

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 17, 2019

Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions – M. Lininger & G. Westerfield

OFWMA Business

- Notable items
 - Bylaws update regarding to fees and conference costs – Allen Lea

Legislation/Government Affairs update – K. Wecker (presented by M. Lininger)

- Recovering America's Wildlife Act (HR4647) did not make it through in last session but the Alliance for Fish & Wildlife (coalition of organizations and industry) will re-introduce the bill again
- The House of Representatives passed omnibus budget bill for Fiscal Year 2019 which contained a 2 million dollar increase for the state and tribal wildlife grants program (\$65.57 million total). The competitive SWG grants program remained stable at 4.2 and 6.6 million dollars, respectively. The bill now goes to Senate where leadership has said they will not advance the spending package until there is agreement by the White House which has said they would veto the bill because of insufficient border security funding.
- K. Wecker offered her resignation as the legislation/government affairs committee chair effective immediately, but will offer assistance in training/locating a replacement person in that capacity

OCTWS Business

President's Report – G. Westerfield; succinct summary of an extremely busy 2018, hosting TWS Nationals being a major highlight

Incoming President's Report – G. Dietsch; upcoming workshops with Davey Resource Group in late summer, early fall of 2019 and will be working with student groups to get a student workshop on the calendar; R. Buck will share workshop planning in 2019

Secretary's Report – no new business to report

Treasurer's Report – annual report submitted by G. Westerfield on behalf of A. Merkle (hard copies provided); beginning balance of \$20,314.14, expenses totaled \$5,353.58 and income totaled \$7,386.57, current balance of \$22,347.13

Recruitment and Retention committee to be chaired by J. Ferrara

Seeking awards and nominations chair

Student chapter updates

- Hocking – no representatives present
- Rio Grande – new campus study site with 50 new bluebird boxes, 2 bat boxes, 2 wood duck boxes, and 2 kestrel boxes installed in 2018; employing a technician to check all boxes during the 2019 field season; enhancing the nature and hiking trail on campus with interpretive signage is a goal for 2019; Bob Evans festival for sorghum syrup; sold wildlife calendars for fundraising in 2018
- Ohio State – no representatives present

New officer announcements; Tommy Butler for Treasurer, Renee Buck for President-Elect

The newly assembled OCTWS Operations Manual was presented to the membership; the Manual will improve synthesis across officer transitions and provide updated chair and committee format, structure, and responsibilities; Operations Manual is here as hard copy for members wishing to take a closer look and digital copy will be distributed for review and comment in coming weeks

Requested member to conduct 2018 expenditures/income audit – M. Enright and C. Wellman will conduct audit with T. Butler

Vote to adjourn meeting