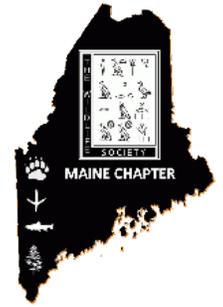


Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Spring 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM Via Zoom



Executive Board Members

President – Rodney Kelshaw

Past President – Sarah Spencer

President Elect – Caroline Byrne

Secretary/Treasurer – Kelly Waddle

Executive Board Member at Large – Kelby Leary

Executive Board Member at Large – Sabrina Morano

University of Maine Orono Student Representative – Danielle Donadio

Unity College Student Representative – None

Committee Chairs

Audit Committee – Wende Mahaney

Awards Committee – Linda Welch

Conservation Affairs Committee – Joe Roy

Program Committee – Mao Lin

Membership Committee – Kara Moody

Nominations and Elections Committee – Sarah Spencer

Education and Information Committee – Adam Gravel

Welcome & Introduction

- METWS President Rodney opened meeting with welcoming remarks. The 2020 annual meeting was canceled to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. Thanked everyone for joining and introduced Judy Camuso.
- Welcome from MDIFW Commissioner Judy Camuso. She provided MDIFW news/updates, as well as excellent career advice for students just starting to individuals who have been in the field for years.
- Linda Welch started the awards presentation by sharing past recipients of the following awards:
 - Award of Professional Achievement
 - Award of Meritorious Service
 - Award of Recognition
 - Award of Student Recognition (initiated 2015)
- Sarah Spencer presented the 2021 Award of Recognition to: Piscataquis County Soil & Water Conservation District (PCSWCD).
- Nathan Webb presented the Award of Meritorious Service to: Lee Kantar, MDIFW.
- Linda congratulated all award recipients and reminded attendees that the 2022 award deadline is January 15, 2022.
- Announcements. Joe Roy provided updates on the Conservation Affairs Committee. He will reach out with more information and support once advancements are made on Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA).

Networking Event

- METWS President Rodney started with an introduction. Sabrina reviewed 'Networking Session Guidelines to Facilitate Discussion' document and led the Breakout session – Member updates and Developing Partnerships.
- Objective: Provide opportunity to meet and learn from current members, hear about current research and management activities, roles in organization, identify potential gaps in knowledge, science, outreach, and management that could lead to future collaborations among membership, and provide opportunities for members to connect and students to learn more about the profession.
- Group summaries can be found on the Google Drive [here](#).

Business Meeting Minutes

- President Rodney opened meeting with welcoming remarks.
- Kelly began by reviewing minutes from the 2019 annual meeting. Motioned to approve by Joe Roy and seconded by Mao Lin. Motion to approve the 2019 meeting minutes passed.
- Rodney provided President's report. Bylaws updates will be voted on later today. METWS was successful at increasing membership/involvement by starting a MIFDW membership group. Also trying to get more involvement in the committees.
- Kelly gave the Treasurer's report for 2019 and 2020. Motioned to approve by Joe Roy and seconded by Adam Vashon. Motion to approve 2019 and 2020 treasurer's report passed.
- Wende gave the Audit Committee report for 2019 and 2020. Motioned to approve by Joe Roy and seconded by Mao Lin. Motion to approve 2019 and 2020 audit committee reports passed.
- Joe Roy gave the Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC) report. The CAC is part of the TWS National CAC Network, focused on national and local conservation issues. Recapped HR 861 which was a proposal to terminate the EPA. No advancements have been made. Explained that actions have stalled on RAWA (Recovering Americas Wildlife Act). Would like to do more in the next couple years and will provide more information once that's available. working on recruiting committee members.
- Rodney gave the Education and Information Committee report. This standing committee has taken different shapes over the course of its lifetime and hasn't been a very active committee. A handful of members on the call shared thoughts on being part of this committee in the past. METWS is working on committee description.
- Kara gave the Membership Committee report. Currently 127 members as of March 2021, including 17 student members and 49 MDIFW members. Compared to 96 members last year (in February 2020). Kara will continue sending renewal reminders to members.
- Mao gave the Programs Committee report. Programs committee is currently working on recruiting committee members, looking for ideas for future programs, scheduling our first virtual biologists and beverages event tentatively scheduled for April, and increasing engagement on Facebook.
- Kyle Smelter gave the report for UMaine Orono Student Chapter of TWS. Been a difficult year, but still able to do some interactive activities such as wildlife Pictionary, radio telemetry, tracking/ID workshop, etc. We want a club that will help members grow professionally and have a fun time.
- Need more information on UMaine Farmington and Unity Chapter presidents. To be determined.
- Rodney discussed Unfinished Business/New Business. Bylaws updates started after the 2019 meeting. A redline version went out to membership for review. TWS has reviewed and approved proposed changes. Will need to vote again for approval today and send back to TWS for final approval. This includes a change that president elect would have a two-year term. Motioned to approve amendment by Joe Roy and seconded by Jerry Longcore. Motioned to approve bylaws by Joe Roy and seconded by Cathy Elliot. Motion to approve both amendment and bylaws passed.
- Sarah discussed New Business: The Strategic plan. Members received a new election ballot in early 2020. Without having an annual/business meeting, the officers were not installed in 2020. All 2019-2020 executive board members and committee chairs agreed to keep the status quo and install officers the following year.
- Sarah announced the election results for new METWS officers. Service begins at the conclusion of this annual meeting.
 - President – Caroline Byrne
 - Past President – Rodney Kelshaw
 - President Elect – Sean Campbell
 - Secretary/Treasurer – Kelly Waddle
 - Board Member at Large – Sabrina Morano
 - Board Member at Large – Kelby Leary
 - University of Maine Student Representative – Kyle Smelter
- Motioned to approve 2021 business meeting by Sarah Spencer. Motion passed.
- Meeting adjourned.