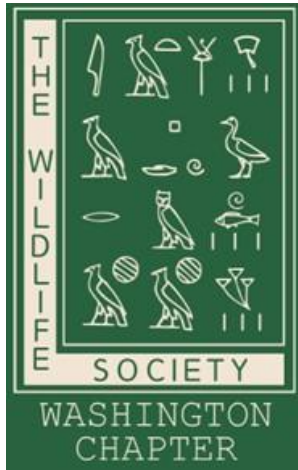


Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Executive Board (EB) Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Google Meet Conference Call



Board Members Present

Sara Hansen, Past President

Matt Wilson, President

George Ritchotte, Vice President

Alex Pavlinovic, President Elect

Bruce Thompson, Treasurer

Candace Bennett, Secretary

Jen Syrowitz, Board Member at Large

Wendy Arjo, Board Member at Large

Kris Ernest, Board Member at Large

Regrets

Merci Clinton, Board Member at Large

Attendees

Tony Fuchs (Grants Committee Chair)

Bill Vogel (Awards Committee Chair)

New Action Items

1. JAM 2023
 - a. **Bruce, Sara, and Candace** will meet to discuss next steps for JAM 2023 website (end of September and early October) and will keep George in the loop to facilitate future meeting planning needs.
 2. Annual TWS Conference
 - a. **Sara** will provide **Candace** information on the Out in the Field travel grant to email to members.
 3. Chapter Dues Increase Survey
 - a. **Candace** will send a summary of the survey out to EB members.
 - b. **Candace** will send out an online straw poll form to Ex Board for the dues increase. It will be open for two weeks.
 4. October Agenda
 - a. **Matt** will add Chapter Dues Increase vote review on the agenda.
 - b. **Matt** will add a topic on a Student Liaison (like Parent) from work by **Alex**.
 - c. **Matt** will add 2023 Operating Budget discussion for a presentation by **Bruce**.
 5. Website
 - a. **Sara** will add Chapter financials to the website.
 - b. **EB members** will look at the redesigned website and provide feedback to **Sara**.
 6. DEI Subgroup
 - a. **Kris** will work with **Sara, Candace**, and other **EB members** to outline Chapter expectations, reporting and related items.
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- 1) August EB Meeting Action Item Review (blue items are completed, black items need additional information)
 - a. Member Survey
 - i. Candace will send a form email of the survey to Alex.
 - b. Newsletter
 - i. Candace will contact Mike Hall about Wildlife Webinars as an addition to the newsletter.
 - c. September Agenda Items
 - i. Matt will add EB Roles and Responsibilities.
 - d. Incorporation
 - i. Matt will add this topic to November's Agenda.
 - e. Washington Wildlife Conservation Letter
 - i. Matt will work with Kevin this week.
- 2) EB roles and responsibilities
 - a. Check bylaws and Drive documents.
 - b. Still need to work on a transition training for new EB members.
- 3) Website Updates and future needs
 - a. See Action Items
- 4) Chapter response to the Colorado incident (Agency Manager comment to staff member of color)
 - a. WY response to Colorado incident.
 - b. We will work on a response and incorporation of DEI.
 - c. Creation of a subgroup to create guideline (like WY Action Items, where to report behavior).
- 5) Discussion regarding board fellow program for students
 - a. What outreach has been done to reach out to students.
 - b. Student liaison (is a now voting member)
 - c. Alex will work on additional information.
 - d. Bruce emphasized awareness of TWS Council Student Liaison position
- 6) Summer 2022 Newsletter
 - a. Completed
 - b. Sent 09/12/2022
 - i. Email, website, Facebook
 - c. One more newsletter out by end of 2022.
 - d. New approaches to getting information to members.
 - i. Use of blog on website for member projects.
- 7) 2023 JAM Updates
 - a. Abstracts being received.
 - b. Received one donation and sponsorship.
 - c. MOU with NWPARC is in the works.
- 8) 2024 JAM Updates
 - a. Draft MoU
 - i. Who signs the MoU?
 - b. Idaho pays upfront for the venue

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- i. Check into why the venue needs all the money upfront, as this is unlike other venues.
 - 1. Possible help from WA-TWS to cover venue costs.
 - ii. Need to know number of rooms/space need to estimate cost.
- 9) TWS Annual Conference Update
 - a. WA-TWS has a reception on 11/7 in the evening
 - i. Food for the reception?
 - ii. Beverage tickets
 - 1. \$6.50/drink
 - 2. Possible sponsor from the WA-TWS/NW Section of \$300
 - 3. Be careful on financial expenditures due to loss in investments.
 - b. Out in the Field has a grant for travel
 - c. WA-TWS swag to sell at the Conference
 - i. Tees, bags
 - ii. Inventory list on Google Drive
- 10) WA-TWS Chapter Dues Increase
 - a. Summary of survey
 - i. 48 participants
 - 1. 91.7% regular members
 - 2. 8.3% student members
 - ii. 91.7% support the creation of New Professional and Retired membership levels.
 - iii. 100% would renew their TWS membership if the Chapter increased dues.
 - iv. 86% supported a \$5 (or more) increase to dues
 - v.
 - b. Vote on this in October
 - i. Add this to an online option to preview the vote.

Next Meeting: October 11, 2022, 4:00-5:00pm