

**The Wildlife Society-Central Mountains and Plains Section
Annual Section Meeting, Sheridan, Wyoming
Annual Business Meeting, August 27, 2014**

Call Meeting to Order: Vodehnal called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm

Board members present: Bill Vodehnal, Laurel Badura, Andrea Orabona, Karie Decker, Emily Munter, Michael Conover

2013 Meeting Minutes: 2013 minutes which were approved by board were given to membership for their review

Treasurer's Report—Our current account balance is \$12,964.98

Committee Reports

- Audit-Decker, Badura, Vodehnal
- Membership-Vodehnal
 - A question arose as to whether or not the State chapter members realize they're members of CMPS. Bill will ask each State to reinforce that they're members of CMPS. We would also like to know whether the State Chapter's members are also members of Parent Society. This information could be put in a membership database and shared with the Parent Society. Tom Ryder suggested that every year the Chapters were supposed to be updating the Section but that may have gone away with the new boards for various Chapters. Ryder suggested that Vodehnal request from the Chapter's their information. Bob Lanka shared that historically, the Board decided that the information would not be asked from the Chapter's because some members or individual Chapters did not want to belong to the Section. The information upkeep was also difficult. Steve Riley said the Chapters were responsible for informing the Section and membership to the Section were based on the amount of money that was received. If they want the Section to know individual members, the Chapters should be held accountable. Decker asked whether or not there needs to be a by-laws change stating the Section will not sell the membership list? Riley suggested that would be a good option. Gary White suggested we just leave it to the Chapters.
- Nominations and Elections-Post van der Burg, Munter, Orabona, Vodehnal
 - We had great candidates for the open positions.
- Publicity-Hicks, White
 - If you want to send pictures, Amanda Hicks will put the photo and credit in the newsletter. Amanda has several pictures from Nebraska but is lacking pictures from other states.
- Resolutions and Statements-CMPS Board had no resolutions or statements this past year.
- Awards-Conover
 - Conover pointed out that CMPS has a Citizen's Award and Professional Award. We have two great candidates this year. The Vice President is the chair of the committee and the board approves the selections. We are always looking for great candidates. It is a great way to thank those that have helped us manage wildlife and protect the resources. Do we have a list of past award winners? Yes, it is on the website.

Old Business

- CMPS Section Representative Report from TWS Council-White
 - Ed Thompson has replaced Darrel Walters
 - Hedy Ross is the new Development Manager
 - Keith Norris is the Assistant Director of Government Affairs and Partnerships
 - Laura Bies is on maternity leave but is the Director of Government Affairs and Partnerships
 - Lisa Moore will be leaving TWS on September 12, 2014.
 - Membership is down in 2014. The membership for 2013 was 10,125.
 - No new position statements and fact sheets. As a member, you get access to them on the internet.
 - Our budget is in the black for 2014 and Gary reports we have a much better financial system in place.
 - There are additional ways for the agencies to buy TWS journals.
 - Evie Merrill and Chris Ribic are the journal editors for the JWM and WSB, respectively
 - If you aren't receiving notifications for the electronic subscriptions of JWM and WSB, go to the Wiley web site to sign up. (Linked to website)
 - On the website, there is a TWS Action Center, enter your zip code, and you can get blanket letters developed by TWS regarding current issues. The site sends letters to your representatives based on your zip code and all you need to do is sign it and send it.
 - The Annual Conference is in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania on October 25-30, 2014.
 - Please keep pursuing COWCH. Our members keep passing away so we need to keep on top of things.
 - David Dahlgren and Michel Kohl, both from Utah, are representing CMPS at the Leadership Institute.
 - Fellows Program: the application deadline is February 15, 2015.
 - Distinguished Service Award winner for 2014 is Bob Wood.
 - ~50% of the State Chapter Members are not members of the Parent Society.
 - Bob Lanka will be the new CMPS Council Rep
- By-law changes-Vodehnl
 - Awards Criteria: approved
 - Electronic voting ends 2 weeks prior to annual meeting: approved
- Conservation Affairs Network-Vodehnl
 - A means of getting the State Chapters more engaged at the CMPS level and with the Parent Society. We need greater awareness on the conservation issues that are active. Each State was to pick a representative for a 3-year term. Vodehnl offered to take on this role as the CMPS representative. Colorado, South Dakota and Nebraska have representatives. Vodehnl visited with Ken Williams about ways to contact the other Chapters and more find representatives. Vodehnl would like to get States speaking with each other about conservation issues. Vodehnl will continue to work with the States. White mentioned he thought there was going to be a Conservation Affairs meeting at the Annual Conference. White suggested we could offer a small travel grant to the Presidents to get them to attend.
- Other Old Business

New Business

- Introduction of New Officers-Motion to Destroy Ballots or Survey Monkey
 - Mike Conover, Randy Larson, and Max Post Van Den Burg are leaving the Board

- Jim Hayes is new Vice President. Silka Kempema and Mindy Rice will be new members. Decker will be incoming President
- Voting by CMPS Section Membership-Voting
 - Vodehnal was advised by Rick Baydack that other sections allow only those members belonging to the Parent Society to vote for Section representatives. In the CMPS Section by-laws, those that are in good standing with the Section can vote for representatives. The group decided to leave our current voting method the same in that if are a member of CMPS, you can vote. Survey Monkey will be deleted. Thomas Ryder voted to “destroy” the ballot, Jim Hayes seconded the motion. Motion approved.
- CMPS Lifetime Memberships?-Vodehnal
 - Is there a need for a Lifetime Membership within the Section? Currently, the only States that have a Lifetime Membership are North Dakota and South Dakota. Kempema reported that each year, they get approximately 2 or 3 new lifetime members. Members didn’t feel the need to pursue this option.
- Fund Raising Ideas for CMPS-Vodehnal
 - Any ideas to earn extra income please send to Vodehnal. Munter suggested the Board go through the exercise of prioritizing our funding, which may help us identify what types of fundraiser or how much money is needed. Hayes asked whether the auction proceeds are split between the hosting Chapter and the Section. Wood suggested the Section got the entire amount from the Auction and that there wasn’t a split. If the State was having an issue setting up the conference (staff/money), then the Section would assist in the process. The registration and conference fees were collected by the host Chapter. Wood suggested the board should discuss how the money is allocated, in particular the auction proceeds. Orabona wasn’t aware that the proceeds from the auction were split 50/50. Orabona made up separate raffle tickets for the State Chapter and the Section. Lanka suggested the Chapter meeting is combined with the Section meeting this year, therefore the Chapter’s meeting is also having their fundraiser.
- Wayne W. Sandfort Student Travel Grant
 - Vodehnal will send one more e-mail reminding membership of the annual conference.
- 2015 TWS CMPS Annual Meeting-Where?
 - Kansas is planning on hosting the CMPS annual meeting for 2015. Possibly the Manhattan area.
- 2014-15 State Chapter Annual Meeting Dates
- Newsletter
 - Fall/Winter-October?
 - Spring-March?
 - Summer-May?
- Other New Business
 - Bidlake mentioned the Winnipeg and Manitoba Chapters are hosting the National meeting in 2015.
- Orabona motioned to adjourn the meeting, Munter seconded the motion. Motion approved.