

Minutes of the January 9, 2008 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

Kurt Forman called the meeting to order at 10:15am, Cedar Shore, Oacoma, SD. Board members present were Chad Switzer, Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, KC Jensen, and Art Smith. Cliff Stone was also present to discuss Missouri River resolution paper.

Smith presented the minutes of the November 2007 minutes. 1 typo found, Flanders-Wanner motioned to accept minutes with the typo fixed, Jensen seconded. Motion passed (4-0).

Smith presented the Treasurer's report. Jensen motioned to accept the report, Switzer seconded. Motion passed (4-0).

Old Business

SD TWS position paper/resolution on the 1944 Missouri River Flood Control Act: Stone discussed the issues surrounding the MO river management. ND TWS has had a position statement in place for 2 years. Some of the language in the draft statement presented by Stone is borrowed from theirs. Several SD and ND folks participated in a conf call that contributed into this white paper. The desire is to keep a uniformed message between the 2 Dakotas; support outside of ND is wanted by ND TWS and legislators. Basic premise for all of this work is USACE master manual is outdated. Some indication from MO that they are beginning to recognize that water supply of system is changing and there may be a need for discussion if nothing else. Wayne Nelson-Stasney & John Cooper are both feeling the white paper and increased discussions are timely. Resolution is desirable to be used by Cooper in his current role in the MORAS. Dakota chapter of AFS would also be a good signator; ND TWS has a draft public statement resolution in their January newsletter. Dakota AFS chapter has this on their radar screen, but have not been very politically active, but would be likely to sign-on if presented with something.

Board discussed the draft statement and surrounding state's similar work. NE & IA GFP's are probably aligned a bit more with the upper watershed states, but their DENR's may not be.

Forman asked Stone to check with ND to see if their statement is in a final form or a draft. Board then discussed the differences between white papers, position statements, and resolutions.

Jensen motioned for Stone to talk to Hubbard to develop a resolution based on the white paper, perhaps using ND's position statement, in time to publish a draft resolution for the next newsletter. Smith seconded. Discussion, should the position paper also be published in the newsletter as additional information? Jensen amended motion to say to adopt white paper to be used to develop the resolution & for the white paper to also be published in the newsletter, Smith agreed. Motion passed (4-0).

Forman will check with Greg Pavelka for a submission deadline.

Update on the BOR Angostura Resource Management Plan

BOR is updating their resource management plan. The Chapter has already commented on a past draft. At least 4 of our suggestions were included in BOR's summary. Letter received was a courtesy update information.

New Business

2008 Eagle Day sponsorship request

Good presentation, this is an event the Chapter has supported in the past. Switzer motioned \$200, Jensen 2. Motion passed (4-0).

2008 Teaming With Wildlife fly-in day

FYI letter. Anyone is invited, nothing was asked of the Chapter.

BLM Resource Management Plan

BLM is re-writing their resource management plan for lands in SD. 140,000 acres in SD. Two big issues as per Chuck Berdan were land trades and consolidation of isolated tracts, and energy development in Butte and Harding county areas. Info was forwarded to Public Lands Committee to develop comments for the Chapter. Scoping time period could be up to 2 years.

USFS Travel Management Rule

This document is in the scoping process also, Public Lands Committee has already been communicating with USFS on the most appropriate role Chapter can take. Comment letter is due by 25Jan08. Forman will follow up with both this and the BLM plan with Dennie Mann and the Public Lands Committee.

Job announcements and the role of SDTWS

Email dialogue with Board on this topic previous to this meeting. Suggestion by Jensen is to put links on Chapter website to SDSU Wildlife Dept., TWS, and Texas A&M biology jobs sites. ND has a page in their winter newsletter summarizing standard seasonal job info for various agencies showing where the job links are. Board liked this concept and the suggestion was to put the same type of page into Chapter newsletter and website (as a new, stand-alone page). Jensen will send links to Charlie Bessken, Switzer will send SD GFP info to Jensen for including into the page.

SDTWS Feature Story in *The Wildlifer*

TWS asked the Chapter to write a short article on Chapter activities. Flanders-Wanner will write the article but asked Board for topic suggestions; more than enough topics were provided after a short brain storming session.

Status of award Nominations: state and national

Will send Fellows and McDonough award nominations to TWS for several candidates. Deadlines for McDonough is April 18th, Fellows is Feb 15th. Discussion followed on other award nominations. Flanders-Wanner motioned to fund the SDSU student chapter at \$1,000 for travel to the Miami TWS meeting only if they submit a nomination package for student chapter of the year, Smith seconded. Motion passed (4-0). A candidate was

identified for the Special Recognition Service award (deadline 18 April). Forman will write that nomination.

One person is being written up for Professional of the Year and at least 1 landowner will also be written up for the Citizen's award. SDSU wildlife staff will be choosing a student nomination.

Board then discussed ways to increase agency memberships and associated topics. A logo contest was discussed. Flanders-Wanner motioned to hold a contest, images submitted in jpg or gif images, winner receives \$250, winner would be established by anonymous member ballot vote during the business meeting. Switzer seconded. Motion passed (4-0).

Flanders-Wanner brought up the issue of one committee that has been inactive for several years. Thoughts were given to inviting two individuals to help this committee. Jensen will contact one, Forman the other. Updates will be provided as time progresses.

Annual Meeting

Agenda – tentative that Dan Svedarsky will attend the meeting. Dave Willis will also come and will do whatever is needed. Both of these speakers will likely focus on education topics. Steve Wegman and Laura Bies will also both be here and may be able to speak about both wind energy and education.

General paper session papers have already started to trickle in.

Board candidates – several candidates have been identified for the Board Member at Large. The group discussed several President-elect candidates. Jensen will take the suggestions for future contacts.

Additional Items

Newsletter deadline – Forman will call Greg Pavelka, but at this time will work towards a deadline of Feb 8.

Flanders-Wanner will announce a Chapter logo contest.

Jensen will put in a draft agenda for the conference.

Stone will put in white paper and hopefully the resolution on Missouri River issues.

Next meeting was tentatively set for 6pm March 16th at Cedar Shore.

Jensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:10pm, seconded by Flanders-Wanner. Motion approved (4-0), meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS