

Minutes of the August 23, 2005 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

President Will Morlock recognized a quorum & called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM at the Foss Building in Pierre, SD. Board members present were Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Steve Griffin, KC Jensen, Will Morlock, Laura Hubers, & Art Smith.

Smith presented minutes of the June 2005 board meeting. Corrections to a last name spelling and the number of 2005 annual meeting participants were made to the minutes. Jensen motioned to accept the minutes with the changes, Hubers second. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report for June was never forwarded to be voted on by email, so Smith presented it at this time. Griffin motioned to accept the report, Hubers Second. Motion passed.

Smith presented the treasurer's report for August. Discussion ensued regarding the savings account, the minimum balance required to prevent service fees from being accrued, and the low interest gathered by this account. The movement of funds to and from this account revolves around the annual meeting; at this time the needed balance in the checking account would fall well below the minimum balance and cause a \$10 monthly fee. Group discussed replacing the savings account with short-term (<9 month?) certificates of deposit accounts. Griffin made the motion to absolve the saving account, put the money temporarily into checking, and use short-term CDs when time allows. Flanders-Wanner seconded, motion passed. Griffin motioned to accept the August treasurer's report, seconded by Jensen. Motion passed.

Old Business

Ducks Unlimited Sponsorship – Morlock reported that there is no need to buy a sponsorship, but instead will work through DU contacts he has. For the annual meeting, the Chapter will still get unframed prints and decoys, possibly more. This would save \$300 that was previously spent on the sponsorship.

Correspondence Sent

- Dennie Mann and Shelly Deisch (Public Lands Committee), at the request of the Board, put together a response against a Missouri River Breaks land exchange. Reasons given for the opposition were poor conditions in the private land being exchanged, which presented poorer quality habitat for wildlife and subsequently less opportunities for hunting, trapping, and non-consumptive uses.
- The Chapter signed-on to a letter regarding funding for the Teaming With Wildlife Steering Committee. The letter asked US Senate and Representative Chairs and Ranking Members on the Committee on Appropriations to support the State Wildlife Grants in the fiscal year 2006 Interior Appropriations bill.
- Morlock reported he would make another attempt to let Representative Herseth know drilling for oil in the Arctic is unacceptable. No letters will be sent to Thune (unquestionably for drilling) or Johnson (against drilling).

Wind Turbines

Alyssa Kiesow visited with the Board looking for directions on how the Wind Turbine Committee should function. She reported the Committee will meet this Friday (Aug. 16), with the same members as reported in last meeting's minutes, along with the inclusion of Dan Hubbard. It was suggested that Tom Tornow should be invited into the Committee – Kiesow will contact him. Recommendations given to Kiesow were that the Committee was formed as an information gathering tool. An update on progress should be given at the 2006 annual Chapter meeting. End product could be to develop recommendations on turbines with a primary emphasis on siting recommendations.

Past President Pins

Still lost. Best guess scenario was the pins were lost between the Ken Parr / Art Smith President exchange. Little / no information was transferred between these Presidents at that time. Hubers motioned to buy 10 Past-president pins, Flanders-Wanner second. Motion passed.

Correspondence Received

- A second Pheasants Forever thank you letter for \$500 contribution for their Leopold Education Project.

Jane Goodall Visit

- Morlock summarized some of the information regarding Goodall's upcoming visit to the state.

New Business

Requests for Funding

None.

Website Update

Griffin and Charlie Bessken went through the site and updated all old information and made any necessary corrections.

CMPS Section Annual Meeting Update

Smith attended the Business Meeting as an Executive Board member. His summary of the meeting included a brief summary of the new journals TWS will offer, Section newsletter editor would like to receive more Chapter contributions for the newsletter, the Section's balance of approximately \$7,000, the Section's by-laws are being re-visited, and the 2006 Section meeting will be held in Laramie, Wyoming, proposed for the week of August 28th, which may encourage student participation.

Also, Smith reported that more can be done with the Section's Citizen and Professional's awards. This year the Section only received 1 nomination for each award, both from Wyoming. Wyoming's Bob Lanka is the awards Chair, and as such did not feel 2005 awards should be given. However, the Wyoming Chapter simply forwards their annual award recipients to the Section for consideration. SD Chapter Board thought this is a good way to proceed in the future.

Finally, Smith summarized the Section's proposal to change their dues structure. Section voted to reduce annual Section dues to \$1 for electronic copies of the newsletter and \$4 more if hardcopy of the newsletter is wanted. This was the first step in getting more Section members. The idea is for each Chapter to then increase their dues by \$1, apply that towards Section memberships, thereby making all Chapter members automatically Section members. SD Chapter Board discussed this concept and will examine this at a future meeting.

Proposal for New Committee – Wildlife Disease

Teresa Zimmerman suggested this Committee, and would serve as Chair.. Committee would act as information dissemination tool. Group agreed that this would be a welcomed Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the differences between Special, Standing, and Ad-Hoc Committees. Jensen volunteered to look into by-laws and report back to Board on committee formulations.

[Secretary notes outside of Executive Board meeting:

Jensen reported on August 25 that the only guidance on committees is in ARTICLE VIII Section 1. It states: The Chapter President shall consider suggestions of the Executive Board in appointing chairmen of all regular standing committees, except the Nominations and Election Committee (Article V, Section 1), and all special committees such as awards and hospitality. The by-laws provide for special committees – there is no mention of AdHoc committees, and there is no guidance for how the special committees are established. There is also no guidance under the responsibilities of the president or board (Article V, Section 3) on establishing committees. Given this, his interpretation is that the president, with input from the board, has the prerogative to establish special committees and staff them to address issues/needs as they arise.

So, in summary, there are just 2 types of committees: (1) standing and (2) special, and that the Wind Turbines Committee is a special committee – and (according to Article VIII, Section 4. – TENURE) ... shall serve until new committees are appointed or until the duties assigned to the committee have been discharged.]

2006 Annual Meeting

Program - Flanders-Wanner still looking for non-game, state-wide studies that the investigators would be interested in presenting. Other suggestions were given for potential speakers.

Elections – General search for officer candidates was proceeding.

Registration Fee Adjustment – Group reviewed past and current state per diem rates. These rates have always been used to base payments on because they have always been the lowest among all agencies. Recent increased in lunch and dinner rates prompted this examination. Jensen motioned to increase the lunch and dinner costs at the annual meeting to match the new state per diem rates (\$9 lunch, \$12 dinner). Hubers seconded. Discussion suggested that dinner may have already been raised last year to \$12 (from \$11), but no one was sure. Motion passed.

SDTWS Newsletter

The Board discussed ways to gather more member's electronic addresses and how to meet the CMPS Section's idea of \$1 automatic memberships. Group decided the by-laws needed to be checked to see if membership amounts and how newsletters are distributed are mentioned. Morlock will check on this, Flanders-Wanner will check with the Wyoming Chapter to see how they went totally electronic distribution on their newsletter.

Will discuss registration fee changes at the next Board meeting if enough information has been gathered.

Next issue – Greg Pavelka can get the next issue out by the 2nd week in September, which would include national TWS conference information, if submissions can be received by September 1. Assignments: President's message (Morlock), meeting minutes (Smith), 2006 meeting and call for papers and Board candidates (Flanders-Wanner), CMPS Section Meeting summary (Smith), Wind Turbine Committee meeting summary (Jensen).

Additional Items – Federal Duck Stamp

Congressional pair working on support to use federal duck stamp dollars to cover the backlog on costs of USFWS easement purchases. The suggestion is to have the Chapter send a letter asking for support of this issue in the future, maybe ask South

Dakota US Delegates to become cosponsors and not just simply support the idea. Flanders-Wanner will send some more information to Morlock and they will work on this together. It was also suggested that this would be a good issue for the Wetlands Committee to look at.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for November 9th, 2005, at 11:00 am Central at Cedar Shore, Oacoma, SD. Jensen moved to adjourn, seconded by Flanders-Wanner. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS