

The Wildlife Society, Southwest Section

Board Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2023, 9:00–9:50am

Board Members

- **Present:** Kay Nicholson – President, Whitney Gann – Past President, Nicole Tatman – President-Elect, Erika Nowak – Treasurer
- **Absent:** Masahiro Ohnishi – Secretary

New Business

- May 2023 WAFWA Deer and Elk Workshop
 - Scott Sprague sent an email requesting that the SW Section sponsor the workshop
 - The SW Section previously sponsored this workshop in 2019 but there is no record of the sponsorship amount
 - Board members have reviewed the information provided and agreed this is a worthwhile cause to sponsor
 - **Motion:** The SW Section will provide \$500 to sponsor the deer and elk workshop
 - The **motion passed** with unanimous approval
 - Kay will let Scott know the request was approved
- Member attendance at the Section's other chapter meeting where not affiliated
 - During the AZTWS Business meeting at the 2023 AZ/NM Joint Annual Meeting, Tad Theimer suggested that the Section send individuals to the other chapter meeting. This has been discussed/done in the past and he suggested it be considered again to promote collaboration among the Section's chapters
 - The board discussed a SW Section officer being provided a stipend to attend the annual meeting for the other chapter meeting where that officer does not reside
 - **Motion:** The SW Section will provide a \$250 stipend to the incoming President to attend the annual meeting in the state where the incoming President does not reside if the board members of the Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas chapters all vote to approve the following: the SW Section incoming President's meeting registration fee will be waived and each chapter will provide a \$250 stipend to assist in covering the Incoming President's travel costs.
 - The **motion passed** with unanimous approval – **pending approval** from the Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas chapters
 - Kay will reach out to the presidents of the Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas chapters to request approval of this motion from the board of each chapter
- Incorporation
 - The TWS parent society has indicated the SW Section needs to begin the formation process to incorporate
 - Board members discussed which state would be best
 - Currently the SW Section address for banking is Erika Nowak's business PO Box in Flagstaff, Arizona. However, the Arizona chapter's Treasurer is elected annually, whereas the Texas Chapter's Treasurer is a long-term position, typically ~10 years.

- Kay will reach out to Cameron Kovach to find out his opinion on whether incorporating in one state would be better than the others. If it does not matter legally or financially, the SW Section will pursue incorporating in Texas to take advantage of the longevity associated with the Texas chapter's Treasurer position.

Action Items

- Kay will let Scott know the request to sponsor the WAFWA Deer and Elk Workshop was approved
- Kay will reach out to the presidents of the Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas chapters to request approval from their boards of the motion to waive the registration fee and provide a \$250 stipend for the SW Section incoming President to attend the annual chapter meeting in the state where they do not reside.
- Kay will reach out to Cameron Kovach to find out his opinion on whether incorporating in one state would be better than the others legally or financially.