. on April 18, 2018. Nina Burkhardt (USGS) provide a morning of great communication exercises and collaboration skills for successful natural resource leaders, with lots of interaction among participants. Stacy Beaugh (RiversEdge West) provided a rousing and empowering keynote address with specific guidelines for forming successful partnerships and examples from the Dolores River Restoration Partnership. A panel of 5 restoration practitioners from academia, NGOs, industry, and the BLM offered their own experiences and lessons learned, and then fielded questions from small groups in the audience. A lot of networking occurred during breaks and lunch, and laughter could be heard throughout the day. Attendees included private consultants, a seed company rep, non-profit conservation and restoration groups, watershed groups, private ranchers and other landowners, academia, federal agencies, and Jefferson and Boulder Counties, among others. Both attendees and contributors were impressed by the expertise offered and the well-structured day filled with exercises, lectures, networking time, and interactions with the panel. This important community-focused piece of ecological restoration will continue to be a priority for CeRSER.
- Fort Collins pub talk?
 - Brett: Other thing on radar is to have something in FTC. Mike on it.
- Update on Pub talk series from Mike
 - 1) July 10 -- Oskar Blues Brewery (Longmont, CO) will be hosting a pub talk associated with upcoming field tours.
 - 2) I am working with a bar/restaurant in Jackson Hole, WY called Lift with Andrew Ray from Yellowstone National Park as the speaker. I should be able to iron out a date next week, but we're likely looking at August. This is peak tourist season in Yellowstone, so I imagine we'll get a solid crowd at that, especially with the topic being related to the park.
 - 3) Dave Chenoweth has expressed interest in giving a talk at Weldwerks in Greeley, CO in the Fall (probably October). He would like to cover topics related to oil and gas development and reclamation efforts east of Greeley, CO.

4) My cousin recently took a job with New Belgium Brewing as an event coordinator (she is based on the East Coast). She put me in touch with the right people at New Belgium in Fort Collins, CO. They are excited to host an event, now we just need a date and a speaker (I am hoping the folks from CSU/FoCo area can help with suggestions -- I am sure there are plenty of qualified speakers in the area -- I was thinking Susan Sherrod may be a good one as she's done some river/stream restoration work in Fort Collins, but you all may have a better idea). I tend to think having a non-oil and gas related talk would not conflict too much with a talk in Greeley even if they are not too far apart, but several of you likely know the areas much better than I.

- That would be 4 on the year, and I think would be a good diversity of speakers.
- On a side note, Jana White from Tri-Hydro has expressed interest in giving a talk in Laramie (I would think this would be better suited for next Spring) and Karen Rogers (WY Game and Fish Department) has expressed interest in giving a talk in Cheyenne, WY (we have not been there yet).

8. Additional business

- Members spoke about recent restoration projects:
 - Denise: Orphan well process: trying to get more \$ for orphan wells – 350 across state – quite challenging. 3 locations they are working on – wanted to haul off kochia with weed seed – trying to bury 1st layer to mitigate weeds that might come back after restoration process. Very sandy soil – broadcast seeding fav method for seeding these wells, 4-5 ac each. Putting down 2 tons per ac of mulch – crimp in and tack it.
 - Drew: JCOS – closure of 107 acre dog park in evergreen – controversial decision. In middle of planning phase and beginning to put together restoration plan – planting next year. Several 1000 people per weekend with their dogs. E-coli became a problem in stream. Very excited to partner with other stakeholders – ex, SRSN, get strategies for local sources of seed. Grow out sites in JCOS, areas that were smooth brome fields to native plant production fields.
 - Denise: Other issues on dog park? Nitrogen?
 - Drew: E-coli in stream. Never sampled for Nitrogen. Lots of veg loss. Erosion. Whole park was on 20 degree slope above stream.
- Brett: Workshop in Golden – restoration collaboration and leadership skills,
- Megan: I thought the roundtable panel was interesting and enjoyed hearing from all the practitioners about their experiences.
- Brett: Format for the event was Nina Burkhardt gave some teaching in am. Then in PM Stacey Beaugh from Rivers Edge West spoke. The panel as Megan mentioned of NGOs, BLM, academia, etc. More about collaboration and coalition building and working with people. Idea for the Next workshop would be “wild failures in restoration”
- Brett: This spring there were elections for SER International board of directors – Randy Mandel is one of 3 reps from North America and Magda was nominated as student rep. There are only 1-2 student reps globally! Congrats!!

9. Next meeting: July 25th, 2pm-3pm. (CANCELLED)