

## **Minutes of the March 4, 2007 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

President Bridgette Flanders-Wanner recognized a quorum & called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm at Cedar Shore, Oacoma, SD. Other Board members present were Will Morlock, Tom Kirschenmann, Kurt Forman, & Art Smith (KC Jensen was late, he showed up about 7:45 pm).

Smith presented minutes of the January 2007 board meeting. Morlock motioned to accept the minutes, Kirschenmann second. Motion passed (4-0).

Smith then presented the Treasurers report. No discussion, Morlock motioned to accept the report, Forman Second. Motion passed (4-0). Board also reviewed 2006 financial report to be presented at Annual Business meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### Correspondence Sent

- Invitation letter to TWS leaders – Tom Ryder will be the only one who can show up, will be at the business meeting.
- SDTWS comment on Norbeck Wildlife Preserve – Bobcat and mountain lion needed to be added.
- SDTWS sponsorship letter to SD Parks videos.
- SDTWS response to TWS request for comments regarding internal areas management of prairie dogs on USFS in SD – recommended waiting until comment period before sending any response.
- SDTWS comment on Travel Management Proposal for Ft. Pierre Nat'l Grasslands – comment was there is already plenty of access, no need for vehicles to travel on non-designated trails.
- SDTWS comment on proposed USDA changes to CRP program to SD delegates and others – addressed later.

#### Correspondence Received

- Request for comments on Norbeck Wildlife Preserve (see above for response).
- TWS questionnaire for SDTWS webmaster – forwarded to Charlie.
- Follow-up letter from Bald Eagle Awareness Days – response is “the check is in the mail.”
- Hutchins letter in response to SDTWS invite to annual meeting – need to send letter to Pres/ED sooner next year.
- Request for comment on Travel Management Proposal for Ft. Pierre Nat'l Grasslands (see above for response).
- Thank you letter from SD Parks for video purchase support.
- TWS request for comment regarding plan to poison prairie dogs in interior areas of Conata Basin (see above for response).
- Letter from NDTWS President regarding coordination on Missouri River management – Flanders-Wanner has been communicating with ND a lot on this topic.
- Request for funding from SD Grasslands Coalition (see new business).
- Request for funding from Friends of Maga Ta-Hohpi Waterfowl Production Area (see new business).
- Request for funding from Pheasants Forever Leopold Education Program – Morlock recommended sending the request to the Education Committee. No funding figures have been provided yet. Preference is to fund professional to attend the LEP conference. Two professors have been identified. Morlock made the motion to send 1 individual at a maximum of \$500 to the workshop, Foreman seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

Flanders-Wanner will get Laura Hubers to contact Ed Pembleton on costs to send to Ann Lewis. Hubers will email funds needed figures to Foreman and then do Board vote via email.

- TWS Call for Awards Nominations – nothing to report.
- Farm Bill, SDTWS comment on TWS Draft Position Statement – conference call with Laura Bies on comment, suggestion is to start over.
- Farm Bill, results of meeting with SD Delegates in Washington, DC – Foreman went to DC for a meeting with Carl Madsen. Met with Colin Petersen on Sod Saver, Petersen is working on language. The meeting was positive.
- USFS EIS to poison interior prairie dog colonies – TWS request for comment, will be brought up at next TWS Board meeting (also see correspondence sent).

### **New Business**

#### Wolf De-listing

Brief background was given on attitudes of SDGFP.

#### NGPWG Regional Biofuels Coalition Meeting

Nothing to report.

#### Wind Power Committee report & request for room at annual meeting

Committee has been busy in the last few months. Several wind farms are going up in areas considered to be sensitive. Platting occurred will prior to any consultation with the USFWS ES office or migratory bird concerns. Chapter wind power group is looking for the cost of a meeting room (\$25) to be covered by the Chapter. Morlock motioned to cover the \$25, Foreman seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

#### TWS coordination on Missouri River management

This may be the biggest topic in the upcoming year. Driven by ND Chapter, looking for collaborative states/groups to work with.

#### Comment to USDA on proposed changes to CRP policy

Response letter discussed. Importance of subject realized by all.

#### Funding Requests

- SD Grasslands Coalition. Foreman has a high regard for this group. Morlock motioned to support the group with \$500, Jensen seconded. Motion passed (5-0).
- Friends of Maga Ta-Hohpi Waterfowl Production Area. This is an event we have supported in the past; discussed past fest activities, concerns about nest disturbance was brought up, but groups were kept on trails and away from the sensitive areas. Jensen motioned to support fest with \$300, Morlock seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

#### Annual Meeting

Foreman led group through plans and details for the annual meeting.

Motion to temporarily adjourn meeting by Jensen, seconded by Kirschenmann. Motion passed (5-0), meeting temporarily adjourned at 10:34pm.

President Foreman called meeting back to order at 12:48pm, March 5 at Oacoma, SD. Other Board members present were Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Tom Kirschenmann, Chad Switzer, KC Jensen, & Art Smith.

2007 Annual Meeting financial report DRAFT presented for discussion purposes.

Board discussed merits of placing funding request info onto the webpage. Charlie will be contacted to make this happen.

Board discussed ideas/problems with the 2007 conference.

Limited Wednesday attendance

Hotel/guest billing

Special awards for 2008

2008 location and timing discussed (SDSU spring break 17-21 March, 2008).

Pencilled-in Cedar Shore, 17-19 March, 2008.

#### Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for March 30<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) with an alternate of March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday) at 9am Central at the GFP office in Huron, SD as a combined prairie dog and Executive Board meeting. Jensen moved to adjourn, seconded by Kirchenmann. Motion passed (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith

Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS