



**Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society**  
Spring 2019 Business Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2019 at Viles Arboretum, Augusta ME



**Executive Board Members**

President – Sarah Spencer  
President Elect – Rodney Kelshaw  
Past President – Katelin Craven  
Secretary/Treasurer – Laura Berube  
Conservation Affairs Chair – Joe Roy  
Board Member at Large – Moa Lin  
Board Member at Large – Steve Pelletier  
University of Maine Student Representative – Ridge Osgood  
Unity College Student Representative – None

**Awards Given Before the Business Meeting**

- Beth Swartz and Jerry Longcore presented the 2019 METWS awards:
  - Award of Recognition: Josselyn Botanical Society, received by Marilyn Mollicone and Arthur Haines.
  - Award of Recognition: Maine Entomological Society, received by Charlene Donahue and Cathy Claire.
  - Award of Meritorious Service 2018: Dan McAuley received his award from last year, today.
  - Award of Meritorious Service: Lindsay Seward
  - Award of Student Recognition: Kelby Leary, UMaine.
  - Awards of Certification of Appreciation: Steve Pelletier, Moa Lin, Laura Berube, Rod Kelshaw, Sarah Spencer
  - Award of Professional Achievement not given this year due to lack of nominations.

**Business Meeting Minutes**

- President Sarah opened meeting with welcoming remarks.
- Laura began by reviewing minutes from 2018 Annual Meeting. Motioned to approve by Joe Wiley and seconded by Adam Vashon. Motion to approve spring 2018 meeting minutes passed.
- Sarah provided President's report. We will hold a vote for all changes to bylaws at this meeting. Reviewed the Professional Development workshop held in winter 2018. It may be worth it to have another one of these meetings soon since it went so well. Past-President Katelin Craven is no longer in Maine, so we need new folks to take on updating the Strategic Plan. Discussed our financial relationship with ALCES for the North American Moose Conference. We are holding money for them until the Conference is over then the account will be zeroed out. Need more folks to join our standing committees. Thanked Laura Berube for serving as Secretary/Treasurer since November 2014.
- Laura gave the Treasurer's report. Motioned to approve by Joe Wiley and seconded by Adam Vashon. Motion to approve treasurers report passed.
- Sarah gave the Audit Committee report because members of the committee were not present to give it. Completed April 2019 for the 2018 calendar year. No discrepancies found. Approved as corrected after discussing that the PowerPoint slide be changed from April 2018 to April 2019.
- Joe Roy gave the Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC). He discussed the purpose of the CAC, which is part of the TWS National CAC Network. Focus on national and local conservation issues. Recapped HR 861 which was a proposal to terminate the EPA. No advancements have been made since the last spring meeting. Explained that actions have stalled on RAWA (Recovering Americas Wildlife Act), after the government shutdown and the 2018 election cycle. Explained that as CAC Chair, Joe presented to the State of Maine joint standing committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on January 28, 2019. The event was a "meet and greet" for the newly elected/formed committee. Explained that the chapter had sent letters to state representatives in regard to

concerns in the Department of the Interior's budget. The CAC is always looking for new members. Being a member entails being on an email chain, and occasional meetings in regard to proposed legislation. Contact Joe if interested in becoming a member.

- Sarah made a great point that for those members who hesitate to speak up about political conservation issues due to their affiliation with governmental agencies, the CAC is a great resource.
- Lindsey Seward asked if we have put out any position statements recently. Rod Kelshaw said we have been writing more letters and sending to Augusta rather than white papers or position statements due to the sheer # of bills recently.
- Rod explained our Public Affairs Committee morphed into the Conservation Affairs Committee once National TWS adopted a CAC Network.
- Jerry Longcore suggested we send the info for the members of CAC to the membership, so they know who to get on touch with.
- Sarah gave the Membership Committee report – right around 100 people as usual. We didn't hit the number of new members that Jerry hoped for in last year's annual meeting, but we have some brand-new members since then. Sarah encourages people to join this committee. Kara Moody asked if members who are only Maine Chapter members get renewal reminders. The answer is no, and Joe Roy asked if we could set up some type of renewal system. PayPal charges a fee so this may not be the best option, but the Secretary/Treasurer will look into it.
- Auden Lacorazza, President of the UMaine at Orono Student Chapter of TWS gave their report. They hosted the Northeastern Conclave this year in April in Old Orchard Beach. It went very well with 110 students in attendance. Had their annual game banquet in March at the PCCA. 50 or 60 people attended, and they made \$600. Outstanding meal says Jerry. Practiced radio telemetry, amphibian surveys for grad student at Unity, trail maintenance, ice fishing. Going to try to attend the National Conference in Reno.
- Sarah discussed New Business: Bylaws changes. Changes have been approved in the past by the membership, though the membership didn't get to see the red-line copy of the bylaws. Beyond the changes we voted on, Mao Lin updated the bylaws for consistency (e.g., grammatical edits and consistency in what we call things), these were not substantial changes and are also reflected in the red-line version of the bylaws. We sent these changes to TWS who approved the changes. We now need to vote again for approval then send back to TWS for final approval. Motion to approve bylaws with updates were then approved by the membership at the meeting. We will now send them back to TWS for final approval. These new bylaws will replace the old ones in the Google Drive and the METWS website.
- Sarah discussed New Business: The Strategic plan. Adam Vashon worked on it originally. We sent out a membership questionnaire to help update them. We may need a new committee to take on updating this Strategic Plan, if the Ex. Board cannot take on updating the Strategic Plan. Jerry confirmed a membership vote is needed to update the Strategic Plan.
- Adam Gravel represented the METWS on the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Furbearer Committee. He has attended one meeting on May 9th. The Steering Committee has members from a good cross-section of wildlife folks, state agencies, METWS, etc. It has been broken up into subgroups for different fur-bearer species. IFW has also hired a third party for public outreach. This will be a two-year process. The Furbearer Management Plan that they will draft should be out by 2021. Adam will send out more information to the membership through the Secretary/Treasurer.
- Sarah explained that the Board was not sure if we had to hold an election for new officers if only one person was running. Board had a discussion with Jerry about the wording of the bylaws to help determine the need for an election. Jerry reviewed the bylaws and noted that the word "shall" regarding receiving ballots doesn't mean "must" but that does seem to be the Bylaws intent. Jerry researched it and found that the word "must" imposes a legal obligation to the reader that something MUST occur. So, we should change the word from shall to must in the bylaws in several places, along with some changes from the word shall to "is". Jerry gave these updated bylaws to the Executive Board. Executive Board will review and will make them available to the membership for a vote at next year's annual meeting.

- Sarah discussed which committees we currently have and encourages people to get involved. These include the Membership, Awards, Conservations Affair, Program, Education and Information, and Audit Committee. Adam Gravel asked who people should get in touch with to join these committees. People should reach out to the Secretary/Treasurer or any other member of the Ex. Board. Sarah suggested that we send out a list of all Executive Board and Committees members after this meeting.
- Mao suggested that the Awards Committee provide the Executive Board with the awards recipient write-ups in the past so that they can be posted for all members to see.
- Lindsey Seward suggested that before planning the fall meeting we look at the Academic Calendar at UMaine so that we don't schedule the meeting during break.
- Sarah announced the election results for new METWS officers.
  - New officers are as follows:
  - President – Rodney Kelshaw
  - President Elect – Caroline Byrne
  - Secretary/Treasurer – Kelly Waddle
  - Board Members at Large – Kelby Leary and Sabrina Morano
  - Student Representative (University of Maine) - Danielle Donadio
  - No new Student Representative from Unity
- Meeting adjourned.

**Program Following the Meeting was Maine's 2015-2025 SWAP Update and SGCN Focused Projects.**