



Meeting Agenda
San Joaquin Valley Chapter of The Wildlife Society
December 7, 2023; 6:00PM

McCormick Biological Inc. Conf Room (3600 Pegasus Dr #13) and Zoom

I. Call to Order & Introductions
II. Executive Board and Committee Chair Reports:

President - Kiersten Abarca
President-Elect - Kacy Twist
Past President - Rainey Davis
Treasurer - Ryan Lopez
Secretary - Julie Vance
Chapter Representative - Howard Clark
Membership Coordinator - Mitchell Coleman
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster - Howard Clark
Historian - Jeff Davis
Program Development Committee Chair - Ashleigh Pryor

Conservation Affairs Committee Chair - Skip Moss
Granting Committee Chair - Lori Bono
Bylaws Committee Chair - Kiersten Abarca
Café Scientific Committee Chair - Rory Telemeco
Outreach Coordinator (Vacant)
Merchandise Manager (Vacant)
Diversity Committee Chair (Vacant)
Audit Committee Chair (Vacant)
Student Chapter Liaison (Vacant)
Nominating and Elections Committee Chair (Vacant)

Kirsten has attendee list.

Officer Updates

Ryan (Treasurer): 1/1/2023 Account Balance: \$46,794.32; Total Credits - \$26,089.21, Total Debits - \$20,011.50. 12/07/2023 Account Balance: \$52,081.03. We have an outdated acct; can't get a credit/debit card. Should be easy to change account type at current bank (B of A) or can move to new bank. Mitchell said look into Valley Strong, might be free account for NGOs. **ACTION ITEM**: Ryan will come up with a few options and will present to board.

Julie (Secretary): Brief discussion of upcoming TWS-WS Annual Meeting in Feb. Next Chapter meeting will be at Annual meeting.

Kiersten (President): 1) Past meeting minute approvals (2/9/23, 3/30/23, 6/23/23): Kacey made a motion to approve, Mitchell seconded. motion passed. Howard will post on Chapter website; 2) Bylaws committee: **ACTION ITEM**: Kiersten will send out updates from bylaws committee meetings. Will be sent out to chapter for approval at (or prior to?) TWS-WS Chapter mtg; 3) Café Scientifique: **ACTION ITEM**: Kiersten will reach out to Rory to follow up. Julie will forward Rory's email to Kiersten; 4) Snake shirt and sticker merchandise (avail once merch site set up); 5) Updated board descriptions on Google drive (accessible by members, more sensitive info accessible only by Chapter Officers). Available for Elected and Appointed positions to use; and 6) new TWS emails created for positions.

Howard (Chapter Rep): TWS-WS; annual mtg coming up. Haven't had a formal TWS-WS mtg in a while, mostly annual meeting planning. Randi: Capstone speaker is Stanley Robinson. Wrote a book called *The Ministry for the Future*. Not scientific but interested in the natural world. Brings in CDFW efforts in this book. These kinds of speakers charge a fee, trying to get outside sponsorships. Want members to provide feedback afterwards.

Mitchell: No report. Routine work, sending emails etc. Getting a lot of bouncebacks with emails. Is supposed to be unsubscribe option; Mailchimp will give us that option. Free version lets up have 499 members, is currently around 1000 email subscribers.

Howard (newsletter): Website gave him full permission to edit directly. Saved a lot of time. Keeping FB and Instagram up to date. Posting grant info etc.

Ashleigh (professional devel): had sm mammal trapping WS in Nov, working on report. Went really well. Took a lot more planning than anticipated. Got a lot of good feedback. Getting out datasheets to students. Got all digitized yesterday. Snake handling WS in August in Fresno, also went well, despite short notice and last minute planning. WS was full, but

people dropped out. Location was the River Center. Coming up in 2024: If goes as planned, have a lot of WS planned, see WS discussion below.

Lori (grants): Travel grants deadline tomorrow. Have 3 applications. Readvertised today to see if they would get any last minute applications. If know anyone else who wants to apply have them send one in. Been scouring around CDFW and colleges to get applications. Also have research grant funds.

Call for Nominations

- Have a number of vacancies in Chapter committees. If anyone interested, let Kiersten know. Want like a bonfire account set up (merch manager). Would like something set up for NCC. Diversity committee chair: typically at 11 am first wed of month. Audit committee, student chapter liaison (Alex mentioned assisting), but don't have chair. Need two to 3 people for nominations committee. Secretary would count ballots. Outreach coordinator: Michelle Harris is interested in becoming outreach committee chair. Kiersten appointed Michelle to that position. Possible overlap with student chapter liaison. Have one person nominated for pres elect (Howard), already in officer role. Howard elected to remain chapter rep. Need pres elect by TWS-WS Chapter meeting. Christine might be interested. Might need to modify bylaws to have officer (past pres?) be responsible for bringing forward candidates for pres elect. **ACTION ITEM**: Kiersten will look into bylaws modifications.

Budget

- Grant Budget: Announce updated Research and Travel grant caps. Voted to upgrade research grant. Want to upgrade from 2 \$1000 grants to 3 \$1000 grants or 2 \$1500 grants. Going forward, budget will be \$3000 cap. Can increase change with board discussion.
- Reviewed draft budget. Will change NCC costs to merch. Change NCC costs to include venue and Whova or sim app. Similar costs for 2023 app + venue was \$6000. Will evaluate other locations because outgrowing Hodels. Can be arranged to fit a lot more. We had a lot of last minute registrations. We have always allowed walk ins but don't need to. Mitchell and Alex Welch will join NCC committee. Will vote on revised budget as a whole. Will increase student travel grant to \$4500. Will increase Chapter mtg food budget to \$1000. Delete WS budget line, each WS should have a reviewed and approved budget. Discussed other donations. Delete Conservation Program from budget; purpose unclear (Cons affairs)? Social activities: delete and cover with sep budget. Add mailchimp/elec subscription costs. Nix newsletter budget, no longer mailing. \$318 for mailchimp, plus \$40 for ZOOM (\$375 total). Updated 2024 budget sent around, discussed. Julie made motion to accept the budget as revised, Lori seconded, motion passed. See below for approved budget.

Workshops in 2024/2025

- Urban SJKF Workshop – planning committee is who wishes to assist with planning: Ashleigh, Kacy, Kirsten, Brian C and Erica K will assist. **ACTION ITEM**: Want to get save the date out next month. Likely April/May. Want to do during natal season.
- BNLL Workshop – Spring 2024? Probably push to 2025 because of SJKF.
- Rattle Handling Workshop – Summer (Bakersfield) 2024. Easy to plan, in Bakersfield at BLM office.
- Small Mammal Trapping Workshop – Fall 2025?
- Plant Identification Workshop (Rare plants of the SJV?) – or we could be more vegetation based.
- Also some field experience days/hosting. San Luis Refuge trip?
- Legless lizard WS 2024. Ted, Erin, Mike, USGS as possible instructors? 1-1.5 days, lec and field. Would have to do pretty small field portion, could have larger lecture portion. Possible early March or combining with NCC (day after).
- CESA/CEQA workshop: Possible fall 2024. Kacey talked to Craig Bailey

Field Trips and Activities

- Membership Appreciation Event: Kiersten currently in communications with Fresno Chaffee Zoo re Illuminature (lighted silk lantern animals, avail through mid Jan). Private event not avail, but could have Chapter day with designated meet up spot. **ACTION ITEM**: Jan visit? Includes family/plus one.

End of Year Donation

- Call for nominations to memberships of potential non-profits active in the wildlife community that the Chapter would like to donate to. In lieu of stipend for instructors at WS, \$ went to CALM, student activities, etc. Designated by instructors. Howard wants his stipend to go to CALM (\$450 – lecture + all trapping). **ACTION ITEM**: Kiersten will send out stipend info to Ryan so that he can cut checks.

Other

- Randi: should nominate for Chapter of the year before the meeting. Is an application process. **ACTION ITEM**: Kiersten will lead and ask for help from Howard.

Meeting adjourned 808 PM

Attendees

Michelle Harris – Colibri
 Kiersten Abarca – MBI
 Ryan Lopez - NRG
 Howard Clark - Colibri
 Lori Bono – CDFW
 Keyanna Pinto - Westervelt
 Amanda Coleman - OSPR
 Mitchell Coleman - Tejon
 Ashleigh Pryor - MBI
 Christine Van Horn Job - MBI
 Randi McCormick - MBI
 Kacy Twist - Chevron
 Alex Welch - MBI
 Julie Vance - CDFW

TWS-SJVC 2024 Adopted Budget

	Item	2024 Proposed
NCC	NCC Merch	\$500
NCC	NCC Camera Contest	\$200
NCC	Venue	\$7,000
NCC	Registration App	\$1,500
Grant	Research Grant	\$3,000
W/S	W/S Student Stipend (Travel Grant)	\$4,500
W/S	W/S Officer Stipend (Travel Grant)	\$2,000
W/S	W/S Donation	\$300
	Quarterly Meeting Food/Drinks	\$1,000
	Charitable Donation	\$2,000
	Champions Wildlife Award	\$100
	Student Outreach	\$300
	Misc Office/Overhead (Chapter Mailbox)	\$300