

Fall Board Meeting Minutes
 Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society
 Virtual Meeting
 22 October 2020

ATTENDEES

<u>Executive Board</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ray Iglay	President
Kelly Douglass	President-elect
Mike Mengak	Past President
Dan Greene	Secretary/Treasurer
Mike Conner	SE Section Rep to Council

Members in attendance: Mark Smith

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: 2:00 PM CT

Welcome and Opening: Ray Iglay welcomed the board members.

1. **Meeting Minutes:** Dan will get these to the board members and posted on the shared drive ASAP.
2. **Membership:** October = 588 from TWS + 4 paid to the section = 592.
 - a. This includes, but is not limited to 336 regular and 110 student members.
3. **Treasurer's report.**
 - a. Audit materials submitted. See Audit Committee entry below.
 - b. Dan gave an update on finances: Our baseline goal to retain \$10,000 in our account has been achieved, and continues to be maintained. The current account balance is \$20,295.52. Income received: \$6,388.72, including 2020 first, second, and third quarter dues. This balance includes Fur Resources Committee funds of \$3,151.52, which had a deposit of \$90.71. Expenditures made was \$4,071.86, including 2020 Conclave support, 2019 award plaques, and operating expenses.
 - c. Upcoming expenses: Monetary student awards (\$700) and the Newsletter Editor/Webmaster (\$1,500) will be expended and presented at the awards banquet.
4. **Bylaw changes**
 - a. We have several updates that need to be made but we first need to get everything compiled and set to the members for their input and approval, then submit to TWS. We are going to hold off on pushing this forward for now and complete this task early 2021.
5. **Members meeting agenda briefing and necessary revisions**

- a. Membership dues – what do we offer for the \$10 fee and how can we expand this as a payback to membership? Now or later, we need to expand our conversations regarding what the benefits are for SETWS membership. Should this be an all SETWS dues-paying audience, all members within the SETWS, or targeted towards the SE State Chapters and trickle down from them?
- b. Membership: we are usually around 600 members of the approximate 2000 members in the Southeastern US. How do we expand? Dan asked why membership is not automatic for those who register at the TWS level. If everyone paid \$2-3, it would work out about the same financially. Either the NE Section or Central Plains Section did this - we need to reach out to their president and see how this has worked.
- c. Communication: We need to get better organized on this activity and not report at the business meeting on Monday. Due to confidentiality, we cannot access all TWS members in the southeastern US. Can we use the newsletter to target new members, either by sending the newsletter article to all members (dues paying and non-dues paying) in the section or send to TWS to send out separately? This might be an issue since the Newsletter is a dues-paying member benefit.
- d. If the state chapter sent out the letter, then it would get to more people. That should go through the state chapter secretaries and possibly the SE State Chapter Rep. and Presidents.

6. Other News:

- a. Field course – Dates are set for June 1-14, 2021. We are planning to hold the meeting, but understand that COVID-19 may disrupt this course too. Housing opportunities may be a challenge and we need to determine whether the Jones Center will still allow us to have the course, as students will be in proximity with housing and transportation. We may require a COVID test and tell students they should not plan to leave the Center to visit town.
Number of students in attendance is still capped at 24, but we might consider a reduced class size such as 10 students. Nine is our break-even point which covers all onsite fees and instructor costs. Jones Center may be able to sponsor a student, and AL_TWS will offer the scholarship to the same student as last year. We will give first choice to those that registered last year. If we can get Jones Center approval, then we should advertise soon, so students can plan for the 2021 academic year.
- b. Newsletter: Dan will send a check to Katie Edwards for Newsletter services on 10/26/2020. Katie to provide invoice.

7. 2020 Committee Reports and Updates

Standing Committees

Audit Committee: Steven Castleberry is the chair. A written report was submitted by the committee (Steven Castleberry, Mike Connor, and Mike Cherry). The committee found the SE

TWS financial records in good order. Steven Castleberry intends to step down this year, and a new committee chair will be sought.

Bylaws and Resolutions: Mike Mengak is the chair. Reporting pending Thursday's WebEx

Conservation Affairs Planning Committee: Lisa Lord is the chair. Nelson Lafon stepped down as co-chair earlier this year. His service was much appreciated. Otherwise, there was very little local activity with the SECAC as most people were affected by COVID-19, and the disruptions it caused to budgets and day to day work. Looking forward to 2021.

Nominations: Kelly Douglass is the chair. No report needed for this year. However, Nominations and Elections will occur during 2021.

Special Committees - Permanent

Awards Committee: Andy Madison is the chair. No applications were received for the Student Chapter of the Year Award. However, the Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster winners will be announced after the conference via the SE TWS listserv and SEAFWA.

Deer Committee: Steve Shea is the chair. A written report has been submitted. The Deer Committee has shared numerous updates throughout the year, especially with navigating COVID-19 after the 2020 SEDSG Meeting. The main new activity, following an emergency August meeting, will be a virtual 2021 SEDSG Meeting on February 23-24 hosted by the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) with the meeting theme of "Pandemic or Prospect: Managing Deer and Recruiting Hunters in 2021." For more information, please visit www.QDMA.com/SEDSG . Abstracts due December 1, 2020. The Deer Committee meeting will be held 2 weeks prior to the SEDSG Meeting.

Furbearer Resources Committee: Colleen Olfenbuttel is the chair. A written report was received. Multiple action items were presented for SE TWS membership to consider.

Publications Committee: Lora Smith is the chair. A list of publications was received later than usual but the committee intends to review publications and announce winners later this year. Winners will be announced to membership and SEAFWA.

Special Committees Joint Section/Association

C.W. Watson Award: Lisa Muller is the SE TWS Section Representative on the committee. The committee receive 8 outstanding nominations. The 2020 recipient was acknowledged by their nominators and the committee during a virtual ceremony and should be announced again during the SEAFWA Conference.

MINRC: David Buggs is the chair. Nothing to report.

SEAFWA Editors and Wildlife Technical Session: Robert Gitzen and Daniel Greene are co-editors. Six wildlife manuscripts were submitted during 2020 for the 2021 Journal, and reviews and decisions being finalized. Overall, low wildlife submissions continue for the journal

and the Managing Editor Gary Hepp has expressed concern, along with Curtis Hopkins. Any feedback from the SE TWS membership would be greatly appreciated.

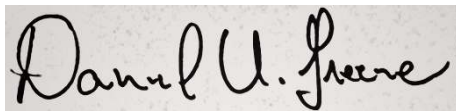
Wetland Wildlife: Dale James and Jamie Feddersen are co-chairs. The Wetland Wildlife Committee will forgo its meeting in conjunction with SEAFWA this year. Primary concerns for this year's meeting included attendance, especially with meetings being virtual, a time conflict with the Wildlife Resources Committee meeting, and a lack of current, actionable items. However, the future direction of this committee is of greater concern, and the co-chairs would appreciate input from the SE TWS membership. The Wetlands Wildlife Committee intends to revisit their objectives and goals with membership input, possibly via a video conference call outside the conference forum to engage the various members of the committee, then reignite and refocus the committee for next year.

Wildlife Management Excellence Award: Steven Castleberry is the chair. No nominations were received this year.

Wildlife Professional Editorial Advisory Board: No current chair or report.

Adjourned: 3:00 PM CT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Daniel U. Greene" in a cursive script.

Daniel U. Greene
SETWS Secretary/Treasurer