

**Minutes from the Fall Executive Committee Meeting
of the Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society
Sunday, 29 October 2017
(Louisville, KY)**

I. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Mark Smith

The fall board meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm (Eastern)

II. Approval of Spring 2017 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve, so moved.

III. Reports

Secretary/Treasurer – Susan Rupp provided the account balance and informed members that our financials were in order. Discussion about target financials and what we should and shouldn't support financially. Do members see the option to join SETWS? Could it be prompted?

Motion to accept treasury report; so moved.

SETWS section representative - Mike Conner gave the Section Representative report.

Give Back Program. Now open to students.

Remind colleagues journals are part of membership benefit.

Council survey of TWS Journal Authors. Krausman and Haukos will address in editor comments in journals. Many of the issues focused on quality of reviews and reviewers.

Editors-in-Chief have agreed to 3-year terms and second term is kind of expected of them.

25th Conference in Cleveland – October 7 – 11, Darren Miller will assume presidency. In 2019, joint with AFS.

Nominate people for awards!

2000 members in southeast, but only about 20% members of SETWS.

JSEAFWA Submissions – Curtis Hopkins, Jerry will meet with Mark to review submission guidelines again. Next SEAFWA meeting in Alabama. May 1st deadline, notification to authors. Even if get rejected, the authors can still present (doesn't make a lot of sense and may need to figure this out). Eric asked about Editorial guidelines....Mark said it will be in document. Target dates for submissions will be made clear. No proceedings anymore. SETWS not responsible for proceedings. State is responsible, but it has not happened since 2014(?). Cindy Delaney has all the abstracts. We need to close loop. Drop in Journal submissions this year, states given flexibility to design the program. Many getting away from paper submissions and move toward special symposia. Can you have a manuscript in proceedings and not in Journal? There is confusion. Biologists still sending abstracts to Gary

SETWS Strategic Plan – Eric Pelren took what we do and are supposed to do according to by-laws as a starting point (i.e., working document). Value to strategic plan, immediate value to working document. Three-year goals for strategic plan? Need to decide timeline. Historically, some boards have been more active than others. Mark suggested 2 documents.....one that outlines goals and another that is about the structure of SETWS (e.g., responsibilities of executive board positions, journal guidelines, etc.). Rolling 3-year plan? For example, Oct. 2017 goes through October 2020, next year add 2021, then next year add 2022.

Associate Editor for Wildlife – Comer said they have had 15 submissions, rejected 3. Mark and Chris decided to split duties 50/50 this year. Chris will become editor for next year. SEAFWA is paying \$2500

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster –

Student Awards – Andy Madison is handling that. Needs help for presentation judging. Please have people get in touch with Andy. Virginia Tech is Chapter of the Year this year. Has certificates printed out for student posters and presentations. Winner will be ID for banquet

Bob Gibson, Alix, Bob Keller were committee members on Best Student Paper Award. Greg Balkin and Bobby Bond are winners. Mike said he has 7 members when he did it.

C. W. Watson Award – Had 11 nominations this year. Winner will be announced Tuesday night. Encouraging to hear we had so many nominees!.

Deer Committee – No report

Endangered Species and Non-Game Wildlife Committee – No report

New Business

Fur Resources Committee- Colleen Olfenbuttel was not here, so Richard Rogers reported. Have to meet charges of Wildlife Resource Committee. Billy Dukes, South Carolina, is the “sponsor” of the WRC. Has been in the position for ~2 years. Wildlife disease, rabid animal guidelines, euthanasia suggestions, etc. Encourage administrators to back certain research projects.

1. Eastern spotted skunk conservation plan – WV only state that allows legal trapping. Concern is that nobody has good information on abundance/distribution. Feeling that distribution has contracted and abundance declined. Need data. There is a multi-state push for study.
2. Bobcats and otters – challenges to CITES by groups. In court now. E.A. has been prepared, but has been appealed. They are challenging the science, not the morality of trapping. If they win this, it will just embolden them. States want research to help in cause.
3. Coyote incentive programs, predator contest bans – Issue is with private ones.....Virginia had “Eastern Predator.....” People were upset with trucks full of coyotes and other predators. Encouraging policy or position statement.
4. Muskrat decline – Anecdotal decline observed by trappers across wetland types. Prolific breeders, have lived in bad conditions before. Why declining? Probably habitat quality related. Predation? Water quality? Round-Up? Endocrine disruptors? Tim Hiller – Wildlife Ecology Institute came to working group meeting last May and came up with study design, but way too big and way too expensive. He is working to pair it down using wetland classification system and radio telemetry studies.

Mark said we could help to support these causes as a scientific organization, but asked for the Committee to bring things to us and make specific requests for assistance.

Wetlands Wildlife Committee – Will be given time at business meeting. Will have 2 recommendations to be submitted for vote. Will be asking SEAFWA to look through it. Executive Committee will review before Tuesday meeting.

Editorial Advisory Board for The Wildlife Professional- No report

Minorities in Natural Resources Committee – No report

Wildlife Management Excellence Award- Chris DePerno provided update to EB. Not getting a lot of submissions. Encourage people to submit. Committee received one nomination.....more discussion on nomination is scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

Publications Committee- Protocol document for JSEAFWA admissions – shooting to have draft copy for review/approval by SETWS before director's fall meeting. Dr. Pelren says in past conversations two documents: 1) guiding document for editors and 2) guiding document for contributors.....one and the same? Or two separate documents? Both need to be addressed.

Newsletter Editor, Webmaster- No report

TWP editorial advisory board - Joe McGlincy sent report. Editorial Advisory Board provides recommendations for content to TWP. Several conference calls regarding content. Has reviewed several papers for publication. Put in request in SE Section newsletter for submissions. TWP has gone to 6 issue/yr. Feel free to contact Joe or Nancy at headquarters with questions or comments.

Membership Committee - No report.

Nominating committee - Had a hard time getting people to sit on committee. Also hard time getting nominees. Voting ends tomorrow. Katie sent out another reminder today. Had 75 votes so far. Clear candidates selected. Ray Iglay (President elect) and Kelly Douglass (secretary/treasurer).

Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC) - Nelson Lafon is new chair and gave report. Has heard from 12 of 13 states; enthusiasm to be engaged. Some chapters still determining who is contact next steps will be developing a regular communication schedule, a committee structure, determining mutual conservation priorities, and collaborating to improve our chapters' and region's impact on these issues. Keith Norris has been very helpful. Only specific item addressed was a Georgia issue on feral swine. Provided documentation they believe has been helpful. Possible contribution of student chapters to CAC discussed; also brought up at CAN meeting yesterday. Maybe have a single contact in each state, then have students work through that person. Mark sends thanks on behalf of SETWS to William Moore for being chair of ad-hoc committee.

SEAFWA Liaison - Steve Rockwood. Website development proceeding forward.

Strategic Planning – By-laws changes....Mark contacted Darren to figure out the add-ins. Changing verbiage for where to hold business meeting.....but other changes by Darren that Mark does not fully understand.

IV. Other Business

Strategic records update – Eric Pelren reports. Billy Minser gave Eric Pelren 8 boxes, which he has since consolidated to 2 boxes. Did scan all newsletters in archives. Most everything else in digital format. Has been discussion with EB how to proceed forward with documenting records.

SETWS approval of University of Central OK Student Chapter – University has gone through initial steps to form chapter and sent to Mariah Simmons. Has been forwarded to SETWS. Next step is to seek approval from SETWS to become interim chapter for 3 years; progress will be monitored; then submitted for final approval. SETWS EB had a few questions that will be answered by Mariah before we call it to a vote.

SETWS representative to Certification Review Board – 3 year commitment, ~8 hours per month. Need to be CWB to serve. Expectations of a CRB member are to review and vote on applications, and participate on monthly conference calls (typically ~2 hours) to discuss the applications. CRB members also attend the annual TWS conference, and have a meeting during that conference (travel funds are available). Appointments last for 3 years (this appointment would be effective from October 2016-October 2019). Need to have person identified within next 3 weeks.

Awards – Steve Rockwood, Reggie Thackston, Darren Miller, Best student presentation and poster awards reviewed by Andy Madison. Best student paper review by Jessica Tegt and committee and was awarded to H. Tyler Pittman and David G. Kremenz for *“Efficacy of Landscape Scale Oak Woodland and Savanna Restoration in the Ozark Highlands of Arkansas”*

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm.