

**The Wildlife Society®**  
**Wildlife and Habitat Restoration Working Group**  
**MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017**

**ATTENDEES**

Michelle Ford	Heather Jensen	Rachel Williams
Bryan Kluever	Brian Zinke	Marcia Wolfe
Sandra Patrick	Paul Santavy	

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1. Welcome and roll call
    - a. Bryan calls meeting to order at 12:03 pm EST
    - b. Member introductions
  2. Call for new agenda items
    - a. No new items
  3. Meeting Minutes and Distribution
    - a. Michelle to complete taking minutes and distribute by email within 1 week of the meeting to the group and make edits as appropriate. Corrected minutes then get sent to the Chair for posting.
  4. Updated bio sheet status – Marcia
    - a. Bryan will take over if Marcia is unable by March 1, 2017.
  5. Vacant Board Seats
    - a. Chair has sent a call and reminders to fill vacant board seat for Canada Section but to no response. All other board seats are filled. Sandy will distribute to colleagues in Canada to see if there is anyone interested in filling the seat. Individual networking/word of mouth may be the most likely strategy to fill the vacancy. Bryan made a motion, seconded by Paul. Motion passes unanimously. Any interested parties should contact Bryan.
  6. Update - National conference
    - a. Updates on planned attendance:
      - i. Bryan has put in a request to attend. Paul will attend if the Bison symposium is accepted. Would like any Board members not on the call to please submit to the Chair their intention to attend/not-attend the annual conference.
    - b. Bison restoration symposium and representation at business meeting:
      - i. Bryan and Paul are planning to attend the business meeting if they attend the conference.
      - ii. Paul provides a brief history of how the idea for a Bison restoration symposium came about. Symposium proposal is due in 2 weeks and Paul will be submitting. Has a theme, outline, program steering committee w/ partners and some promises for serious financial support. Symposium focuses on Prairie Bison and will be a mix of short presentations on the topic and Paul's compiled a great list of members for

the steering committee. Needs speakers identified for the proposal and if approved, the speakers have to have their abstracts submitted by early May. Bryan asks if Paul would like any assistance from the Working Group and Paul states that he'll keep working on the proposal and will let the Group know, if the proposal is accepted, would like some help w/ logistics. It all hinges on whether or not the proposal is accepted. Paul will be asking the Working Group for funds to support travel grants for the symposium. Bryan makes a motion seconded by Heather to let Paul continue to move forward with the proposal as he's proposed. Discussion: Rachel wants to see how much money we'll be thinking of because it takes a long time to earn those funds. Several members of the Board note that they want to see the proposal before it goes out. Paul wants to be sure that he has the backing so he doesn't spend more time on it. Concern about what we are obligated to. Paul states that TWS requires emails showing financial support, doesn't specify how much. Bryan amends the motion to include a synopsis of the proposal prior to submission. Rachel seconds the amended motion. Paul abstains. All in favor. Bryan motions that if the proposal is accepted the group submit an email of financial support, seconded by Sandy. Paul abstains. All in favor. Some discussion on when to have a conversation about how much we should provide. Bryan makes a motion to contribute \$2,000 if the proposal is accepted, seconded by Brian. Michelle notes that we should identify other initiatives that we want to spend so that we don't over or under-allocate funds. Sandy notes some travel grants and potential collaboration with other groups. Bryan notes Ben's initiatives for a field trip in Albuquerque. Rachel states costs may be minimal on the field trip but that it'd be great if we can do both. Rachel will look into that with Ben. Michelle states that she'd feel more comfortable waiting to make a financial decision on the symposium until we have more information on whether or not the Prairie Bison (whether or not it's accepted) proposal is accepted and the cost of the field trip initiatives in Albuquerque. Paul states that the Working Group should be willing to make a major commitment and investment in the symposium and that we should be thinking and talking about how we best support the Group and how we best use our members dollars. Paul states that a big event may be a good way to attract members and show that we're doing big things. Discussion on working w/ the forestry working group for 2018 and being aware of what that may require financially. Bryan states that perhaps we wait until we find out if the proposal is accepted. Paul respectfully requests that the motion gets revised to at least \$2,000 depending on what we find out about other events. Seconded by Sandy. Field trips can be easier to recoup funds. The funds requested by Paul will be used primarily for travel and registration. Rachel states that we should look into having speakers' registration comped. Rachel isn't comfortable going with at least. Paul is concerned that we'll save the money and not use it for anything else where it could have been

better used for the symposium. The group is voting on the original motion made by Bryan to allocate \$2,000 to the symposium. Vote is unanimous.

c. 2017, WHRWG sponsored field trip to Bosque del Apache NWR

7. Treasurer / Secretary report

a. Annual Report to TWS

b. Bank Account update

c. IRS e-postcard due 5/15:

d. Travel Grant - Would Sandy be interested in speaking w/ the Forestry Working Group on a travel grant. Sandy recommends that we table that discussion. Bryan makes a motion to table the discussion, seconded by Sandy and the motion passes unanimously.

8. Engaging with other Working Groups

a. Potential to work with the Society for Ecological Restoration. Bryan asks if anyone has experience working with other societies. There are other groups who focus on the same initiatives. Bryan asks if anyone can reach out. Marcia would be happy to reach out. Bryan will reach out to SER and Marcia will reach out to some of the mining societies and Sandy will keep in touch with Dr. Corace.

9. Website / Social media / email group

a. Bryan has been trying to post things and will work to keep things up to date.

b. Member Spotlight: Rachel will email out an old version of the member spotlight and summarizes what the spotlight actually is and how it's used.

10. Ideas for other value-added projects and services for the workgroup

11. Next teleconference and Additional items

a. Bryan asks when we should have our next call. Rachel recommends 1 to 2 months given everything we have going on. Perhaps next call the week of April 10 since proposals will be accepted/rejected by April 5.

b. 3-4 weeks lead time for conference calls.

12. Adjournment

a. Bryan states that he appreciates everyone's time and patience. Bryan motions to adjourn at 1:45, Rachel seconds. All in favor.