

# Nebraska Prescribed Fire Council Introduction



# Mission Statement

- “The Nebraska Prescribed Fire Council is dedicated to promote and protect the responsible use of prescribed fire as a natural resource management tool.”



# Purpose

- Provide an outlet for prescribed fire practitioners to exchange ideas within the state, regionally, and nationally. Involvement with other state's burn associations.
- Advocacy for prescribed fire practitioners (includes policy, legislation, and liability).
- Increase knowledge of safe fire practices through research, training, and outreach.



# Membership Types

- Burn Associations/Groups - \$50
- Individuals/Volunteers - \$10
- Advisory Membership (No Fee,  
Agency/Organization Membership)



# Break-out Sessions

- Fire Research Needs
- Bringing Prescribed Burners Together
- Insurance and Liability of Fire
- Training Opportunities
- Financial and Technical Assistance for Prescribed Fire





# Annual Meeting

- Review By-laws
- Membership types
- Board of Directors Established
- Establish Officers
- Establish Standing Committees
- Meet as Committees
- Wrap up
- Adjourn



# By-laws

- Based on Oklahoma's Burn Association by-laws
- Establish as a corporation (By Nebraska Statute)
- Probably not 501c3
- The following is a summary, the complete document is available for review



# By-Laws

- The Board shall hold an annual meeting
- The Board of Directors will have at least 7 members and have a majority of PBA/Private Landowner members
- Directors are members of the Council and will serve a term of two years (unlimited consecutive terms)
- Officers include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

# By-Laws

- The first Board of Directors shall consist of persons named as the Organizational Board of Directors
- Advisory Members on the Board shall be allowed with the Board of Directors recommendation and majority approval.
- The Board, by resolution may adopt one or more committees delegating specified authority to a committee
- A committee will include one or more Directors and may included persons who are not Directors.



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# Board of Directors

- Organizational Committee: Scott Stout, Harlan Grunden, Dale Ruehling, Denny Oelschalager, Roger Hanke, Syd Kite, and Rocky Sailor. Serving as Advisory Members are Doug Whisenhunt, Dr. Dirac Twidwell, Rich Walters, Shelly Kelly, Jason Smith, and Alicia Hardin.



# Officers

- From Organizational Committee:
- President- Scott Stout
- Vice President- Denny Oelschlager
- Treasurer- Harlan Grunden
- Secretary- Dale Ruehling



# Standing Committees

- **Education/Research Committee** – public outreach, website, promotional materials, summarize research that is occurring, develop research needs based on questions or concerns of the council
- **Risk Management Committee** -- Promote and educate policy makers on the role of fire, liability, and insurance
- **Training Committee** – Develops training for landowners, agencies, fire departments.
- **Membership Committee** - Recruits members, tracks membership, etc.
- **Fundraising Committee** – Develop information on funding sources for the Council activities and prescribed fire associations

