

## **Minutes of the December 13, 2010 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS), Conference Call**

Chad Switzer called the meeting to order at 10:11 am CST at the Jakes Restaurant in Pierre. Board members in attendance were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Silka Kempema, Chad Switzer, Rocco Murano and Nora Kohlenberg.

Kohlenberg presented the minutes of the September 14, 2010, meeting. The meeting minutes were amended. Mann made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Kempema seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Kohlenberg presented the Quarterly Treasurer's report. Kanta made a motion to accept the report and Murano seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

### **Old Business**

#### Funding Request

*Leopold Conservation Award* – Board discussed the request once more after tabling the request during the September 14, 2010 Executive Board Meeting. The group requesting the funding support is looking for a large amount of funding each year. Board is concerned and questioning the need for \$40,000 administrative costs for the Leopold Conservation Award. There would not be any opportunity for SDTWS to provide input on the selection of award recipients. The SDTWS also has a very similar award, the Citizen's Award, which is awarded to individuals who have made a significant contribution to wildlife and conservation in the state. There was no new information about this request, so no further action was taken.

#### Committee Involvement

Board discussed ideas about how we can task the committees. The Board would like to have a Committee Meeting to talk with Committee Chairs and get their feedback. This meeting would be tied into the Annual Meeting.

#### Membership and Retention

Kempema has been working with Larry Gigliotti to put together a survey to determine why people may be leaving and not carrying on their membership. There would also be a survey for current and active members. Board discussed whether to have survey at meeting or sent through email. Kempema proposed to have a draft ready for January meeting to review.

#### SDTWS Logo Items

Switzer provided some cost estimates for T-shirts, water bottles, and mugs. The SDTWS graphic is too complex for embroidery. The idea of having SDTWS logo items will be brought to the membership for discussion at the 2011 Annual Business Meeting. Board wants to make sure there is interest for the items before proceeding further.

### **New Business**

#### Requests for Funding

*2011 Outdoor Expo* – SDTWS has provided funding each year since the beginning of the Outdoor Expo. The activities at the Expo provide some great exposure to outdoor activities and learning for kids. Mann made a motion to provide \$500 for support of the 2011 Outdoor Expo, second by Murano, motion passed (6-0).

*Bald Eagle Awareness Days* – This event has been another great way to expose children and families to wildlife. SDTWS has been a long time supporter of the Bald Eagle Awareness Days. Kanta made a motion

to provide support of \$200 in 2011, seconded by Mann. Motion passed (5-0), Kempema abstained from voting as she is on the committee for the Bald Eagle Awareness Days.

#### Challenge Committees

Board discussed challenging committees for reports for both annual meeting and to contribute reports to newsletter. Board also discussed challenging committees to be more involved in parts of the annual meeting and/or perhaps putting together workshops to incorporate into the annual meeting. Have more of a round table discussion as part of the meeting. Mann volunteered the Public Lands Committee to lead the way for other committees to follow.

#### 2011 Annual Meeting Planning

Sponsorship has been received by Millborn seeds. Board Members will make contact with Truax, SCI, CPS, and telemetry companies.

Theme: Managing Wildlife in a Changing Environment.

Board discussed ideas of speakers and presenters to contact.

Kanta is working with Susan Rupp to put together another Student Mixer. Kanta is working to get a sponsor for the prizes.

Board again, discussed potential individuals to approach regarding the Executive Board positions that will be opening up. The positions include Secretary/Treasurer, President-Elect, and Executive Board Member.

#### Brown County Drainage

The Brown County Commission/Drainage Board has been approached by landowners to request changes in tiling restrictions. Kurt Forman has drafted a letter to send the Drainage Board expressing concerns about wildlife habitat and other environmental concerns. Switzer will send the letter out for Board review.

#### Farm Bill

SDTWS needs to submit comments. Switzer will work on comments and then send out letter for Board Members to review.

#### Next Board Meeting

A date for the next board meeting was not determined. Switzer will send out some possible dates for a January meeting, which will be held at the Cedar Shore Resort to work on final plans for Annual Meeting.

#### **Adjourn**

Kohlenberg motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kempema at 11:53 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg  
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS