

## **Minutes of the January 8, 2009 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

KC Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:15am, Oacoma, SD. Board members present were Kurt Forman and Art Smith, Dennie Mann joined the meeting at 10:50 (icy roads), Chad Switzer and Bill Smith called in.

### **Secretary's report**

Art Smith presented copies of last meeting's minutes. Forman covered some additional details about the SD Conservation Alliance. Switzer motioned to approve w/ correction, Bill Smith seconded, motion passed (4-0).

### **Treasurer's report**

Art Smith presented the Treasurer's report. Forman motioned to approve the report as presented, Switzer seconded, motion passed (4-0).

### **Old Business**

Bald Eagle Days funding request:

Eileen thanked everyone for the \$200 funding the Chapter gave for that event.

Newsletter editor:

Charlie Bessen has agreed to be the new editor, Board is very happy with her taking this job on. Perks the Board agreed to give for the newsletter editor may not all be needed by Charlie as her travel is already paid by her employer. To get everything into the newsletter in time for election materials, 15Jan09 is the deadline to get everything into the next newsletter. This includes Committee reports (Forman will do this), Board election materials (Mann will do this), announcements, meeting announcements, membership announcements (Switzer will do this).

### **New Business**

Awards:

MS award still open until the end of this week, will be taken care of through email. 2 PhD nominations for the same individual. All in favor of awarding the PhD to this person.

Professional award, 2 nominations. Because Bill Smith did not have the nominations in front of him, voting for this award will be done via email. Board discussed each of the nominees briefly.

Citizen's award, 2 nominations. Brief discussions on the nominees was done.

Annual meeting – update

Mann indicated that for agencies BLM (maybe), GFP, NPS, USFS (maybe), USFWS, RMEF, NWTF (no) have been contacted so far as speakers. Forman mentioned Judge Jessop representing the SD Grasslands Coalition as a speaker. Someone to talk about the switch from corn-based ethanol to cellulosic energy could be interesting. GFP Regional Supervisor for affects of the reduced economy with on-the-ground management capacities.

Announcement for student papers still needs to be done, Mann will be getting this done.

Raffle – Forman asked if we wanted to do a big raffle (Carl Madsen's deal). Usually make several hundred on the item, optics may make a bit more. Options to give Carl a budget or ask him to find a specific item for the raffle. GPS unit, rangefinder, gun combo was brought up. Forman will give him a \$750 limit for a gun or a combo gun/rangefinder for the raffle. Art Smith motioned, Forman seconded, motion passed (4-0).

Special award – Forman reviewed last year's sponsorship of a special award for Jim Turex for their annual support. Idea is for UAP's Bill Walker to receive a like award this year. General support was given. Forman would use the same template used from a Brookings award shop from last year with a slight modification of the wording. Forman will go forward with the award.

Potential sponsors reviewed by Forman. He will identify specific sponsors and a Board member to follow up for a 22Jan09 date and get the list of these to the Board.

#### Elections:

Candidates were briefly discussed, and there is at least 1 candidate for each spot, but for President-elect there is only 1 candidate.

#### Banquet speaker:

NGO's travel budgets have been quite reduced, so may be hard to find someone. Dave Nomsen, PF government affairs person, could be a good potential speaker. Jensen will call him, using Bill Smith as a backup if needed. Secondary plan could be using John Cooper to talk about Missouri river management.

#### National Awards – TWS Fellow

Jensen will resubmit a packet for a nominee. No other immediate thoughts were brought up, deadline for any TWS awards is mid-March.

Bill Smith motioned to adjourn, Forman seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith  
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS