

Central Mountains and Plains Section Annual Business Meeting, 12 August 2015

Karie Decker called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Board members present: Laurel Badura, Karie Decker, Andrea Orabona, Bill Vodehnal, Jim Hayes

New board members introduced themselves. The 2015-2016 board includes Laurel Badura, Karie Decker, Jim Hayes, Lindsey Messinger, Justin Hamilton, Mindy Rice, and Andrea Orabona.

Secretary's Report: Laurel presented the membership with the 2014 Annual Business Meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved after the 2014 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Laurel presented the treasurer's report. The current account balance is \$14,698.54. Laurel also presented the budget categories to the membership. It was suggested from Bob Wood to more formally identify funding assistance to the State Chapters to host the annual meeting when it is combined with the CMPS meeting. Between registration and sponsorship, the Chapters should break even but if there are additional overages, the Chapters should contact the board for assistance in meeting expenses. Tom Ryder motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mindy Rice seconded the motion. Discussion: Bob Lanka suggested we need to know what the status of the CD is. Karie will look into the CD's location. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- Membership committee—we are working on updating our membership numbers. We will then secure a date for membership dues to be submitted to the Section. Bill V. suggested having the State representatives to share with their members that by being members of the State chapter, they are members of CMPS.
- Nominations—the voting process went well via Survey Monkey.
- Publicity—Mindy started a CMPS Facebook page. Mindy is looking for content such as interesting ideas/articles/research and other items pertinent to the Section. In particular, this is a great way to post jobs. Mindy said the process is going slow and currently we have 100 "likes". Karie is linking CMPS to State Chapter Facebook pages, as well as Student Chapter Facebook pages.
- Resolutions and Statements—No new updates
- Awards—Jim solicited nominations for the Citizenship Award and Professional Award. This year we had no nominations for the Citizenship Award and two nominations for the Professional Award. This year's award winner is not able to attend. There are a large number of worthy candidates and Jim encouraged the membership to take the time to submit candidates. The cutoff for nominations is June 15 of each year. Ken Higgins suggested that the States should consider submitting their State Award winners to CMPS for review and consideration for the Citizenship and Professional Award. This has not been formalized through the by-laws but is recommended and has been done in the past. Carl Wolfe suggested that we consider nominations that go beyond the just the State and Section.

Old Business:

- CMPS Section Representative Report—Bob Lanka gave the Council activities report.
- By-Laws Changes—no changes were suggested.
 - Karie brought about the topic of income through the annual meetings. The board recommended that this remain flexible. Some States like the flexibility because participation may be variable and income generated may be variable from year to year. The States shouldn't incur financial burden through meetings. Jim would like the States to keep in mind that communication with the Section should be early and often to help smooth the way as the meeting is planned.
- Conservation Affairs Network—CAN is meant to increase the communication between the States, Sections, and National. Bill has been organizing monthly conference calls between the States and the Section. Bill would like to enable all States to organize information about conservation affairs through media.

New Business:

- The new officers introduced themselves at the start of the meeting. Andrea moved to “destroy” the survey monkey virtual ballots. Bill V. seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- State Updates—Karie asked for updates in advance of the meeting and will compile the information and send it to Section members. There was no information offered from the floor.
- Wayne W. Sandfort Student Travel Grant—We received 18 applications for the Student Travel Grant. We moved the deadline earlier to allow students to plan for travel and the Board has not yet decided who the recipients are.
- The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held in Colorado. Mindy will let her State Chapter know.
- 2015-2016 State Chapter Annual Meeting Dates—Karie would like the dates for those meetings so she may attend. Colorado is usually the second week of February (no date determined yet), Kansas is February 4, 2016, Wyoming is December 1-3 (joint meeting between WYTWS and WLCI), Nebraska's is March 8-10th, 2016 (50th Anniversary)
- Newsletter—Amanda Hicks served as our Newsletter Editor and has graduated and moved on. We are in search of a new Editor for the Section. Please contact Karie if you're interested.

Other New Business:

- Tom notified the group that National has joined forces with John Hopkins University. Tom suggested that there needs to be more information distributed about the role of State Wildlife Agencies in wildlife management. Tom is currently writing a 16-chapter book about this very topic and plans on submitting this to John Hopkins by the end of November. The goal is for the book to be available by Spring 2016.
- Lindsey is the Section Representative for CMPS for The Wildlife Professional and is taking information from our States to include in the issues throughout the year.
- Ken suggested that there could be a gun raffle or other door prizes to include at the business meeting so that more of the younger members stay for the business meeting.

Bill Jensen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Hayes seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.