

Wildlife Toxicology Working Group Board Meeting
September 18, 2014
12:00 pm EST

Attendees:

Chair - Brian Hiller

Chair-Elect - Louise Venne

Treasurer and Vice-Chair of Communications- Stephanie Baker

Secretary - Carrie Marr

Vice-Chair - Katrina Leigh

Past Chair-Jeff Levensgood

Action items are below in bold.

Agenda Items

1. Reports on Old Business-

Minnesota Chapter of TWS Non-Toxic Ammunition Workshops & Booth (Brian)

The workshops have started and so far two were held last month and 2-3 more are scheduled soon. They are receiving good publicity in the press. Feedback has been positive and participants are often surprised at how lead breaks up upon impact. **Brian will share photos, a paper, and a video with us to post on the website. Carrie will look into posting the video to the WTWG page.**

No booth was organized at State Fair or Game Fair this year, as hoped.

TWS Pb statement (Brian)

Brian asked the WTWG membership to review the TWS Lead Position Statement, since it needs to be updated this year. A few WTWG members also sent the position statement to outside groups asking for feedback (e.g., the Loon Preservation Society provided 2 pages of comments and suggestions). Most of the feedback he received was that education on the toxic effects of using lead ammunition has not been enough to move hunters and fishermen away from using lead-based products (i.e., is education enough or is regulation necessary?). Reviewers also wanted TWS to strengthen their argument for increased regulatory action. The second most common suggestion was to update the section on state regulations and positions.

Brian spoke with Barnett Rattner on the origins of the first position statement in 2008. Barnett, John Schulz, and others were involved, mostly in providing literature citations and in review. It was largely written by TWS HQ.

The Board divided up the duties for updating the information on which states and provinces regulate lead ammunition and fishing tackle as follows:

Brian – North-Central +Manitoba

Louise – ½ Southeast + Quebec, NW Territories

Stephanie – ½ Southeast (KS, UT, NE, SD, ND, OK, LA, AR) + Alberta and Saskatchewan

Jeff – Pacific NW (Alaska, WA, Montana) + British Columbia

Carrie- Southwest (AZ, NM, TX) and CA, NV, Hawaii + Ontario

Katrina – North-East Section +Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick

Brian will send out a template for updating the lead regulations in states and provinces. Board Members updates are due to Brian on Thursday, September 25th. He will edit the position statement based on the updated section information and comments already received will send it out to Board for review on October 2nd. Comments will be due a week later so there he can submit it to the TWS Council before the TWS Conference (October 25th).

SETAC Booth at TWS Annual Conference in Pittsburgh (Brian)

Brian contacted SETAC to invite them to the TWS conference and to host a booth. He has not received a reply. Barnett Rattner, former WTWG Chair and SETAC President, is no longer on the Board at SETAC. Brian will follow up with SETAC to see if it is interested in a booth at the TWS 2015 conference in Winnipeg 2015. Katrina is going to the TWS meeting in Pittsburgh and is the only Board Member attending. Katrina volunteered to take some WTWG pamphlets with her to the meeting.

2. New Business

Election results (Louise)

The election has ended and **Louise will call all of the nominees in the next few days to let everyone them know the results.**

Interest Survey for Online Toxicology Class/Lecture (Louise)

Louise will send an email to a contact list of wildlife professors she has compiled.

Newsletter (Louise)

Items for the Fall Newsletter are due at the end of September and it will be published in early October.

Article potential for The Wildlife Professional (Jeff)

Since the last Board Meeting, Jeff has not heard from The Wildlife Professional. One suggestion for *The Wildlife Professional* article would be Non-Toxic Ammunition Workshops in Minnesota. The MN Chapter is willing to share their format and materials with other states/chapters to if there is interest in expanding the campaign.

Bank Account Status (Stephanie)

There is currently \$2,001.08 the WTWG account. Recent debits have been a donation to the MN Chapter for workshops. Recent credits include \$250 in dues. The account has been steady the last few years between \$2-3,000.

The Board discussed increasing the working group dues to \$7, \$8, \$10. The dues are currently \$5, which is the same as many other working groups. Dues were decreased from \$10 a few years ago, but it did not seem to make a difference in the account total. No action was taken.

Social media update

Facebook – Six new members have joined our Facebook group, for a total of 41 members. One suggestion was to advertise the Twitter account on the Facebook page.

Twitter activity – There are 4-5 followers. Brian has been cross-posting between Facebook and Twitter.

Carrie will advertise our Facebook page and Twitter account on the website.

3. Other Items

Recently, Brian became aware that former WTWG members are still on the email distribution list.

Feedback from TWS HQ is that position statement 'groups' do not meet regularly.

The next phone conference will be scheduled after TWS national meeting, which is the last week of October. **Brian will create a Doodle poll for the first two weeks in November.**