

# Minutes

<b>Meeting name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
Renewable Energy Working Group Conference Call	All Members Meeting	Sophia Agudelo Jenn D'Augustine Edward Entsminger Michael Fishman Leslie Koenig Susan Rupp Karen Swaim Tim Green Jason Damm	1. J. D'Augustine – upload All Members' Meeting Minutes to website 2. Exec Board – Coordinate with Taber AWWI solar symposium about RFP for program/presentation coordinator 3. J. D'Augustine – set up Conservation affairs committee kick off meeting 4. Exec Board – Discuss webinars/platforms/etc.
<b>Meeting date</b> 7/01/2021	<b>Time</b> 1500-1600 EST		
<b>Location</b> Teleconference			

## Meeting Minutes

### 1) Introductions

- a) Introduction of new members via Chat Box
  - i) JT Layne –Stantec, MO, wind energy, bat biologist
  - ii) Audrey Boraski – Graduate student, Massachusetts, interest in renewables
  - iii) Edward Entsminger – Research Assoc. at Mississippi State
- b) Introduction of Executive Board members
  - i) Susan Rupp, Jenn D'Augustine, Michael Whitby on the call
  - ii) Michael Fishman as a key representative on the editorial advisory board for the Wildlife Professional

### 2) Review of previous Members' Meeting Minutes

- i) Older All Members' Meeting Minutes sent out to membership for review
- ii) Tabling this topic until TWS Annual Meeting
  - (1) J. D'Augustine to upload draft All Members Meeting Minutes to website

### 3) Executive Board Updates

- a) Chair (Susan Rupp)
  - i) TWS Executive Director position open, contact Susan Rupp or Mariah Simmons if you have any potential contacts or questions
  - ii) New Slack platform for TWS
    - (1) Provide background on platform, council implementing this to increase connectivity
- b) Past-Chair (Tim Green)
- c) Secretary (Jenn D'Augustine)
- d) Treasurer (Michael Whitby)
  - i) Transition of Funds to New Platform at TWS
    - (1) Transition complete from Wells Fargo to TWS Platform
  - ii) Budget Update
    - (1) Current total in budget \$2,676.20
- e) Member-At-Large (Taber Allison/Jason Damm/Lee Walston)

- i) Solar Power and Wildlife/Natural Resources Virtual Symposium – December 1 – 3, 2021
  - (1) Call for abstracts expected next week after the long July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend
  - (2) Will include Half-day “Solar 101” workshop, 2 days of live panels, on-demand presentations, resources
- ii) Major topic areas:
  - (1) Wildlife and habitat conservation and siting (solar)
  - (2) Land management and land use (dual land use, agrivoltaics)
  - (3) Water Resource Management
  - (4) Other environmental issues (i.e. end of life management/decommissioning)
- iii) Looking for opportunities for sponsorship, exposure, break out groups, etc. for the REWG
- iv) Mike Fishman – are they still looking for a program/presentations coordinator?
  - (1) Executive Board will follow up with Taber Allison to see if they are still looking to fill that position

**4) Committee Updates (NOTE: we are seeking volunteers for all committees)**

- a) Operations/Audit Committee (Tim Green – Past Chair)
  - i) Nominations sought for the following positions:
    - (1) **Chair elect (4 year commitment)**, 1 year as Chair-elect, 2 years as Chair, 1 year as past-chair
    - (2) **Secretary (2 year commitment)**
    - (3) **Member-At-Large (3 year commitment)**
    - (4) Winners will be announced at annual meeting
  - ii) By-Laws: Current efforts to review our WG by-laws
    - (1) Originated in 2011-2012 so working to update
    - (2) Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Awareness (IDEA) will be rolled into all aspects of REWG By-Laws
    - (3) Committees and their functions will be added/updated
    - (4) Heads up! Members will need to vote on by-laws
- b) Communications Committee
  - i) Newsletters
    - (1) Request for research/articles
  - ii) Social Media Account Updates
    - (1) Request for any experience with social media management/Twitter
  - iii) Wildlife Professional – Michael Fishman
    - (1) Cover Story
      - (a) Looking for article ideas (magazine staff will write it)
    - (2) One issue dedicated to Renewable Energy for 2022
      - (a) Will be discussed (scheduling, needs, etc.) at September meeting
      - (b) AWWI may be a good source of information/articles for that
      - (c) Climate Smart agriculture/bioenergy, wind energy
    - (3) Karen Swaim – California – Peer review for information would be really beneficial

- (a) Project experience – endangered species habitat for renewable energy projects (protected open space), endorsed by Sierra Club beyond coal campaign, criteria for guidelines for renewable energy but not following them, other letters from different conservation entities
    - (b) Common theme across multiple sectors
  - c) Conservation Affairs Committee (Jenn D’Augustine – Acting Chair)
    - i) Re-solicit participation
      - (1) Request for additional members/interest, reach out via TWS REWG email address
    - ii) Hope to get kick-off call with Keith Norris
    - iii) J. D’Augustine to set up a kick-off meeting for committee members in the upcoming two weeks
  - d) Conference Committee – Decided not to pursue symposium or workshop this year
  - e) Fundraising/Sponsorship – Tied to conference committee so no new actions
  - f) Activities Committee
    - i) Logo Contest (Deadline September 30, 2021) – see website for guidelines/details
    - ii) Webinars – seeking ideas/presenters
      - (1) Karen Swaim – rooftop solar panels not “counting” toward County goals, there’s a place for this type of education; reach out to local and western sections; interesting to discuss on a potential webinar
      - (2) Platform ideas, approx. time lengths, etc. to be discussed at either next Exec Board meeting or next Communications Committee meeting
- 5) Close Meeting
  - a) Next Board Mtg. July 9<sup>th</sup> @1300 EST
  - b) Next Members’ Mtg. (November 1-5 TBD)
    - i) You must be registered for the virtual conference to attend the members’ meeting
    - ii) Plan for a lunch meeting
  - c) Tim Green, motion to close; Mike Fishman, second