NETWS Board Meeting

December 14, 2009

**Members Present**: Jessica Jurzenski, Mark Hammer, Lucas Negus, Emily Munter, Kyle Graham, Mark Lindvall, Scott Hyngstrom, and Mel Nenneman

Emily called the meeting to order at 8: 12 am.

**Secretary’s Report**

Emily Munter read the secretary’s report. Mark Lindvall motioned to approve the secretary’s report as read. Kyle Graham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Mark Lindvall reported that the checking account balance stands at $6,466, but we do have an outstanding bill with UNL (from last year’s meeting) of approx. $3,400. The savings account contains $1, 509 and the Joe Gabig CD has $3, 454. In the checking account, we are holding $659 from the Menzel memorial deposits that will be placed into the Gabig CD when it matures. Mark mentioned his concern that at this time in 2008, the balance of the checking account (with all outstanding bills paid) was approx. $4,000; whereas, this year the balance will be $2,407 after outstanding bills are paid. The board reviewed the treasurer’s report. Scott Hyngstrom moved to accept the treasurer’s report as read. Jessica Jurzenski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports (reported by Mel Nenneman unless indicated otherwise)**

* Nominating-Kyle Graham sent a brief report to committee before elections. Nominations were compiled and nominees verified willingness to participate. Elections were successful held online.
* Membership-No report.
* Programs (Lucas Negas reported) - The annual meeting will be held February 26th and 27th, 2010 in Norfolk, NE. The call for papers and registration information has been sent out via the listserv and through the newsletter.
* Ad-Hoc 2011 CMPS Meeting Planning (Emily Munter reported) – The committee consists of Emily Munter and Bill Vodenhall, and they would welcome more help. Scott Hyngstrom offered to serve on the ad hoc committee. The tentative date is for August 23-25, 2011 in Gering, Nebraska. The theme is ungulate population and habitat.
* Conservation Review Private Lands-No Report
* Conservation Review Public Lands- A review of the McKelvie travel management plan is to be discussed in the new business portion of the meeting. The Draft EIS” for all range management for McKelvie is being worked on.
* Education- This committee is without a chairperson. Jeanine Lackey expressed interest in re-committing to this position once settled in her new job.
* Information Committee- The newsletter has been sent out. It was clarified that the currently used listserv is “members only”, but may not be as fluid as the actual membership list. A public listserv will be created soon.
* Awards-Nominations for Career Professional and Professional of the Year are due before the end of the year.
* Certification-No Report (hope to have a committee meeting soon)
  + Scott Hyngstrom announced the TWS (parent chapter) support in using the CWB and AWB acronyms on business cards or in resumes. However, their support in only valid with a national TWS membership.
* Student Chapter- Report expected soon about the student conclave held in October. Mel reported that he received several positive comments from students following the conclave.

**Old Business**

Gabig scholarship fund:

Mark Lindvall clarified the function of the scholarship funds and CD within the budget.

Fund raising:

Mark discussed several ways that NETWS could become more proactive in fundraising (to help reduce concerns about the budget). Things noted were active maintenance of membership renewals, more auction donations, a contribution line on the annual meeting registration form, encouragement/education of life estate donations, various raffle ideas, and eliciting ideas from other chapters. Also, the possible need for an Ad-hoc committee was discussed. Jessica mentioned the new cafepress website that would need continued maintenance, which could be well served by a committee (further discussion on the cafepress website will be covered under New Business). Mark Lindvall moved to form a Fundraising Ad-hoc committee. Lucas Negus seconded the motion. Motion carried. People commended for past fundraising efforts/successes were Matt Steffl, Pat Cole and Todd Freriches (spelling?). It was thought that they should be contacted to see if they would be interested in participating or chairing the ad-hoc committee. Jessica Jurzenski and Emily Munter volunteered to participate on the committee.

Membership:

Mark Lindvall talked to Jeff Hoffman about maintaining the membership list. It was decided that Mark would remain the person to send registration money and information to (Mark Lindvall, Refuge Manager, Valentine National Wildlife Refuge, HC 37 Box 37, Valentine, NE 69201). Then, he will relay the information to the membership committee to update the database. The cost of membership through the NETWS and TWS was discussed as follows:

$10 to register through TWS plus $1 to be a CMPS member

$10 to register through NETWS (this includes the $1 to be sent to CMPS)

$5 for student membership through TWS plus $1 to be a CMPS member

$5 for student membership through NETWS (this includes the $1 to be sent to CMPS)

$10 for student membership and annual meeting registration (this includes the $1 to be sent to CMPS)

After discussion, it was suggested that we continue with this discrepancy, but be sure to clearly state the difference when soliciting membership.

It was also mentioned that rolling membership is in effect for our chapter, which is similar to how the parent chapter handles membership dues (from payment date to anniversary date, rather than from Jan. to Dec.). Lastly, a suggestion to have the membership committee also control the membership listserv (and keep it fluid with the current membership list) to better communicate renewal status was made.

**New Business**

Merchandise purchase:

Jess and Emily explained how the cafepress website worked (<http://www.cafepress.com/netws>) and that we benefit because there is no cost to us and no leftover product. However, we can purchase items at cost to sell at the annual meeting. A consensus on markup procedures was sought. It was recommended that a standard 25% markup be used, unless it makes the product much more expensive (or unreasonable) than similar items on other sites.

Travel Management letter:

Mark Lindvall discussed the letter to be sent concerning the Travel Management for the National Forests and Grasslands in Nebraska with a special focus on McKelvie National Forest. At this time, he had received two comments concerning the current draft of the NETWS position letter: one in favor of the letter’s content and a one not in favor of the specific access propositions (would prefer an alternative with more access). A decision to send the letter as is or make changes is needed. Discussion will be continued via email on edits and recommendations concerning this letter.

\*\*Call ended due to technical difficulties…

1. New Business
   1. Travel Management letter (Mark)
   2. Merchandise purchase (Jess, Emily)
   3. Review responsibilities, transition to new board
2. Adjournment