Our annual members meeting was held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.  Sixty seven people were present.

Outgoing Chapter President Laurel Badura conducted the business meeting. Draft minutes follow:

**Introductions/Call to Order** President Laurel Badura opened the meeting and introduced Board Members (2016 board members – Jenny Prenosil president-elect, Laurel Badura president, Jessica Jurzenski past president, Thomas Freeman secretary, Adam Jones treasurer, At-large board members Shaun Dunn, Barbara Hayford, Shelly McPherron, James Theide). The secretary was not present and Jessica Jurzenski agreed to take the meeting notes. Ken Williams, CEO of TWS, gave an overview of Parent Chapter Activities including membership benefits (new membership directory, new 6 mo complimentary membership), political situation, and fiscal situation of TWS (membership up 10%, operating in the black). Andrea Orabona, CMPS President introduced herself. Laurel made note of the NE Chapter/AFS raffle and evening social.  
**Secretary’s report** Laurel Badura summarized the 2016 Annual Business Meeting minutes and indicated the minutes would be sent out to the membership, as well as a summary of the 2015 committee reports.  
**Treasurer’s report** Adam Jones had the2016 budget draft for review, mentioned that 2015 and 2016 transfer of $500 to “rainy day fund” savings had been made, may want to change banks, about $23,000 in checking and savings. Eric Zach moved and Shelly McPherron seconded that the report be approved. Motion passed.

**Committee reports**  
*Nominating* (Jess Jurzenski)Need more nominees for President-elect. 56 people voted via Survey Monkey that allows one vote per IP address. Laurel introduced new Board Members (2017 board members – Matt Steffl president-elect, Jenny Prenosil president, Laurel Badura past president, Mel Nenneman Secretary, Adam Jones treasurer, At-large board members Shaun Dunn, Shelly McPherron [filling Barbara Hayford’s term], John Denton, and Caroline Jezierski) and thanked Jess Jurzenski and Mel Nenneman for their work on the committee and all those who ran for positions.

*Membership* (Shaun Dunn)NETWS currently has approximately 109 members. Reminded members to please renew on line or via Parent Chapter – especially important this year since annual meeting was held in conjunction with the Midwest meeting and some members were unable to attend. Shaun also mentioned that a fix was needed for UNK Loper emails in the Google groups email that NETWS uses to communicate with membership as these email addresses are bouncing.

*Programs* (Jenny Frisch) The next NETWS annual meeting will be a joint meeting with CMPS. Jenny thanked all who helped with hosting this year's meeting and Laurel congratulated Jenny for her work on the same. Laurel is liaison with CMPS for next year's joint meeting. Bill gave information on this year's CMPS meeting in South Dakota, and mentioned that the CMPS meeting is often in the late summer and a family-friendly event.

*Conservation Review* Eric Zach anticipates a busy rear with the Farm Bill up for re-authorization and will be canvasing members for issues the committee/chapter should be aware of in the coming year. Bill Vodehnal encouraged participation in the Conservation Affairs at the Parent level and mentioned that membership is now more affordable.

*Information and Education* Mark Lindvall volunteered to do a Chapter newsletter along with Monica Macoubrie. Mark said that he will need members to provide content – stories and photos can be sent to Mark Lindvall. The newsletter will be sent out via Mailchimp. Send website updates and information to Laurel or Jess who will work with Mariah from the Parent Society to get the website updated quickly

*Awards* (Laurel Badura) The awards committee would like more nominations. Dates for submitting nominations were given. For the second year no one has been nominated for the Joe Gabig Waterfowl Award.

*Certification* Carl Wolfe agreed to chair this committee.

*Student Chapter Updates* Members from the Chadron State and UNL Wildlife Clubs gave Power Point presentations on their many and varied activities. Larkin Powel has stepped down as UNL adviser. Elise Watson and Dennis Ferraro have stepped up.

**Other Business**  
*Caroline Murphy, Government Affairs Associate for the Parent Chapter*, gave updates including the giveback membership program which allows members to provide a 6 month complementary membership to new wildlife professionals, the policy library which is a storehouse for position statements from all Wildlife Society Chapters (needs NETWS Chapter position statements and letters), Blue Ribbon Panel, funding challenges with new administration, and wild horse and burro issue.  
*Survey Results* – Jessica Jurzenski went over the results of the survey that was sent out with the election ballots.  
*Bylaws*. Laurel read the changes to the bylaws. A motion to approve was made by Mark Lindvall and seconded by Shaun Dunn, motion passed.

*APO review* – 2017 board project to review/update the chapter APO  
*NETWS Archive* Send any photos or archive materials to be archived to Larkin Powell. An email requesting materials was sent out via the list serve.

*Adjourn* Moved by Bill Vodehnal, seconded by Mel Nenneman, passed.