

TWS NE Section Executive Committee Annual Meeting
NEAFWA Conference, Portland Maine
April 13, 2014 2:00 – 5:30 pm

Attendees:

Dave Paulson – New England Chapter Rep
Mitch Hartley – NE Section President
Mike Fishman – NY Chapter Rep
Shawn Haskell – NE Section VP
Scott Williams – NE Section Treasurer
Tom Decker – NE Section Member
Audrey?
Emily Boyd – PA Chapter Rep
Jennifer Higbie – TWS Awards Chair
John McDonald – NE Section National Rep
Jim Cardoza – NE Section Member

By phone:

Tim Green – Membership Chair
Eric Schrading – NE Section Secretary
Stacy Carpenter – NE Section President-Elect

Treasurers Report – Scott Williams

See attached Treasurer spreadsheet.

Secretary Report – Eric Schrading

Meeting minutes for past NE Section Exec Comm teleconferences on January 27 and March 4 are finalized. We will post on the NE Section website shortly. Membership survey requests for participation were sent out in two emails in March 2014 to encourage participation.

Action Item: Post most recent minutes on the webpage via Ken Mackenzie; Vice-President-Elect Terra Rentz is also keen on increasing web presence.

NE Section Awards – Jennifer Higbie

Three nominations for awards for the John Pierce Award and one nomination each for the Certificate of Recognition and P.F. English Award were received. Tom Serfass and Jacqui Frair have been elected as TWS Fellows. Jerry Hassinger is to receive the Distinguished Service Award. The award committee did a great job in reviewing the nominations quickly. Awards will be presented later in the week at the NEAFWA conference.

Audit Committee

There is a need to have an Audit Committee to review the Treasurer reports. Mitch Hartley and Tom Decker will serve on the Audit Committee to review banking data and accounts information for the NE Section. Scott is to look into online access to Wells Fargo, which could simplify the Audit Committee task. Ken Mackenzie set up the Florence Savings Bank account.

Liaisons to NEAFWA Technical Committees

The Technical Committee Liaisons identified in the bylaws include: 1) black bear, 2) deer, 3) furbearers, 4) endangered species and wildlife diversity, 5) upland habitat, and 6) wild turkey/upland game. Several members are already involved in these groups and could act as liaisons for the NE Section. NETWS maintains a voting seat on each technical committee, along with the States represented by them. John McDonald has served as the NETWS liaison to the mammal technical committees in the past, and now Tom Decker has volunteered to serve as liaison to the Deer, Bear, and Furbearer Technical Committees. Emily Boyd volunteered to serve as liaison to the upland habitat technical committee.

Action Item: Formally define liaisons for the other three Tech Committees.

Bylaws Committee

Mitch Hartley, Tim Green and Stacy Carpenter are currently reviewing the bylaws to make changes to update and improve the Section bylaws. More on this later in the meeting.

State Chapter Reports

PA Chapter – Emily Boyd

PA Chapter's last meeting was well attended. The primary focus of the chapter was the Annual TWS Conference in Pittsburgh in October 2014. Volunteers for the conference are needed. The website for the conference should be up and running soon with conference planning by Tammy Colt; there will be a river theme. There is a push for a statewide feral cat action committee.

MA Chapter - Jim Cardoza

Mass Division of Fish and Wildlife is filling long vacant positions. Conservation acres in Mass is 200,000 + and growing with the Governors support. A new field-research HQ is under construction in Westborough, and it will be 100% zero net-energy. In Jan 2014, unpermitted commercial take of species such as sucker, eel, some baitfish, and snapping turtles has been eliminated. A youth deer hunt has been initiated. Dick Turner is retiring after being hired in 1949.

ME Chapter – Shawn Haskell

Like MA, Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is approaching 100% staffing. There is some on-going concern regarding commercial harvest of suckers, and a research project has been initiated to investigate. A rule was passed last year that provides for the regulatory oversight of commercial take of amphibians and non-marine invertebrates.

NY Chapter – Jennifer Higbie

April 3-4 was the NY Chapter meeting with a theme of hunting. The chapter remains very strong with good attendance. Valorie Titus is the new President. Some concern about the proposed NY Safe Act which restricts the number of rounds a gun can hold and the definition of an assault weapon as it may impact hunting firearms.

National TWS Update – John McDonald

TWS went through a period of very tight budgets that included staff changes and some folks leaving for other positions. New development officer position, Hedi Ross, is specifically for fund-raising. New Director of Membership (Ed Thompson is very good with a fundraising background, and hiring a new webmaster is a top priority. He came from the National Association of Civil Air Pilots and has a good background in fundraising and marketing. All TWS funds come from members, publications, and the annual conference. There is some grant money, but it is typically hit or miss. There has been a membership decline of about 7% recently. Wiley-Blackwell the publisher for the Journal and Monographs is in the last year of the contract. They are working on a way to figure out a way forward with publications based on a changing landscape on publications (open access, electronic, etc.). The *Wildlife Society Bulletin* could go to an open access format. TWS is working on a better deal for states to have access to their journals, since they are no longer part of BioOne.

John McDonald will end his term in October 2014. Tim Green and Paul Johansen are current candidates as Section Rep.

There is a move to get increased diversity (gender, race, etc.) on the editorial advisory board of The Wildlife Professional and to ensure representation from each Section so they are recruiting new members. Duties are primarily to suggest articles to be covered based on current events, controversial issues, or new issues in the field as opposed to reviewing and editing articles. They are requesting names of potential volunteers.

Action Item: Solicit to membership the need for volunteers to serve on the Editorial Board.

Membership Survey

Results of the membership survey were reviewed. Highlights are that only about 1/3 of members responded to the survey and 46% of the non-members said they did not join because they did not think they would benefit from being a member of the Section. Also the number of members that are in the NGO sector is very small. There were 34 feedback messages and 30-40 email addresses of people willing to volunteer time for NETWS initiatives.

Action Item: Send the membership survey results to the NE Section Exec Comm

Student Chapters

The Penn State University DuBois Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was formally agreed to by the Exec Committee earlier. An additional petition from Unity College was received. A motion by Stacy Carpenter and seconded by Shawn Haskell Was to approve Unity College as a student chapter. The motion carried. New student chapters are now required to have a non-faculty advisor, who is preferably a CWB® and TWS member; this should help to stabilize their existence and participation over time.

Student Conclave & Field Course– Stacy Carpenter

The student conclave was very successful and was held in PA at the 7-mtns Boy Scout camp. There were 155 students attending and a small group of professionals. Some challenges included over-booking the cabins so that sleeping space was limited and not enough food for 155. The Quiz Bowl was very popular with lots of participation. There was also a good focus on professional development. There was a discussion regarding the need for a student liaison for

NETWS for the conclaves and other matters; Faren Wolter of the University of Maine at Orono was mentioned. The 6th annual Field Course out of Castleton, Vermont, has 20 students signed up who are mostly undergrads. Volunteer professionals and necessary equipment are all arranged.

Action Item: Identify a student liaison for the NE Section

Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow & new Furbearer Management Report– Tom Decker

There is a program called Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow that provides training for students to become leaders in the profession. The Section can help bankroll this effort and provide scholarships much like it does for the Field Course. Years ago NEAFWA's Furbearer Technical Committee developed a Trapping and Furbearer Management booklet much like that for white-tailed deer and black bear. The furbearer booklet has been updated and is ready to go to press. States will pay for their copies, and Tom requested \$300 to print extra copies to have on stock in Hadley for when it is appropriate to distribute some. Scott made a motion to fund the \$300 request; Shawn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Section Dues Changes – Tim Green

The proposal to change the collection of Section dues was generally supported by all the chapters. However, this change will require a formal vote. Tim is working on setting that up.

Bylaw Changes – Mitch Hartley

Some changes that are being reviewed discussed include: eliminating "Charter members" as well as Subscribing Members (which really does not exist anymore). The Reinstatement clause is also not really applicable. Also changing or eliminating positions including Archivist, and some standing committees (e.g., Publications Committee, and Wildlife Educators committee) and changing this to a more realistic Ad-Hoc committee. Any and all changes will be formally identified to membership and voted on, prior to changing the bylaws.

Action Item: Formally propose changes to the bylaws for consideration by the next Exec Comm meeting by Mitch and Tim.

Overabundant Deer – Scott Williams

Scott is working on a NE Section position statement regarding management of chronically overabundant deer. He is working collaboratively with interested members of the Northeast Deer Technical Committee from other States to come up with a formal position.

Action Item: Review and finalize the draft a formal position to be submitted to the Exec Committee and later for TWS National.

Archives – Mitch Hartley

The paper archives for the NE Section currently held by Mitch will be digitized by Mike Fishman. This will improve transfer and back-up of NE Section Archives. This is an on-going process with no current deadline.

NETWS Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC)

May consider a position statement on the referendum to ban effective means to hunt bears in Maine and wildlife management referendums, the need for bear management, and in general,

popular referendum votes that restrict citizens' rights to legally hunt, fish, and trap under existing state and federal jurisdictions.

The meeting ended at 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Eric Schrading, TWS NE Section Secretary

2013 NE Section TWS Bank Summary

2013 Beginning and Ending Balances

Acct on 1/1/2013

Florence Savings Bank

Account Number	Product Description	Balance
1980597761	Non Profit Free Checking	\$5,175.10
1981175665	Business Money Market 0.10%	\$13,214.95
1981172215	12 Month Passbook CD 02/27/2013 0.65%	\$6,191.50
Total		\$24,581.55

Acct on 12/31/2013

Florence Savings Bank

Account Number	Product Description	Balance
1980597761	Non Profit Free Checking	\$7,782.45
1981175665	Business Money Market 0.10%	\$13,228.78
1981172215	12 Month Passbook CD 02/26/2014 0.45%	\$6,216.78
Total		\$27,228.01
Net Difference:		\$2,646.46

Acct on 1/1/2013

Wells Fargo

Account Number	Product Description	Balance
9152358330	Checking	\$10,186.60
9152360260	Savings	\$330.02
Total		\$10,516.62

Acct on 12/31/2013

Wells Fargo

Account Number	Product Description	Balance
9152358330	Checking	\$12,254.02
9152360260	Savings	\$258.19
Total		\$12,512.21
Net Difference:		\$1,995.59

Net Gain:	\$4,642.05
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2013 NE Section TWS Bank Summary

2013 Income and Expenses Breakdown

FSB Checking Acct

Income:	\$20,720.00
Expenses:	-\$18,112.65
Net Difference:	\$2,607.35

Wells Fargo-Checking

Income:	\$3,947.00
Expenses:	-\$1,879.58
Net Difference:	\$2,067.42

Wells Fargo-Savings

Income:	\$0.17
Expenses:	-\$72.00
Net Difference:	-\$71.83

Money Market

Income:	\$13.83
Expenses:	\$0.00
Net Difference:	\$13.83

CDs

Income 1981172215	\$25.28
Expenses:	\$0.00
Net Difference:	\$25.28

Total Income (including interest):	\$24,706.28
Total Expenses:	-\$20,064.23
Difference:	\$4,642.05

Wells Fargo Bank 2013-Checking

Date	Check #	Payee	Item	Amount	Running total
01/01/13					\$10,186.60
02/05/13	Deposit	NES TWS	4th Quarter 2012 Membership dues	1,524.00	\$11,710.60
02/12/13	Debit	Wells Fargo	For deposit slips	(42.30)	\$11,668.30
03/26/13	1000	Saratoga Hilton	Section meeting refreshments	(248.58)	\$11,419.72
05/13/13	Deposit	NES TWS	1st Quarter 2013 Membership dues	994.00	\$12,413.72
06/03/13	1001	Wells Fargo	Telonics	(914.90)	\$11,498.82
06/03/13	Deposit	Wells Fargo	Northeast Habitat Technical Committee meeting (pass through)	500.00	\$11,998.82
06/25/13	1002	NY Chapter TWS	Awards for Conference	(173.80)	\$11,825.02
08/08/13	Deposit	Wells Fargo	Northeast Habitat Technical Committee meeting (pass through)	450.00	\$12,275.02
08/08/13	1003	TWS Leadership Institute	Northeast Section Support	(500.00)	\$11,775.02
08/14/13	Deposit	Wells Fargo	Northeast Habitat Technical Committee meeting (pass through)	25.00	\$11,800.02
08/14/13	Deposit	Wells Fargo	2nd Quarter 2013 Membership dues	454.00	\$12,254.02
08/29/13	1004	Judy Wilson	Northeast Habitat Technical Committee meeting (pass through)	(749.72)	\$12,254.02

Northeast Habitat Technical Committee meeting balance **225.28**

Checking account balance as of 4/11/14 **\$12,254.02**

Florence Savings Bank 2013

Date	Check #	Payee	Item	Amount	Running total
01/01/13					\$5,175.10
01/10/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. (1 full payment (\$850), 2 deposits (\$250 ea))	\$1,600.00	\$6,775.10
01/29/13	1179	Student registr.	Field Course Registr. refund (Maryn Siminof)	(\$250.00)	\$6,525.10
02/06/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. - 2 deposits (\$250 ea)	\$500.00	\$7,025.10
03/06/13	1180	Student registr.	Field Course Registr. refund (Avi Shuter)	(\$250.00)	\$6,775.10
03/06/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. - 3 deposits (\$250 ea)	\$750.00	\$7,525.10
03/12/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. - 1 deposits (\$250 ea)	\$250.00	\$7,775.10
04/01/13	1181	Student registr.	Field Course Registr. refund (Zach Bair)	(\$200.00)	\$7,575.10
04/12/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. - 1 dep. (\$250 ea) + 1 balance payoff (\$600)	\$850.00	\$8,425.10
05/01/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr. - 1 dep. (\$250 ea) + 1 balance payoff (\$600)	\$850.00	\$9,275.10
05/03/13	1182	Student registr.	Field Course Registr. refund (Zach Bair)	(\$50.00)	\$9,225.10
05/10/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr.	\$600.00	\$9,825.10
05/23/13	1183	Castleton State College	Field Course Tuition	(\$8,625.00)	\$1,200.10
06/03/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr.	\$11,820.00	\$13,020.10
06/12/13	1184	John McDonald	Field Course Reimbursements	(\$438.13)	\$12,581.97
06/21/13	1185	Jennifer Fulmer	Field Course Reimbursements	(\$600.00)	\$11,981.97
06/21/13	1186	Bill Healy	Field Course Reimbursements	(\$1,200.00)	\$10,781.97
07/02/13	1187	Underwood Catering	Field Course Catering	(\$6,499.52)	\$4,282.45
11/08/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr.	\$1,000.00	\$5,282.45
12/17/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr.	\$1,750.00	\$7,032.45
12/31/13		Student registr.	Field Course Registr.	\$750.00	\$7,782.45

Wells Fargo Bank 2013-Savings

Date	Check #	Payee	Item	Amount	Running total
01/01/13					\$330.02
01/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$324.02
01/31/13			Interest	0.02	\$324.04
02/28/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$318.04
02/28/13			Interest	0.03	\$318.07
03/30/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$312.07
03/30/13			Interest	0.01	\$312.08
04/30/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$306.08
04/30/13			Interest	0.01	\$306.09
05/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$300.09
05/31/13			Interest	0.02	\$300.11
06/30/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$294.11
06/30/13			Interest	0.01	\$294.12
07/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$288.12
07/31/13			Interest	0.01	\$288.13
08/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$282.13
08/31/13			Interest	0.01	\$282.14
09/30/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$276.14
09/30/13			Interest	0.01	\$276.15
10/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$270.15
10/31/13			Interest	0.02	\$270.17
11/30/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$264.17
11/30/13			Interest	0.01	\$264.18
12/31/13			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$258.18
12/31/13			Interest	0.01	\$258.19
01/31/14			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$252.19
01/31/14			Interest	0.01	\$252.20
02/28/14			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$246.20
02/28/14			Interest	0.01	\$246.21
03/31/14			Bank Fee	(6.00)	\$240.21
03/31/14			Interest	0.01	\$240.22