

**South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting – March 18, 2008  
Cedar Shore Hotel and Convention Center, Oacoma, SD**

Chapter President Kurt Forman called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. at the Cedar Shore Convention Center in Oacoma, SD. President Forman recognized a quorum was present and recognized Ron Schauer as the meeting parliamentarian. Secretary Art Smith presented the minutes of the 2007 annual meeting. Dennie Mann motioned to accept the report, Larry Martin seconded. Motion passed. George Vandel asked if reading the minutes could be modified to a written report. The Board will look into alternative methods and what limits our By-Laws may have. Smith presented the Chapter's 2007 annual financial report. George Vandel motioned to accept the report, Charlie Bessken seconded. Motion passed.

## **Old Business**

### **Committee Reports**

#### Nominations and Elections – Kurt Forman

Kurt Forman presented the list of candidates for President-elect and Board Member. Candidates were:

President-elect: Dennie Mann (uncontested)

Board Member: Teresa Zimmerman, Andy Lindbloom

Forman called for nominations from the floor. With no further nominations, Rich Madsen moved to cease nominations; second by Mary Clawson. Motion passed & the election was conducted. Dan Hubbard moved to accept the candidates & destroy the ballots, second by Chuck Berdan. Election results were presented at the completion of Old Business.

President-elect: Dennie Mann

Board Member: Teresa Zimmerman

KC Jensen thanked all for running for candidacy.

#### Audit – BFW

Examination of the checkbook did not find any discrepancies. Discussed the idea Morlock brought up last year about the need for a more thorough audit for next year, and suggests to the Board to discuss that.

#### Awards – Nora Kohlenberg

5 total nominations for citizens (2) and professional (3), will be presented tonight. Student and open presentation awards were again procured as was one for president. MS award will also be presented tonight. Email and newsletter notification of awards was again used and hoped to continue it's use in the future.

#### Wildlife Diversity – Nora

Nora did report for Silka and Eileen. BTP poisoning, NE USFS received >50,000 comments on DEIS. Subsequent press release indicated more time will be used to come up with a final decision. ROD is expected in [DEC 2008?] will address Conata Basin management. Grazing and other items will be addressed in the document. BFF populations – 2007 intro into WICA. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> location in the state w/ BFF with approx 300 BFF in the Conata Basin, 450-500 total state population estimate. Grey Wolf – has met recovery goals in several portions of it's rang, NRMDPS will be delisted in 2008. Recent delisting actions mean wolves in those areas are no longer protected by fed rules and fall under the states. Bald Eagle Awareness Days – Feb 18-23, 2008. Event featured live bird presentations, 750 people attended 8 shows in several cities. >300 bookmark designs were entered by school children, winners will be distributed through libraries. Great Lakes Birding Trail – NE and SE guides have been completed, central SD guide is in final layouts and should be available mid-2008. TWW – Committee is active with this issue.[see report]. Not a long-term solution, this is very needed. 162 members in the SD Resources Coalition, more info can be found at [www.sdqfp.info](http://www.sdqfp.info). AFWA continues to explore additional funding areas, this activity will be followed by the Committee. 2 publications were provided (birding trail & state amphibian guide).

#### Conservation Review – Paul Coughlin

Nothing to report.

#### Education and Information –

No report.

#### Membership – Tom Kirschenmann (for Chad Switzer)

Read list of new 28 members. 2 life members gained, 1 will be officially recognized tonight.

#### Program KC Jensen

Thanked Dan & Laura for coming to the meeting, Wegman & Willis. 23 papers submitted to fill program.

Resolutions – Dan Hubbard

2 resolutions received, fee hunting (North American Wildlife Management model) and MO river (river flooding management) committees submitted the resolutions. Reminded of how to submit a resolution.

Arrangements – BFW

5<sup>th</sup> year at Cedar Shore, makes arrangements easy. This is nice in that it takes little time to do what's needed, but stagnation may be a concern. Will address this in New Business.

Book Service – Bob Klaver

No report.

Certification – Susan Rupp

Working with several grad students on becoming AWB. A few changes at national office in certification, working w/ Shannon Petersen @ national. Will hold certification round-table tomorrow afternoon. On-line accessible forms for certifications at TWS website. In age of accountability, certification will hold advantages for those certified.

Chapter History – Corey Huxoll

No report.

Wind Power – KC Jensen (for Silka Kempema)

Silak working w/ BFW, KC, and Natalie Gates. In process of putting together white paper on wind power and map of the overlay of wind potential and native grassland blocks, will be updated as new information comes along. Trying to get info on siting issues and get into discussions as this progresses.

Bio-fuels – Art Smith

No report, looking for new Chair.

Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife – Andy Lindbloom

No report, more in New Business.

Fund Raising – Tom Kirschenmann.

Thanked folks for bringing items for auction, Truax, UAP, Carl Madsen, and other NGOs. Total proceeds are down a bit from last year, \$1,805 in auction, \$100 in Harvey Dunn print, and rifle raffle that is still on-going.

Grasslands – Kurt Forman (for Boyd Schultz)

2 main issues: demise of CRP and status of Sod Saver in Farm Bill deliberation. Farm Bill deliberation extended to April 18, 2008. House & Senate versions differ in time limits for no insurance payments on plowing virgin prairies. Senate is stronger, saves more prairie.

Newsletter – Greg Pavelka

No report. Charlie's efforts with website was recognized.

Public Lands – Dennie Mann

Most active Committee for the last 5-6 years. Eddie Childers, Tom LeFaive, Dennie Mann form the Committee, but do use outreach on some issues. BFF in WICA still doing good, tracks visible on p-dog town. Committee wrote a letter of support for the Angostora Reservoir plan. Formulated a letter of support for Norbeck Wilderness Timber Management Plan to create openings, enhance hardwood & shrubs component. Sage Grouse comments also done.

Tribal Fish & Wildlife – Diane Mann-Klager

No report.

Wetlands – Pete Bergman

Committee meets on a fairly regular basis. SB272 had no movement, reintroduced as SB1641, HR2757 in House also introduced. 3 co-sponsors for both bills. Swampbusters included in both Senate and House Farm Bill versions, appears no threat of Swampbuster

loss in Farm Bill. SDSU wetlands inventory has complete inventory of state wetlands info, also have maps for other neighboring states. 2 sets of these maps will need a home in the future to avoid being recycled. Topo map sized, fit into 2 pickup trucks.

#### Wildlife Disease – Teresa Zimmerman

2,500 CWD samples collected, 1 elk and 13 deer found positive. 72 CWD cases in 52 deer and 20 elk in total. Plague positive animals have been found in Dewey county, Pine Ridge, Rosebud and other areas. 1,500 bird samples taken for AI, none positive.

#### MO River Issues – Cliff Stone

White paper – addresses long-running struggle of managing the MO river water system. Contemporary needs are different than the historic constraints of the aged, 1944 Flood Control act. Congressional action will be needed to re-write the Act. Committee prepared the white paper for Board action that was approved in January 2008 to be put into a Resolution. Similar resolutions were passed at recent Dakota and Iowa AFS Chapter meetings.

Title VI MO River Transfer – progressing along, 1 property yet to transfer.

Dan Svedarsky thanked everyone for their work on grasslands and protection efforts, several individuals for their national TWS work, and for getting he and Laura Bies to the conference. Laura spoke about some of the hearings in DC on TWW and congressional support of some conservation issues. Both asked if anyone has comments, please come to either of them to discuss issues.

#### SDSU Student Chapter Report – John Quast

Thanked Chapter for travel support for Tucson and hoped for support to Miami. Inducted 3 honorary members into club, Jenks, Hubbard, Jensen @ 59<sup>th</sup> Buffalo Banquet. Conservation Park clean-up, National Ag day, urban raccoon study, turkey release at GFP WPA tracking were all activities done last year. 60<sup>th</sup> Buffalo Banquet will be held this year.

#### Northern Great Plains Working Group – Kurt Forman (for Chad Switzer)

Consortium that makes comments and follows policy and legislative issues on Swampbuster, Sod Saver, and CRP progress in the Farm Bill. 13 NGOs under Working Group umbrella.

Kurt Forman then opened the floor up for other discussions. Nothing asked for.

## **New Business**

#### Resolutions

##### Missouri River Resolution

Cliff Stone summarized the basis for the resolution, recent movements on Missouri River management, and the reason for the resolution. Dan Hubbard read the resolution. KC Jensen motioned to accept the resolution as read, Dennie Mann seconded. One typo was found, no other discussion. Motion passed.

##### North American Model of Wildlife Management

Tom Kirschenmann summarized the resolutions inception - original thought was to develop a high fencing resolution, but then found those issues would be covered by looking at the North American Model of Wildlife Management. Dan Hubbard read the resolution. Ron Fowler motioned to accept the resolution, Chuck Dieter seconded. Discussion covered use of the word "killed" and replaced with a more politically correct word like "harvested." Taking animals that are not traditionally eaten (prairie dogs, squirrels, etc.) are taken by hunters, but would be covered in the resolution. "Make practical use of animals taken" was suggested. Motion passed.

#### 2008 Annual Meeting

Question of holding the conference during spring break was held. KC Jensen suggested that undergrad involvement would be greater if not concurrent with spring break. A solid time to meet would have it's benefits, but thought is to rely on university help on this sort of decision. Location of meeting at Cedar Shore (this was the 5<sup>th</sup> time) was brought up. Steve Griffin noted that the meeting organization is easy if coming back to the same location, so moving to a new venue should come with the volunteer to direct the on-site organization. Ron Fowler mentioned that a new facility in Ft. Pierre is a possibility and would do some of the leg work if that location is picked. Dan Hubbard noted that the conference attendance was greatest when in the center of the state.

#### Logo Contest

BFW desire for product line of Chapter logo'd items has been mentioned by Board in the past. Mixed set of Chapter logos (some do, some don't, some use National's). Many logos were submitted and one choice given to the membership was the original too. Logos were presented in PowerPoint and ballots distributed. Results of the voting will be announced during the awards banquet.

Additional New Business

Kurt Forman asked for any additional topics, none were asked for.

Approval of New Members

Rich Madsen motioned to accept the previously read new members, Tom Kirschenmann seconded. Motion carried.

Transfer of Gavel

Forman transferred the gavel to president-elect KC Jensen. Jensen presented Forman with a plaque and past-president's pin and thanked him for his service to the chapter over the past year.

Larry Martin moved to adjourn, second by Dan Hubbard. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Art Smith, Secretary/Treasurer