

**Minutes from the Fall Business Meeting  
of the Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society  
Tuesday, 21 October 2014  
Destin, FL**

**I. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Eric Pelren**

The fall business meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

**II. Approval of 2013 Business Meeting Minutes**

*Minutes were read by Mike Conner and unanimously approved.*

**III. Reports**

SETWS Section Representative - Darren Miller gave the Section Representative report. He stated that there had been much staff turnover at TWS, but that Katie Edwards would remain SETWS newsletter editor. He also encouraged everyone to return TWS surveys. Darren also mentioned that TWS had a revised mission statement that would be sent out for review. This will be Darren's last year as SE section rep.

Secretary/Treasurer - Mike Conner provided the account balance and informed membership that our audit suggested financials were in order. A complete finance report is attached as an appendix to the minutes.

Audit Committee - Eric Pelren gave report. All is in order.

Associate Editor Wildlife – Doug Osborne gave report. 70 manuscripts were submitted to SEAFWA, 30 were wildlife papers. 55 reviewers were used on wildlife papers. 28 manuscripts were invited to resubmit. 6 papers were currently accepted; remaining resubmissions are being evaluated. Doug will revise author guidelines.

Student Awards – Kelly Douglass gave report. 31 student presentations. 22 presentations were judged. 5 posters were judged. 5 student chapters were nominated for best student chapter award. Eric Pelren will announce winner at the awards banquet.

C. W. Watson Award – Craig Harper gave report. Winner to be announced at the Awards Banquet.

Deer Committee – Eric Pelren gave report for Steve Demarais. They are meeting and moving forward with their work.

Endangered Species and Non-game Committee – Jeanne Jones gave report. She is trying to pull together specialist working on multiple taxa of non-game. The group is largely focused on large scale ecosystem management. If interested in serving on the committee, see Jeanne. She suggested that the committee may want to consider writing a synthesis paper.

Fur Resources Committee - Rich Rogers gave report. Stated the committee meets once/year to discuss regional issues and science-based solutions. They provided BMPs for NWCOs and for fox pens. Mark

Smith asked if they were working on trapper recruitment. Rich said that this was an ongoing effort. Darren mentioned a relevant new TWS working group (Hunting and trapping in Conservation).

Wetlands Wildlife Committee - Steve Rockwood gave report and asked people to comment on the clean water act.

Minorities in Natural Resources Committee- No report.

Wildlife Excellence Award- Eric Pelren stated that Chris DePerno would serve as chair. This award will not be given this year.

Publications Committee- Kelly Douglass stated that there were 11 manuscripts submitted, 1 was withdrawn. The best paper will be announced at the awards banquet.

Newsletter Editor, Webmaster- Eric Pelren for Katie Edwards. Reiterated that Katie is staying on as newsletter editor/webmaster.

TWP editorial advisory board Eric Pelren stated that TWP was asking for a rep from each section to serve. Joe McGlincy agreed to serve as an SETWS member.

Membership Committee No report.

Nominating committee No report.

Conservation affairs committee William More gave report. He is working with TWS to establish a CAC for SETWS. William will serve as chair. The goal is to serve as a liaison between TWS and state chapters to mobilize against anti-conservation legislation. TWS is working on a policy tool kit to aid sections and chapters. Eric will make the CAC part of the bylaws for vote by membership.

SEAFWA Liaison Steve Rockwood gave report. SETWS and FL TWS sponsored student lunch. There are still issues to be resolved with the new Journal and SEAFWA is looking for a new editor. The program cover for the SEAFWA meeting will become the Journal cover for that volume. Next year's SEAFWA meeting will be in Ashville, NC.

Strategic Planning Eric Pelren gave report. A skeleton framework is available on the internet. Please provide feedback. This will be passed on to Mark Smith for further action. Darren Miller suggested that this would be a great way for students to get involved at the section level.

*John Bowers moved that all reports be approved. This was seconded by Darren Miller, and the motion passed.*

#### **IV. Old Business**

SEAFWA publications - Steve Rockwood informed the membership that SEAFWA papers were available on the website and that the website will be redesigned to allow more efficient searches.

Strategic plan - Eric Pelren stated that SETWS was discussing the need for a strategic plan and feels that a plan would be helpful for prioritizing SETWS activities.

## **V. New Business**

No new Business.

### SETWS awards

Doug Osborne was recognized as Associate Editor for wildlife, SEAFWA.

James Martin was recognized as Assistant Editor for Wildlife, SEAFWA.

Max Cox received the best student paper award.

UT Knoxville, received the best student chapter award.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:06 pm.