



**Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society**  
Fall 2021 Business Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at University of Maine Buchanan  
Alumni House, Orono ME



**Executive Board Members**

President – Caroline Byrne  
Past President – Rodney Kelshaw  
President Elect – Sean Campbell  
Secretary/Treasurer – Kelly Waddle  
Executive Board Member at Large – Kelby Leary  
Executive Board Member at Large – Sabrina Morano  
University of Maine Student Representative – Kyle Smelter  
Unity College Student Representative – None

**Committee Chairs**

Audit Committee – Wende Mahaney  
Awards Committee – Linda Welch  
Conservation Affairs Committee – Joe Roy  
Membership Committee – Kara Moody  
Programs Committee – Mao Lin  
Nominations and Elections Committee – Sarah Spencer  
Education and Information Committee – Adam Gravel

**Welcome & Introduction**

- The Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society (METWS) President Caroline opened meeting with welcoming remarks. Thanked everyone for joining.

**Business Meeting Minutes**

- Caroline provided President's report. Had a successful virtual 2021 spring meeting. Thanked Kyle Smelter for all his hard work with the UMaine Orono Student Chapter. Also mentioned that the METWS Board is trying to get more involvement in the committees.
- Caroline shared the minutes from the 2021 annual spring meeting. Motioned to approved by Rod Kelshaw and seconded by Joe Roy. Motion to approve the 2021 meeting minutes passed.
- Treasurer's report and Audit report will be reviewed during the 2022 spring business meeting.
- Linda Welch gave the Awards Committee report. The Maine Chapter can present up to five awards, which will be given at the 2022 spring meeting. All information can be found on the [Chapter's website](#). The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2022. If you'd like to nominate someone for an award, please nominate and fill out a form.
- Joe Roy gave the Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC) report. The Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) overview/update. Senator King, Senator Collins, and Rep. Pingree signed off, still encouraging Rep. Golden to sign off. Encouraging members to sign onto action letter. If interested, people should contact Joe Roy.
- Rod gave the Education and Information Committee report. Joining the board is a great way to meet others and learn about job opportunities. If interest and would like more information, please contact Rod.
- Mao Lin and Kelby Leary gave the Programs Committee report. Thanked all sponsors for this meeting: BRI, Flycatcher, Stantec, Tetra Tech, University of Maine, and Weyerhaeuser.
  - Always looking for new members and ideas for future programs. If you have any ideas, please contact Mao.
  - Need hosts for Biologists and Beverages. If interested in hosting an event, please contact Mao.
  - Kelby provided more information on the spring conference with the New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF), scheduled for March 23-25, 2022 in South Portland, Maine. The METWS annual meeting and wildlife related presentations are scheduled for Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Kelby for leading this planning effort on behalf of METWS!

- Spring into Herpetofauna with the METWS. Date to be determined but will take place sometime after spring meeting. Topics include:
  - Emerging diseases of the region's herpetofauna.
  - Threats to Maine Herpetofauna.
  - The Maine Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project.
  - Habitat enhancement for Maine's Herpetofauna.
  - Identifying and conserving high value habitat for Maine Herpetofauna.
  - Challenges for conducting and monitoring these various species.
- Kyle Smelter gave the report for UMaine Orono Student Chapter. Kyle said it's been a great semester for the Student Chapter, the best semester so far. They have been involved in volunteering, window decorations, help managing wood duck boxes, Schoodic sea watch trip, job finding workshop, and more.
- Caroline discussed Unfinished Business/New Business.
  - Looking for student representative for University of New England, UMaine Farmington and Unity College. Been a few years since they have had a student representative. If anyone has contacts or interest in these roles, please contact Caroline.
  - The Board is planning on sending out a Newsletter in spring 2022. If anyone has information/ideas you'd like to contribute, please send details to Caroline.
  - METWS swag discussion.
- Motioned to approve business meeting Caroline Byrne seconded by Rod Kelshaw. Motion to approve 2021 fall business meeting passed.
- Meeting adjourned.

**Program following the Business Meeting was a Wildlife Research Symposium.**