

## **Minutes of the August 19, 2003 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

President Art Smith recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. at the Cedar Shore Hotel and Convention Center near Chamberlain, SD. Board members present were Art Smith, Ron Schauer, Steve Griffin, Paul Coughlin, Diane Mann-Klager, and Bridgette Flanders-Wanner. Charlene (Charlie) Bessken, who has volunteered to maintain the SDTWS website, also attended the meeting.

Flanders-Wanner presented the minutes of the June 16, 2003 board meeting. Griffin motioned to accept the minutes and Mann-Klager seconded the motion. Motion passed. Flanders-Wanner presented the quarterly treasurer's report. Coughlin motioned to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Griffin. Motion passed.

### **Old Business**

#### Correspondence Sent and Received

The SDTWS chapter received a letter of appreciation from the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation for sponsorship of the 2003 Becoming an Outdoors Woman workshop. As the chair of the Education and Information Committee, Laura Hubers sent her review of a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant application, with a request for comments from Art Smith.

#### South Dakota Water Quality Council (SDWQC)

The official letterhead was reviewed. The letterhead was set up to be flexible, so that the SDTWS may remove their name from the left-hand side of the letterhead if the SDTWS is not in agreement with the position of the SDWQC. Therefore, support for each "statement" needs to be taken on a case-by-case basis. In doing so, a representative to the Council or a water-quality committee must be appointed. Carl Madsen was suggested as a potential representative or committee member. Several options were discussed by the board, including allowing the water-quality committee to approve support of a position on their own; having the water-quality committee make recommendations to the board, which in turn approves support of a position; or having the President act as representative at the SDWQC meetings with a qualified SDTWS member along as council. A SDWQC mission statement is still being developed.

#### Report from the Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) Business Meeting

Smith summarized the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual CMPS Meeting in South Sioux City, Nebraska. During the annual business meeting, the CMPS discussed implementation of an electronic newsletter and adding a membership expiration date to each members mailing label. Smith also reviewed several of their ideas for grant handling that he felt could be useful to the SDTWS. The CMPS had suggested creating two types of grants: 1) a regular grant, and 2) a seed grant, where money is invested and later recouped if the project is successful. The CMPS also was creating two 6-month deadlines for funding requests, in order to expedite the grant process. Overall, attendance was low (only 20 members attended the business meeting) and reports from attendants indicated disappointment in the lack of organization, attendance, and professional development at the meeting. As a result, concern about the future utility of the CMPS to section members was expressed, should the functionality of section meetings continue to digress.

### Committee Update

The need for the board to stay current on committee affairs was stressed. Smith offered to write a reminder for committee chairs to contact the president concerning their activities in the instance that the committee chair is contacted directly. The Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife Committee is still vacant and the Membership and Chapter History Committees are in need of new chairpersons.

### Chapter Recommendations on CRP Management

Carl Madsen acted as SDTWS representative at the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the South Dakota State Technical Committee (SDSTC). The SDSTC serves as an advisory body, providing input and guidance to the USDA on a variety of natural resource issues. Madsen provided comments on the programmatic basis of CRP and the proper management of grasslands for wildlife.

### New Business

#### 2004 Annual Meeting – Cedar Shore Contract and Catering

Kathi Anderson, Catering Manager for the Cedar Shore Hotel and Convention Center, reviewed the Group and Catering Contract from the 2002 Annual Meeting of the SDTWS. After reviewing the old contract, the board finalized the menu for all of the meals and breaks and reserved the desired meeting rooms for the 2004 Annual Meeting.

#### 2004 Annual Meeting – New Officer Candidates and Elections

A new President-Elect and Board Member will be elected to the Executive Board during the upcoming SDTWS Annual Meeting in March. In preparation, the board reviewed potential candidates for the two positions.

#### Newsletter Mailing

The changes implemented in the July newsletter mailing appeared to be successful.

- A change to first class postage ensured proper delivery
- Using Flanders-Wanner's address as the return address simplified updates to the membership list
- The printer agreed to run the newsletter through their meter to address them at a reasonable rate. This eliminated extra work for Jennifer Briggs, who had agreed to continue mailing out the newsletters.

#### SDTWS Website

Charlene (Charlie) Bessken attended the board meeting to discuss needs and options for the SDTWS website. The board provided Charlie with a "wish list" of topics that could be incorporated or improved on the website. The board agreed that priority needed to be given to updating the current website pages. Once that phase has been completed, the board hopes to utilize the website to archive old information and make it readily available to chapter members. The challenges of retrieving electronic copies of old records from past board members to archive them on the website prompted a discussion on the need for a chairperson for the Chapter History committee.

#### Fort Pierre Grasslands pipeline project review

Anthony W. Detoy, District Ranger/Legislative Coordinator, offered the SDTWS the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed construction of two new sections of pipeline on the Fort

Pierre National Grassland. Paul Coughlin, chairperson of the Conservation Review Committee, agreed to review and comment on the proposed action.

Dedication of the McCarlson WPA at Waubay NWR

Larry Martin, Project Leader at Waubay NWR, requested financial assistance to help cover luncheon and transportation expenses for the dedication of the McCarlson WPA, the first WPA ever purchased in the nation. Schauer moved to contribute \$300, seconded by Mann-Klager. Motion passed.

Invitation to TWS 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Leaders Lunch

Flanders-Wanner and Mann-Klager, who planned to attend the conference, offered to represent the SDTWS at the Leaders Lunch. The Leaders Lunch provided an opportunity for TWS leaders to meet and share strategies for maximizing their chapter/section/committee/working group's success.

Past-Presidents Working Group

Casey Kruse's suggestion for the formation of a Past-President's working group was further discussed at this meeting. The board agreed that it would be beneficial for Kruse to write up a more detailed proposal before moving ahead with the idea.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held at 11:00 am on November 5, 2003 at Cedar Shore Hotel and Convention Center near Chamberlain.

Schauer moved to adjourn and Coughlin seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridgette Flanders-Wanner  
Secretary/Treasurer