

# Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
REWG Members' Meeting	Members' Meeting	Jackie Augustine Elise Couillard Jenn D'Augustine Jason Damm Noel Dodge Tim Green Michael Fishman Susan Rupp Misti Sporer Karen Voltura Michael Whitby	1. S. Rupp – contact TWS to determine point of contact for committee planning
<b>Meeting date</b> 04-01-2021	<b>Time</b> 1500-1600 EST		
<b>Location</b> Teleconference			

## Meeting Minutes

### 1) Welcome

- a) Overview of meeting goals and background
  - i) Board and committee efforts within the membership
- b) Introductions
  - i) Susan Rupp – Acting chair, Enviroscapes, Bio energy development
  - ii) Tim Green – Founding chair and past chair, Brookhaven National Lab
  - iii) Jackie Augustine – Exec. Director of Audubon KS, solar and wind siting and wildlife conservation
  - iv) Michael Whitby – Acting treasurer, wind conservation international researcher
  - v) Elise Couillard – Coordinator for legacy solar coop, solar credits
  - vi) Jenn D'Augustine – Acting secretary, Natural Resources project manager for solar projects
  - vii) Noel Dodge - Vermont DFW biologist, wildlife and habitat impacts
  - viii) Misti Sporer – avian protection specialist for renewable projects at Duke Energy
  - ix) Karen Voltura – Colorado parks and wildlife, wind and solar projects, wildlife biologist
  - x) Jason Damm – Natural Resources project manager with Metric Environmental, bat specialist
  - xi) Michael Fishman – Certified wildlife biologist with own firm, wind and solar projects, EAB representative

### 2) Executive Board Updates

- a) Chair – no updates
- b) Past Chair – no updates
- c) Secretary – no updates
- d) Treasurer – no updates
  - i) Transition of Funds to New Platform
    - (1) Confirmed by M. Whitby that this has been completed
    - (2) No provided training as of yet
      - (a) M. Whitby to reach out to Mariah Simmons about training/use of

### 3) Committee Updates

- a) Operations/Audit Committee
  - i) Nominations sought for the following positions:
    - (1) Chair elect (4-year term)
      - (a) 1 year as Chair-elect
      - (b) 2 years as Chair
      - (c) 1 year as Past Chair
    - (2) Secretary (2-year term)
    - (3) Member at Large (3-year term)
    - (4) Board members are expected to participate on the committees for Board representation
  - ii) By-Laws: current efforts to review our WG by-laws
    - (1) Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Awareness (IDEA) will be rolled into all aspects of REWG By-Laws
    - (2) Committees will be added/updated
    - (3) Heads Up!! Members will need to vote on by-laws (majority vote)
      - (a) Current by-laws are on the REWG website as the Charter
      - (b) The Charter will be updated to By Laws
- b) Communications Committee
  - i) Newsletters are up and running! Seeking contributions
    - (1) Next newsletter is anticipated to go out early May
  - ii) LinkedIn and REWG Website Updates
  - iii) The Wildlife Professional Updates
    - (1) EAB for The Wildlife Professional – Michael Fishman to represent the WG
    - (2) Update on potential Special Issue of TWP on Renewables
      - (a) May/June start the discussion for upcoming issue topics
      - (b) Looking for articles or ideas for articles (approx. 3-4 special topic articles)
      - (c) Karen Voltura – AFWA wind wildlife issues, been submitted – 2019/2020 survey for wind energy guidelines and issues at the state level, through the energy and policy committee, Maggie Johnson – energy and policy committee lead, Brad Lovelass at Kansas also involved
- c) Conservation Affairs Committee
  - i) Position Statement on Energy – Two-page position statement
    - (1) High level statements that represent the official position of the TWS
    - (2) Typically follow the development of a technical review
  - ii) Need to maintain open communications with the Conservation Affairs Network
- d) Conference Committee
  - i) Call for Abstracts: May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - ii) Deadline for Submissions for symposia, workshops, or panels – April 19, 2021
    - (1) Have had one suggested topic: Voluntary win-wins between renewable energy developers and state/fed/eNGO regional wildlife conservation initiatives”
    - (2) Decision on acceptance by May 10<sup>th</sup>, Abstracts for symposia will be due June 1<sup>st</sup>

- iii) Conference planning once they go back to an in-person conference, could we work towards making the overall conference more green
  - (1) Do we need an additional sustainability committee or should a representative from this committee work with the TWS conference planning committee
  - (2) Where do we integrate this representative, possibly under the Activities committee
  - (3) Susan Rupp to get in touch with the TWS conference planning point of contact to see how we can get integrated

e) Fundraising/Sponsorship Committee

f) Activities Committee

4) **Open Discussion by Membership**

a) Karen Voltura mentioned that AFWA is looking at the need for a Solar focused committee similar to what they've had with Wind and Wildlife.

b) Jackie Augustine asked about contacts for wind energy as it relates to conservation affairs – suggestions to talk with Taber Allison at AWWI and/or Gary George at National Audubon.

c) Michael Fishman mentioned that AWWI was working on a Solar Power and Wildlife Symposium for this fall and that they may need assistance.

5) **Close Meeting**

