

2013

August 13–15: 58th **CMPS Summer Conference**. Hunter Conference Center, Southern Utah University, Utah

Section Representative: Gary C. White, Colorado

President: William Vodehnal, Nebraska

Past-President: Nicole Frey, Utah

Vice-President: Mike Conover, Utah

Secretary-Treasurer: Lisa Church, Utah

Newsletter Editor: Sara A. Peterson, Nebraska

Board Members: Randy Larsen, Utah; Max Post van der Burg, North Dakota; Sarah Bucklin, Wyoming; Karl Grover, Kansas

Program: Mike Conover and Nicole Frey, Utah

Arrangements: Nicole Frey, Utah

Dues: \$1.00

Meeting called to order by Bill Vodehnal, with minutes recorded by Nicki Frey at 10:30 am MST. Board members in attendance: Bill Vodehnal, Nicki Frey, Mike Conover, and Randy Larsen. A quorum of the Board was not present.

Treasurer's report given by Lisa Church

- Beginning balance on October 4, 2012: \$11,500.32
- Total Deposits \$1,063.00
- Total Debits \$2,837.02
- Balance as of August 8, 2013: \$9,726.30
- Additional savings balance: \$2,500.00
- Membership dues have apparently not been paid by the Utah Chapter – Vodehnal will investigate.

Committee Reports

- Audit-Vodehnal advised he would meet with Church for audit and invited others in membership to participate if they desired. No official audit conducted.
- Membership-Vodehnal discussed purpose of Membership Committee and encouraged universities and current members to encourage students and others to join student and state chapters and parent TWS.
- Nominations and Elections-Vodehnal advised voting for board positions and by-laws revision ends at the end of Old Business. Paper ballots were given to those desiring to vote. He reviewed each of the candidates and gave brief biological sketch along with intent of by-laws revision
- Publicity-Current Newsletter editor, Sara Peterson, has left Nebraska for the east coast and Vodehnal is looking for new Newsletter Editor; Peterson has provided template, thus transition should be easy.
- Resolutions and Statement-Vodehnal spoke briefly about letters in most recent CMPS newsletters-1st Issue concerning removing wildlife as authorized purpose for management of Missouri River by COE; 2nd Issue relative to cap on CRP and linking conservation compliance to crop insurance. Vodehnal feels it is important for the Section to engage on issues relative to 7 states and will need help with this endeavor. More will be discussed later as Conservation Affairs becomes more prevalent with guidance from parent TWS.

Old Business

- TWS Council Report by Gary White.
- White advised that Ken Williams is the new Executive Director and Katie Edwards has replaced Shannon Pederson for Certification Program and Section/Chapter Management. Council will be having a retreat with Williams to discuss and plan new direction.
- Membership Database discussed and Council looking for new ways to get people to join TWS. Several ideas were discussed to attract membership and all should send ideas to White. Need to demonstrate the Society's impact on knowledge transfer.
- White and Vodehnal discussed TWS financial issues and assured that Council is progressing with resolving financial issues. Council is addressing \$1 million shortfall or loss of \$120,000/year for past 8 years. TWS has cut services this year and more cuts are expected in ensuing years until shortfall can be rectified. One service cut by parent TWS this past year was Leadership Institute and Chapters/Sections were asked along with other donors to keep this important program going. Stay tuned as more is to come.
- CMPS Student Travel Grant name change to Wayne Sandfort Student Travel Grant was discussed as Bob Lanka and Len Carpenter had visited with Wayne's widow to see if she was okay with changing the name in honor of Wayne. Sandfort was first president of CMPS Section and supported young professionals and students. Motion by Bob Wood, 2nd by Carl Wolfe to change the name in honor of Wayne Sandfort. Motion carried by vote of 15 yes, 0 opposed.
- Close of Elections-Final tally of votes by Randy Larson.

New Business

- Introduction of New Officers-Karie Decker (NE) is the new President Elect. Sara Bucklin (WY) and Karl Grover (KS) are leaving the board in the at-large positions and replaced by Emily Munter (NE) and Andrea Orabona (WY). Also, the by-laws have now officially changed to allow electronic voting and elections would cease 14 days prior to the annual meeting to facilitate and encourage newly elected board members to attend. Vodehnal destroyed the ballots.
- Section Dues-Vodehnal was contacted by parent TWS inquiring if Section desired to change CMPS membership dues. Consensus of those in attendance was to keep the dues the same.
- Conservation Affairs Network-Vodehnal advised several section representatives have been working with Laura Bies and Terra Rentz from TWS Government Affairs to get Conservation Affairs within State Chapters/Sections more organized. There is a need to provide greater involvement within State Chapters/Sections, communications between State Chapters/Sections/parent TWS, etc. A draft template of how Conservation Affairs was provided to Section Presidents and more will be discussed next week in a conference call and during the annual meeting in October in Milwaukee.
- AFWA Letter Sign On-Vodehnal advised that CMPS has been contacted by TWS Government Affairs and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to sign onto a letter to save funding for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, North American Wetland Conservation Fund, Neotropical Migratory Bird Fund, Forest Legacy Program, and Land and Water Conservation Fund. Funding has been eliminated in House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee. Mike Conover motioned, 2nd by Jim Hayes to support and sign onto AFWA letter. Motion carried.
- TWS Rangeland Working Group-Vodehnal advised that this is a new working group being organized by parent TWS with Megan K. Clayton as the first chair. First meeting will be during the annual meeting in Milwaukee and this will not be recognized as a formal working group until there are 100 members and survived a 3-year probation period.
- 8th International Congress for Wildlife and Livelihoods on Private and Communal Lands-Del Benson was present to invite CMPS to be a sponsor for this meeting to be held September 7-12, 2014 in Estes Park, Colorado. Wyoming is scheduled to host next meeting of CMPS and Colorado declined to host CMPS meeting and 8th International

Congress since they are already hosting a sheep and other meeting at this time. It would be difficult for Wyoming to host meeting in Colorado with respect to membership attendance.

- 2014 TWS CMPS Annual Meeting-Tony Mong and Martin Grenier offered to host 2014 CMPS meeting in Sheridan, Wyoming, during mid-August. Bob Wood motioned, 2nd by Bob Lanka to have the 2014 CMPS meeting in Sheridan, WY. Motion carried. Vodehnal advised that CMPS board will work with Benson to see if CMPS can help in some way with a session at 8th International Congress.
- Vodehnal advised he will be seeking State Chapter Annual Meeting dates for the newsletter.
- Newsletter Dates
 - Fall/Winter-October 30.
 - Spring-March 30.
 - Summer-May 15.
- Awards given
 - Two professional awards given, Greg Schenbeck (Manitoba), and Nicole Frey (UT).
 - Carl Wolfe received the Distinguished Service Award for the Section.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am MST.

Minutes Recorder: Bill Vodehnal