

2/20/26

Trout Unlimited-Panhandle Chapter Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

February 11, 2026

The meeting was held at the East Bonner County Library in Sandpoint Idaho and via Zoom and called to order at 5:00 pm by president Chip Corsi

Board members present: Bill Love, Chip Corsi, Walt Grows, Tom Whalen, Bob Holman, John Hastings, Don Childress, Ron Mamajek

Board members attending Zoom: None

Guests present: Dennison Webb, Cathy Gidley Guests attending Zoom: Ron and Laura Forsberg

Old Business/Updates—

The corrected January minutes were approved. Walt will work with Erin to get them posted to the chapter web page.

Financial Business—Bill gave the treasures report... as of 2/11/26 there is a balance of \$27,309.18 in the bank. All bills are paid and all funds deposited. We need to update the Board members who can sign on the account. The bank needs the most recent Board minutes identifying the names of the new individuals who are authorized to sign. Bill made a motion as follows:

1. Remove Loren Albright, Regina Crawford, and Ron Mamajek as authorized signers. Add John Hastings, Walt Grows, William Love and Chip Corsi as authorized signers.
2. Remove Ron Mamajek as the administrator of the account and replace with William Love.
3. Apply for either a credit card or debit card for this account. It is recommended that two cards be issued with the chapter treasurer and Erin Plue, Trout Unlimited Idaho State Director, approved to use the cards.

The motion was second and passed.

New Business

Dennison Webb from the Selkirk Outdoor Leadership & Education (SOLE), Inc. gave a presentation about what the organization does for young adults in the area. He is soliciting support from T.U. in the way of TU providing conservation projects and fly-fishing instruction. Because TU will not be sponsoring a general fly-

fishing course this year (no facilities in the area are available) it is possible we can help them out. The Education Committee will take this on as a potential opportunity.

Cathy Gidley from the State TU gave an update. Erin is in Seattle at a directors meeting. She is getting ready for this summer's projects, grant writing, permitting process, etc. Hudlow Creek will need some volunteer help in late summer-early fall.

Bill made a motion that TU donate \$100.00 to Friends of Scotchman's Peaks. Their efforts help to conserve cold water fisheries. We have donated this amount in the past. The motion was second and passed.

Bob and Bill will represent TU at the Kootenai Valley Gun and Horn Show on Feb. 14 in Bonners Ferry.

Communications Committee-The newsletter was discussed. We still need articles from the board members for future monthly submissions. There is no set length for articles, but it seems like a minimum of 250 words would be alright.

Conservation Committee-Chip will draft a letter regarding the mining selenium issue on the Kootenai River. There is a short turnaround time to comment.

-Chip led a discussion on the ITA Kootenai River Walk Trail. There is a workday scheduled for September 20.

-Walt gave an update on the St. River access proposal that was presented to the board in January. Todd Hoffman who is spearheading the effort has support from TU, and American Whitewater and will be contacting Idaho F&G and Stancraft Marine for construction costs. TU has not committed any funds to this project and is waiting for additional information from Todd. There is no timeline for this project.

The potential 9B Parks and Recreation ramp access was on the agenda but was not discussed because of time constraints.

Education Committee-Ron provided an update on the fly-fishing casting course this spring/summer. There are no dates available at the Wildlife Discovery Center for us to proceed with the class this year. Therefore, we rescheduled for 2027. Ron has already secured those dates for next year. Ron is in the process of fine tuning the class curriculum for that time. As mentioned earlier in these minutes, TU will investigate the opportunity to help SOLE.

Chip gave an update on our role in Bull Trout Education.

A fishing course with the Master Naturalists was on the agenda but was not discussed because of time constraints.

Membership/Board Committee- The Board again talked on how boards should function, i.e.-terms, attendance, how we want to operate with goals, participation etc. We need to somehow figure out a better way to contact our general membership. We will look to other Boards to see how they function. Chip will contact Rick Burkart from the North Idaho Fly Casters in Coeur d'Alene and how we can interface with them.

Prior to every Board meeting, all board members are asked if they can/cannot attend. This is critical as a quantum is needed to make decisions. When the agenda is sent out prior to the board meeting, Chip will make a note as to who can/cannot attend.

We will touch base with Erin to get the January minutes posted to our web page.

Fundraising Committee—Laura Forsberg gave an update on the F3T film event scheduled for Feb.27 at the Panida Theater. Only 15 tickets sold to date. Advertisements will go out in the Bee, Reader, CDA paper and the Boundary Country Herald next week. John will MC again this year. Walt will check the merchandise that arrived and check it to what was ordered. Laura will take the merchandise the week of the 23rd to make raffle bucket ID's and will meet with Walt at that time to firm up loose ends. We need to get there at 3:30 to set up. The Board will buy pizza for those in attendance. The doors open at 5:30.

7B Gives is this Friday. Tom will attend and represent TU.

Future Meeting - Next meeting scheduled for March 11, 2026, at the East Bonner County Library in Sandpoint

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm Respectively submitted, Walt Grows, Secretary

