

# **2018 Annual Meeting Minutes**

## **Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

### **July 20, 2018**

#### **I. Call to Order**

Barry Grand welcomed all and called to order the regular annual business meeting of the ACTWS at 10:35 AM on July 20, 2018 at the NaturePlex in Millbrook, AL.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Allison Cochran motioned for ACTWS to accept the 2017 meeting minutes. Seth Maddox seconded. No opposition.

#### **III. Financial Report**

Christine Easterwood gave the financial report.

- a. ACTWS Checking Account Balance, as of July 18, 2018 - \$13,089.10
- b. CD Balance - \$2,969.93
- c. Savings Account - \$294.19
- d. USFWS/Louis Breland Funds Holding - \$10,240.00

Ericha Shelton-Nix motioned to approve the financial report. Seth Maddox seconded. No opposition.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- a. ALPFC is no longer making plans for a 2-year calendar
- b. Biologist of the Year Award – no action was taken by the Awards Committee, formed during the 2017 annual meeting. Meeting participants still favor an annual award. Barry Grand and Ericha Shelton-Nix volunteered to develop award criteria.

#### **V. New Business**

- a. ACTWS updated and submitted its position paper opposing the legalization of baiting or supplemental feeding of white-tailed deer in Alabama to Alabama legislature in March 2018. The bill did not pass the legislature but the proposal is expected to reappear during the next session. The position paper is posted on the chapter website and the letter will be added as well.
- b. Representatives of the student chapters from both Alabama A&M University and Auburn Universities gave updates on chapter activities. Discussion was held of adding student chapter POC info to the ACTWS website. Student chapter leaders will be added to the ACTWS email distribution list and updated regularly. Discussion was held of ways that the ACTWS can support the student chapter – through mentorship, varying means of information sharing via social media (Instagram)

- c. Information on past annual meetings (agenda, dates, info) will be posted on the ACTWS website. Presentations from the 2018 meeting will be posted as well.
- d. ACTWS will sponsor the MINRC student dinner at the 2018 SEAFWA meeting in Mobile, AL. ACTWS contributing to the cost of TWS sponsor booth at the SEAFWA meeting. Requesting volunteers to sit at the booth in effort for ACTWS outreach, education, and opportunities. Contact ACTWS [alabamatws@gmail.com](mailto:alabamatws@gmail.com) to set up a schedule.
- e. The Wildlife Society and the American Fisheries Society have issued a statement to work with the Senate on enhancing language in the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.
- f. The Partners against Invasive Species will hold a symposium at the University of West Alabama on October 3-5, 2018. Mark Smith will provide an announcement/agenda.
- g. Oral and Poster Presentation Awards – Andrew Cantrell was presented with a \$150 check for the best student oral presentation, entitled *Determining Mercury Concentrations in Turtles while Identifying Areas of Concern at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, Alabama*. TJ Haltigan was presented with a \$150 check for the best student poster presentation, entitled *Update on Long Term Herpetofaunal Community Response to Silviculture Treatments at William B. Bankhead National Forest, Alabama*.
- h. Fundraising
  - i. The silent auction for our 2018 meeting brought in \$259.01.
- i. Recognition of Past Presidents – On behalf of the ACTWS membership, Barry Grand thanked and presented a plaque of recognition to Amy Silvano.

## **VI. Elections**

Barry Grand announced the new officers:

President-Elect – Ray Metzler

At-Large Board Member – Dr. Jim Armstrong

Chapter Representative to the Southeastern Section – Carrie Threadgill

## **VII. Adjournment**

Barry Grand welcomed the new officers. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.