

**Minutes of the Winter Business Meeting (held jointly w/ OFWMA)**

*Meeting minutes pertain only to OCTWS Business*

**Ohio Fish & Wildlife Management Conference, Columbus, OH—January 26, 2017**

Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions – J. McCoy & M. Enright

President update on TWS National Conference (Cleveland, OH—2018) fundraising and field trip committees; student volunteer opportunities available for free or reduced registration – M. Enright

Communications update – G. Karns

Treasurer's Report – A. Montoney filling in for C. Wellman (absent)

Motion to approve, Jeff P., second Ms. Lightner, all approve

Legislation/Government Affairs update – K. Wecker

- HR5650, Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2016 (aka Blue Ribbon Panel) – \$30M potential to fund wildlife diversity program within OH Division of Wildlife alone; *send letter of support*
- Proposed bill to sure up P-R language
- Farm Bill enrollment and cap update
- Drone legislation update from governor's office
- License fee increase is on the horizon

Student Chapter Reports

- Rio Grande update – J. Blazer
- Hocking – B. Wilson
- Ohio State – C. Titus
- Official welcome to Ohio University graduate student contingent and faculty advisor

Last call issued for President-Elect/Treasurer nominations – A. Montoney

Motion to approve Grace Dietsch & Andy Merkle for OCTWS officership, G. Comer, second R. Gates, all approve

Reading of old business minutes – waived

Education/Information update – G. Westerfield, A. Montoney

- Professional workshop – grasslands management at the Gwynne Conservation Area (early May date TBD)
- Student workshop – firearms familiarization on April 8, 2017

- Student club advisors contacted to select best date
- Location: Tri-County Sportsman's Club
- Interest gauged to offer hunter's education exam on same day
- If OCTWS cannot secure grants sufficient to cover workshop expenses, does the membership approve a general funds withdrawal?

Motion to approve, D. Althoff, second R. Gates, all approve

The Future of OFWMA & OCTWS – M. Enright

- Summary Fact Sheet disbursed to both memberships
- Both organization boards will meet to construct survey which will be sent to each membership

Vote to adjourn meeting