

Minutes of the June 10, 2008 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

KC Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:05am, Pierre, SD. Board members present were Chad Switzer, Dennie Mann, Teresa Zimmerman, Kurt Forman, and Art Smith.

Smith presented the minutes of the March 2008 minutes. KF made a motion to accept, DM seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

Smith presented the Treasurer's report. KF motioned to accept the report, TZ seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

Smith also presented the 2008 Annual Meeting financial summary for informational purposes.

Old Business

1. Both senators agreed in their letters that climate change is an issue, but nothing substantial was said in their letter. Not sure of solution was the message, not that there may not be a problem. Likely similar bills to these will be seen and commented by the Chapter in the future.

2. Best as can be said is it is hard to find a silver lining in the Farm Bill. Swampbuster was adopted as written in 1995, which is a victory. CRP was reduced from 39 million acres to 32 million, problem is rental rates are not competitive, neutral outcome. Sodsaver was a loss. Conference committee suffered a lot, and what was passed only applies to prairie pothole counties in 5 states, only with the Governor's approval. This was a huge disappointment especially considering there was agreement in both House and Senate on what the bill should look like.

3. Our new logo was used on BioBlitz shirts. Initial concern was logo was too intricate, but this was not a problem in the end.

New Business

1. Governor Rounds sent proposal to office June 3rd, support for project was appreciated.

2. FPNG Travel Management EA

Input opportunity for comment on new management proposal for FPNG. Dennie will take comments into hand and draft comment.

3. Request for support for SD Breeding Bird Atlas

GFP starting effort to re-do breeding bird atlas for the South Dakota, series of blocks in the state done every 4 years, eventually cover the state. No specific monetary request was given in the request letter. Guess this is more of a heads-up than a specific request for funds. No motion was made for any support, more of an informational item.

4. TWS National Meeting Support Request

Past support has been for student travel unless the event is in a nearby state. DM motioned to support students with travel and not give any monetary support to the conference, AS seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0).

5. Northern Plains Wind Energy Forum

Group is result of ND & SD interest in wind energy siting guidelines work. Forum will bring wind energy companies together with conservation organizations and other related agencies to develop voluntary siting guidelines. Budget presented for forum, \$1,500 support coming from ND TWS Chapter. Board considers the topic a good one to keep on top of and to support. CS motioned to fund at \$1,500, TZ seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

6. SDSU Student Chapter Travel Request

Student Chapter looking for \$1,500 support, same as last years. General thoughts are student involvement at national meeting is a good emphasis and is widely supported by Council and TWS in general. KF motioned to support travel to Miami w/ contingency that they put summary of 1 of their 2 current studies into newsletter late this year, TZ seconded. (motion passed 5-0).

7. Cedar Shore Thank You Letter

8. Teresa Zimmerman Resignation

Several options to replace TZ were discussed via email prior to meeting. Board consensus was to ask Andy Lindbloom to take the spot as he ran unsuccessfully for the same position at last elections. Other individuals were identified in case that option does not work out. KF motioned the last, DM seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

TZ will also need to be removed from Disease Committee. Options on a replacement committee member was discussed.

Annual Meeting

Using same contract base as last year. Briefly discussed any conflicts with moved date.

Additional Items

WAFWA Thank You Letter from Jeff Vonk for 2008 meeting support.

Eric David, DC Booth Society group Thank You for Winged Migration DVD purchase for Jr Duck Stamp contest.

Newsletter

Greg Pavelka is planning another issue. President's message and other items were assigned to Board.

Next board meeting was tentatively set for September 8th, in Pierre, 10am Central start.

TZ moved to adjourn the meeting, Dennie Mann seconded at 11:50am. Motion approved (5-0), meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS