

**Iowa TWS Business Meeting
February 7, 2018
Quality Inn & Suites, Ames**

Meeting Attendance - 102

Start Time - 4:06 pm

End Time – 5:06 pm

Call to Order - 4:06 pm – Pete Hildreth, President

Election Results and Welcome of New Officers – Pete Hildreth

Pete announced the election results as follows:

- President-Elect: Nick Baumgartner (def. Shanon Hansel)
- Member at Large: Nathan Schmitz (def. Amy Crouch)

Newly elected Officers will begin their terms immediately, with a short transition period.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary: Dusten Paulus

- Reminded the membership that the minutes had been sent out to current members via email
- Read a condensed version of the business meeting minutes from the 2017 Fall Meeting held at Port Louisa.
- Shannon Hansel motioned to approve the business meeting minutes from the 2017 Fall Meeting. Eric Systema second. Motion carried.

Treasurer: Dusten Paulus

- Reminded the membership that the treasurer's report had been made available during the day in hopes that everyone has had a chance to see it. Told anyone with questions to contact him.
- Gave a condensed version of the treasurer's report from 2 February 2017 through 6 February 2018 (see attached).
- Stephanie Shepherd motioned to approve the treasurer's report as read. Greg Schmitt second. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee: Travis Russell-Chair

- Travis was not present. Nothing to report.

Awards Committee: Stephanie Shepherd-Chair

- Stephanie discussed this year's hall of fame award recipient and mentioned that there is a form online to fill out for new nominees.

Conservation Review Committee: Katy Reeder-Chair

- Katy reported that the committee was not very active this year.
- Informed folks that there are many levels in the conservation review process within TWS, and that we can work with other states to get more accomplished.

BOARD MINUTES

Education and Information Committee: Pete Eyheralde-Chair

- Pete E. asked folks to give input for the next newsletter to go out in the spring.
- He also mentioned a grad student doing work on spotted skunk (civet cat) and they are looking for data regarding sightings, historical info, etc.
- Pete mentioned that he had brought bison skulls that were for sale if anyone was interested.

Membership Committee: Dusten Paulus-Chair

- Dusten reported that the committee had done nothing this year. He put out a request for new members to the committee and welcomed any new ideas to increase membership.

Resolutions and Public Statements: Brain Sauer-Chair

- Nothing to report.

Nominations and Elections: Pete E.-Chair

- Elections results were read earlier. Pete Hildreth mentioned that there was some confusion on who chaired the committee. Stephanie S. mentioned that the bylaws stated that the former president elect is supposed to chair the committee the following year. Greg Schmitt volunteered to chair the committee until the post president rotation could be set.

OLD BUSINESS

Fall Workshop Overview

- Pete E. discussed the 2017 Fall Workshop that was held at Port Louisa NWR in early September that focusing on herps. Nearly 50 in attendance at the workshop, 43 at business meeting.
- He gave a brief overview of the workshop, presenters and discussions.

Midwest Furbearer Workshop

- Vince Elvelsizer discussed the Midwest Furbearer Workshop that was held in Decorah, IA in June at Luther College.
- He gave a brief overview of the workshop, presenters and discussions.
- Dusten Paulus mentioned that the IA TWS chapter made around \$300 profit from hosting the workshop and suggested we host again in 6 years when the opportunity comes around.

ISU Student Conclave 2017

- Tianna Kinzie, ISU Student Chapter President, and Casie Baird ISU Student Chapter Fundraiser Chair gave an update on the 2017 Student Conclave they attended at Purdue University. Thanked the TWS members for our sponsorship in their attendance.

REAP Alliance Renewal

- Tyler Harms discussed the merit of REAP Alliance membership.
- He discussed how the dues are used for a committee that helps guide decisions on how REAP funds are allocated. Also mentioned Karen Kinkaed has been representing IA REAP Alliance.
- Stephanie Shepard motioned to renew membership with REAP Alliance for \$150. Doug Harr second. Motion carried.

ICA Membership Renewal

- Pete H. asked for any discussion or motions related to our membership in ICA.

BOARD MINUTES

- Tyler Harms explained exactly what ICA is and does, why it is important to fund this for lobbyist at the capitol regarding conservation issues.
- Todd Bogenshutz is the liaison for this alliance.
- Paul Frese motioned to renew our membership at \$2,500. Mike Olson second. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ISU Student Chapter Conclave

- Tianna Kinzie, ISU Student Chapter President, and Casie Baird ISU Student Chapter Fundraiser Chair announced that they are looking for financial support for hosting the Student Chapter Conclave in Ames, IA in 2018. They asked for \$2,000 in support of hosting this event which has not been at ISU in over 25 years.
- Jim Jansen motioned to support the ISU Student Chapter Conclave request with \$2,000. Stephanie Shepard second. Motion carried.

Mammals of IA Update

- Stephanie Shepard noted that the mammals of Iowa booklet had not been updated since the mid 1970's and that it needed revamped, along with the field guide.
- Mentioned she is looking for funding sources to print off new pamphlets.

IWILL

- Rick Tebbs reminded folks that Monday is IWILL day at the capital, go support IWILL!

COOP Unit Program

- Bill Clark mentioned the COOP unit program, lack of Fish and Wildlife funding, wanted to draft a letter in support of funding.
- Bill Clark and Katy Reeder are going to work on drafting a letter and are willing to take on any folks who want to help.
- Daryl Erve???? Talked about writing letters to the right people and their importance. Erve discussed at length the importance of contacting government officials and writing letters discussion conservation issues and that closed door politics are dangerous. Made a reference to this happening back 1981.
- Marlene Ershman mentioned that individual letters help too. Suggested having a help day with folks on how to write effective letters to members of the government.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Iowa TWS 2018 Fall Workshop

- Pete Hildreth announced that the TWS would be hosting a fall workshop sometime in September. Looking for suggestions on location but hoping to hold it somewhere in the SW district, perhaps the Loess Hills. Look for more information in the future, possibly in the spring newsletter for updates.

Membership Nomination Form

- Katy Reeder mentioned a free membership nomination form with a kick back program for national membership. FYI

Any Skulls

BOARD MINUTES

- Vince Elvelsizer reminded folks that if they have any skulls of furbearers to get to him, they could put them in his truck outside.

Wings

- Todd Bogenschutz reminded folks that if they had wings to drop off they could get them to hm any time.

Dave Kutz made a motion to adjourn. Amy Crouch second. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned – 5:06 p.m.