

Minutes of the November 9, 2006 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 11:09 am at the USFWS Wetlands Office, Brookings, SD. Board members present were Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Will Morlock, Kurt Forman, KC Jensen, Tom Kirschenmann, & Art Smith. Also present was Eddie Childers and Boyd Schultz for part of the meeting.

June meeting minutes were distributed. Morlock motioned to accept the minutes with no changes, Jensen seconded, motion passed (5-0).

September meeting minutes were distributed. Jensen motioned to accept the minutes with several typo corrections, Kirschenmann seconded, motion passed (5-0).

June, September, and November Treasurer's reports were distributed. Problems were noted with getting statements for the general investments going to Smith (they still go to Flanders-Wanner). Jensen motioned to accept all 3 reports, Morlock seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Old Business

Correspondence Sent

- Flanders-Wanner sent Punch Podoll a letter explaining the reason for not following up on the public lands sale initiative. Punch still wanted the letter to be sent, the Board decided that the issue had passed, but would keep the information handy in case it resurfaces in the future.

Correspondence Received

- Funding request from TWS for IT support (see New Business below).
- USFS invitation to attend Norbeck Wildlife Preserve open house. Dennie Mann was going to attend, but was informed by USFS that this was only a FYI – there was no need to attend.
- Pheasants Forever request for funding for educational program (see New Business below).
- Cc on NDTWS Chapter regarding management of Missouri River. ND Chapter is also feeling out SD asking Chapter to consider joining coalition.
- USFS notice on Dakota Prairie Grasslands Livestock Grazing ROD. Board briefly discussed statewide grazing/AUM allocations on grasslands. Jensen will keep an eye on the ROD.

South Dakota Conservation Alliance activities

Forman will send Flanders-Wanner bullet statements to be forwarded to Laura Bies. Forman informed Board of potential activities with SDCA and Swampbusters and USDA wetlands definitions.

Jones SPL land exchange

No new information, assume exchange has been dropped.

Committee Involvement: Summary of Responses from Committee Chairs

Flanders-Wanner led much of this discussion, with plenty of subsequent Board inputs.

• Education and Information

This group requested Board input. Flanders-Wanner will ask other Chapter I&E committees on what they do – this is requested by Chapter Chair, Laura Hubers. Basic question the Board had was, who or what is our target – educating the public or Chapter members? Board was more comfortable with public outreach – additionally, other Chapter members have interests in this area as well. Flanders-Wanner will get info to Hubers, and have her and other interested members conference call to develop the Committee's direction.

• Book Services

Board agreed to dissolve the book account into the Chapter's general account, mandate that the Committee report to the membership, via the newsletter, twice per year about the services the Committee provides (motion and second unknown, motion passed, 5-0).

• Fish and Wildlife Diversity and Endangered Species

Chair, Eileen Dowd-Stukel, recommended combining these 2 committees, Board agreed, motion by Morlock, seconded by Jensen, motion passed (5-0, Forman gone). Dowd-Stukel concerned that others may want to contribute to the Committee but think she has it all "tied-up."

• Wetlands and Waterbird Recognition

Morlock motioned to disband, seconded by Kirschenmann, motion passed (4-0, Forman gone).

• Awards

No changes, Board reaffirmed the need to support this committee to continue getting nominations.

- Energy Issues

New committee, absorb current Wind Turbine into this one. Board envisions this committee having several subcommittees or working groups within it based on issues and/or energy topic. Each subcommittee leader would be Co-Chair of Energy Issues. By default, Jensen has been chair of Wind Turbines lately. Smith is interested in biofuels; Jensen and Smith would start as Co-Chairs of this committee. Kirschenmann motioned to create this committee as described above, Forman seconded, motion passed (5-0).

- Grasslands- Public-Lands related Committees

Board had a lot of discussion on these committees, Eddie Childress and Boyd Schultz also contributed. Final decision was to form Public Lands, Grasslands, and Wetlands committees (3 committees) where the existing Private and Public Land Management committee would turn into the Public Lands, motioned by Forman, Kirschenmann seconded, motion passed (5-0). Desire of Board was to encourage a good cross-representation of all agencies on these committees.

- Resource Activism

Morlock motioned to disband, seconded by Jensen, motion passed (5-0).

- Summary Remarks:

- An overview of the changes on this and other committees should be presented at the annual meeting.
- Board should also employ the idea of "sunset clauses" on new Special Committees at their formation – clause can be modified at the time of their expiration if deemed necessary. This would be a good concept to bring up at the next annual business meeting.
- Requests for new committees need to be accompanied by proposed goals and mission at the time of the request.
- 1 paragraph Committee summaries/write-ups to be proposed by each committee's chairs by 31Dec06 for Board review. These write-ups will eventually be posted on the Chapter's website like the New England Chapter.
- Goals, emerging, and potential issues for the upcoming year should be part of each committee's annual report.

Additional Items – TWS Leaders Lunch

Summary provided by Jensen, Smith, and Flanders-Wanner.

New Business

USFS EIS to Modify Interior Lands Management Plan (control prairie dogs)

Childers and Smith briefed Board on the concern and overriding politics of the issue. Childers summarized the EIS work and why Scott Larson's email was sent to the Board. Board discussed several aspects of issue and asked details. Board decided to stay on top of issue, but since comment period had expired would wait until late summer when draft of EIS would be available for comment.

Funding Request from TWS for IT Support

Flanders-Wanner read letter to Board. Smith described additional details from his trip to Bethesda. Jensen motioned to send \$750, seconded by Forman. Ensuing discussion raised funding level to \$1,000, motion amended, motion passed (5-0).

Funding Request from Pheasants Forever for Educational Program

Flanders-Wanner read faxed letter to Board. Few details on how money would be spent were available. Board would prefer to support SD person's registration and wants to see more information on costs. Morlock will look into additional details and forward to Board for consideration.

Newsletter items

- Sending newsletter to key non-members. Used to do this, but got away from it, probably for postage costs reasons. Board decided to send emailed newsletter to TWS Council, CMPS Board, SD National Congressional representatives, Governor's office, and surrounding state chapter presidents.
- Post newsletter to website. Not currently done, held as a benefit for membership. All surrounding state chapter posts their newsletters. Board discussed reasoning, Forman motioned to put newsletter on website, motion passed (5-0).
- Have submissions to Pavelka by 30Nov06.
- Invite members to participate in energy technical review – Flanders-Wanner.
- Northern Great Plains Working Group – Chad Switzer.
- CMPS annual meeting – Smith.
- SDSU student activities – Jensen.
- President's message – Flanders-Wanner

2007 Meeting

March 5-7, 2007. Jarrod Johnson and Brian Jennings (American Coalition of Ethanol Producers?) are potential invited speakers. Terry Grosz is nailed down as plenary. Enough comp rooms will be needed to be covered by the Board for speakers.

Board felt this is the best time to try and involve COs and Chapter activities. Morlock is taking much of this project on himself. Morlock will send info to Andy Alban and Emmett Keyser regarding this year's meeting. May have a 1-day spike in attendance, and this could affect banquet tickets.

2008 Meeting

Kirschenmann presented some details on what the Huron Event Center can offer for the 2008 meeting. Feeling by Board is Cedar Shore is getting too complacent with Chapter's regular business, needs some competition.

Additional New Business – Prairie Grouse Meeting

Kirschenmann reported that the Prairie Grouse Technical Council is being hosted at Cedar shore, October 7-10, 2007.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday, January 3rd, 2007 in Chamberlain, 11:00 am CDT.

Kirschenmann moved to adjourn, seconded by Morlock. Motion passed (4-0, Jensen gone). Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS