

## **Minutes of the June 2, 2004 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

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

Flanders-Wanner presented the minutes of the March 7, 2004 board meeting and the 2004 Annual Meeting. Smith motioned to accept both minutes and Mann-Klager seconded the motion. Motion passed. Flanders-Wanner presented the quarterly treasurer's report and the financial statement from the 2004 Annual Meeting. Smith motioned to accept both treasurer's reports, seconded by Hubers. Motion passed.

### **Old Business**

#### Correspondence Sent and Received

*Letters Received:* Senator Tim Johnson, Senator Tom Daschle, and Governor Mike Rounds sent response letters in regards to the SDTWS Resolution on wilderness proposals on Buffalo Gap National Grassland. Harry Hodgdon, Executive Director of TWS, sent letters thanking SDTWS for contributions of \$2,000 in support of the Endowment Campaign to Sustain Wildlife Conservation and \$250 in support of the TWS's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Calgary, Alberta. The South Dakota Water Quality Council sent a copy of the letter regarding adverse impacts to water quality, which would result from the proposed construction of an extensive system of sub-surface drainage tile in southern Moody County. SDTWS had previously agreed to sign on to the letter. John Cooper, Secretary of SD Game, Fish and Parks, sent a carbon copy letter regarding development of South Dakota Endangered Species Management Plans.

*Letters Sent:* Copies of "A Resolution to Support Wilderness Designation on the Current Inventoried Roadless Lands in South Dakota and to Support the Concept of Future Proposed Wilderness Designations in South Dakota", passed at the 2004 Annual Meeting, were sent to: Tom Franklin, TWS Wildlife Policy Director; Harry Hodgdon, TWS Executive Director; Jim Hays, CMPS President; Tom Ryder, CMPS Representative; Governor Mike Rounds; US Senator Tom Daschle; US Senator Tim Johnson; and US Representative (Vacant). Thank you letters were sent to all 2004 Annual Meeting sponsors. A Section and Chapter Officer Report Form was sent to the parent chapter.

#### Past Presidents

Smith offered to send letters to all Past Presidents to initiate the process of forming a group. It was agreed that by default, all former presidents of SDTWS would be included, but an official response would be requested from those interested in active participation in the group. The main contact would be the current Past President.

### **New Business**

#### Requests for Funding

*SD Parks and Wildlife Foundation:* Eileen Dowd-Stukel made an informal request for financial support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 or 5 Birding Trail Guides in South Dakota. Morlock moved to require a formal request for funding with additional details of what the funding request would accomplish and a preferred funding level. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed. Morlock motioned to donate \$500 to the project upon receipt of the formal request. Mann-Klager seconded the motion. Motion passed.

*Pheasants Forever*: Dr. Kenneth Higgins, Pheasants Forever Board Member, made a request of \$1,000 to help support 2 projects related to Pheasants Forever's Leopold Education Project. Morlock motioned to donate \$600 to pay for the train-the-trainer portion of the project. Smith seconded the motion. Following discussion of the motion, the motion was withdrawn. Flanders-Wanner motioned to fund both projects, the train-the-trainer (facilitator workshop) and materials needed for a Leopold Education workshop, at the half-way level for a sum of \$500. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### South Dakota Conservation Alliance (SDCA)

Paul Coughlin, former president of SDTWS, attended the meeting to discuss the formation of the South Dakota Conservation Alliance. The Alliance currently involved only non-profit organizations throughout SD that were interested in issues purely related to conservation. SDCA's most important role would be to address conservation issues through the SD legislation by reacting to detrimental legislation and proactively introducing conservation-friendly legislation. Coughlin invited SDTWS to join this alliance as a charter member and noted that, in the future, the alliance may seek financial support from SDTWS to help fund a SDCA lobbyist. SDTWS was interested in learning more about the alliance as it developed.

#### Society of American Foresters (SAF) Meeting Sponsorship

Griffin reported that our bylaws, which state that SDTWS's annual meeting must be held between January and April, would preclude SDTWS from participating in a joint annual meeting with the SAF this fall. Griffin showed greater interest in supporting the meeting by sponsoring a break and promoting the meeting to our membership than in officially co-sponsoring this upcoming meeting, which focuses highly on forestry-related issues in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

#### Website Updates

The following updates to the SDTWS website pages were suggested: 2004 award recipients, grants (requirements, guidelines, and previously funded projects), updated committee chairs, and life members' numbers. Automatic links to officer e-mails were also suggested.

#### June Newsletter

Contents of the June newsletter were discussed with the following contents suggested: reminder to pay 2004 annual dues; 2004 recipients of the Citizen's Award, Professional Award, and Best Student and Professional Presentations; minutes from the annual meeting and March 7 board meeting; announcement of SDTWS's newest life member (Tony Leif); changes in committee chairs; official date of 2005 Annual Meeting (March 7-9); and recently funded projects.\

#### Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for August 24, 2004, at 11:00 am in Chamberlain, SD.

Morlock moved to adjourn and Hubers seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridgette Flanders-Wanner  
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS