

WTA Board of Director's Meeting

January 13, 2024

Ashley Shooting Club, Mosinee, WI 54409

Cancelled due to Weather

Meeting conducted via email January 20, 2024 through February 5, 2024

Roll Call – present

Vice President – Deb Koltis, Secretary – Scott Robb, NTA director – Scott McAuley,
Personnel & Finance - Lee Sellars

District 2 - Ron Kwasny

District 3 - Mike Korten Hof

District 5 - Jim Gordon

District 6 - Ron Koltis

District 7 - Brian Riske

District 8 - Jacob Van Schyndel

District 9 – Patrice Rhodes

District 10 - Larry Meyer

Present also - Jody Zuelsdorff

Secretary Report - Scott Robb

October 14, 2023 BOD minutes presented

Motion to accept October 14, 2023 Secretary Minutes as presented by Deb Koltis, seconded by Scott Robb, 4 additional responded w/approval.

Treasurer's Report – Russ Warmka

NO treasure's report – Arnold Groehler submitted December, 2023 Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet Statements on January 19, 2024

Larry Meyer questioned if \$1000.00 from the scholarship fund to Erinn Kiesow-Webb had been recorded from the correct District 10 accounts.

President Report – Arnold Groehler

- With increased beaver trapping, the otter quota does not look to exceed the current 2500 animal quota.
- Membership numbers continue to be the number one concern.
 - Give-a-ways do not seem to retain members past one year.
 - Currently offering reduced membership for in-person trapper ed students.
- Membership rosters continue to be in disarray. Incorrect addresses, inactive (non-renewing) and deceased members need to be purged as it is costly to continue sending publications.
- Corporate sponsorships and partnerships need to be pursued and developed going forward. WTA needs a single point contact person. Many 'sporting' organizations are willing to offer goods and/or services.
- Trapper Education fee increases to \$20.00 this year to cover rising costs of the program.
- Legislative News –
 - The WIDNR is disbanding the current Wolf Committee.
 - Not much new information about the Beaver Lawsuit.
 - There is currently an open comment period.
 - Arnie was on 2 podcasted sponsored by The Beaver Institute.
 - The beaver Institute wants trappers to catch live beaver for relocation and promotes the use of 'flow devices' in dams as an alternative to dam removal.
- District reports for "*The Wisconsin Trapper*" are due January 20, 2024.
- Elections for President and NTA Director – looking for multiple candidates, nominations open at the Spring General Membership meeting.

Vice President's Report – Deb Koltis

- Membership Lists – the search continues for a user-friendly membership program. District 6 is finding any members have either not renewed or have passed away. Phone numbers have not been updated as many have gone exclusively to cell phones. Larry Meyer reported a membership difference of ??? after reviewing the District 10 roster.
- Heritage trailer has been handed to Scott Mc Auley, final bids are being received.
- Trademarking – trademarking in Wisconsin looks to only cost \$25.00. but requires a account with the Department of Financial Institutions: will need to work with Steve Van. The federal trademarking is more confusing due to multiple sites with different information.
- **Districts, please submit an updated membership list and calendar of district events.**
- Upcoming meeting to review the Wisconsin Trapping Regulations to improve wording and clarity with Sean Rosselor, Mike Widner and others.
- The "Vice President's Report" and "Meet Your Warden" now appear in "*The Wisconsin Trapper*" magazine.

Personnel and Finance Committee – Lee Sillars

- No new replies for the open position of FTW director.
- Finances are ok. Recommend a motion for a 10% merchandise cost increase to cover ever increasing postage.
- Rewriting the description for Vice President, have had no additional input.

Conservation Report – Larry Meyer

- Wisconsin Conservation Congress: Spring Conservation Hearings are being scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2024 in each county.
- SB222/AB222 Flood Risk Resilience passed and has been signed by the governor. \$2,000,000 is provided for establishing wetlands upstream from flood problem areas.
- Sporting Coalition for Wetlands (a multi organizational coalition) is creating an article all groups can publish using their respective communication media regarding early detection and eradication of Phragmites Australis (ornamental grass) an invasive species ruining wildlife wetland habitat.
- A skinning party @ the Fur Shed, 4439 Buckley Road, DeForest, WI 53532 will be held on April 6, starting at 8:30 AM. The WIDRN has collected caresses over the year, mostly otter. All money from the sales of fur will benefit the Trapper Education Program.

Merchandise Report – Jody Zuelsdorff

- Year over Year Sales –

On-line			
2021	\$5833.50		
2022	\$3337.00	-42.2%	
2023	\$3562.50	+ 6.8%	
WTA Convention			
2022	\$8480.12		
2023	\$6111.13	-27.9%	
- Aged merchandise is on clearance.
- New of 2024 – youth T-shirts and Adult raglan sleeve hoodies.
- All merchandise barcodes and pricing has been updated to the register. A 'How To' binder has been developed for operation of the register.
- The merchandise trailer was inspected and found functional, storage fees have been paid thru June.
- No increase in merchandise is needed as the website calculates shipping cost and the WTA uses the USPS for all shipping except items sent by first class mail.

National Trapper's Association Report – Scott Robb for Scott McAuley

The bylaw proposal to add additional requirements to be eligible to run for NTA President was defeated.

FTW Report – Mike Korntenhof

- The youth trap camp @ Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River, WI on July 17-20, 2024 is full. 26 kids are signed up with more on a waiting list. Three new female trapping instructors have volunteered to help at this year's camp.
- An individual has also expressed interest in FTW website up and running again.

New Business – Arnold Groehler

- Ron Koltis had been asked by Mike and Kathleen Nicholson if the WTA would be willing to sponsor a Sr. Woman's plaque for the trap setting competition at the Fall Convention – no discussion on this item.
- Jacob Van Schyndel said he had approached Rebecca Van Lanen about taking over the WTA social media platform. She was open to the idea, requesting more information.
- District 8 will be at the Hunting & Fishing Expo in Green Bay, WI on February 23-25, 2024
- Winter BOD Meeting: Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 9 AM at the Mead Hotel and Conference Center, 451 East Grant Ave., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.
- General Membership Meeting to follow at 1:00 PM

Hearing no further discussions over the past week,
Motion to Adjourn made by Scott Robb

Submitted by: Scott Robb, Secretary

WTA Board of Director's Meeting

March 16, 2024

Hotel Mead & Conference Center, 451 E Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Meeting Called to Order – President Arnold Groehler @ 8:55 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – present

President - Arnold Groehler, Vice President – Deb Koltis, Secretary – Scott Robb,
Treasurer - Russ Warmka, NTA Director - Scott McAuley, Personnel & Finance - Lee Sillars

District 1 Judy Floistad (proxy)

District 2 Ron Kwasny

District 3 Mike Kortenhof

District 4 Steve O'Mary

District 5 Jim Gordon

District 6 Ron Koltis

District 7 Brian Riske

District 8 Jacob Van Schyndel

District 9 Denny Knuth (proxy)

District 10 Larry Meyer

District 11 Scott Schoenike (proxy)

Also, present- Al Nickel (Sargent at Arms), Jody Zuelsdorff (Merchandise), Ron Peters (FTA)

WTA Mission Statement - read by President Groehler

Call for New Business:

- Social Director Position – Rebecca Van Lannen
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Trap Setting Plaque – Sr. Women

Secretary's Report – Scott Robb

January 13, 2024 BOD in-person meet cancelled due to extreme weather. The meeting was conducted via internet. January minutes were presented.

Motion to accept October 14, 2023 Secretary Minutes as presented, made by Larry Meyer, second by Steve O'Mary, motion passes unanimously.

Motion to accept January, 2024 Secretary Minutes as presented, made by Jim Gordon, second by Lee Sillars, motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Russ Warmka

Total Assets (January 31, 2024) \$165,885.86

WTA is in a good financial position.

Spring Banquet: last year – 185 tickets, this year – 170 tickets, with lots of last-minute tickets sales. Districts have generously donated for the banquet.

Question was raised regarding availability of a yearly Profit and Loss Statement.

Software package is going 'cloud' base next year, so previous issue with communications should be eliminated.

Steve Van is working backwards from the individual District Checks; the memo line on **ALL** checks is important to contain as much purposeful information as possible, with 17 individual financial accounts under the WTA.

====> Steve Van is hired for taxes, not for accounting purposes.<====

Steve Van created the District Treasurer's Booklet to convey the information Steve needs to prepare reports.

Reports WTA would like: monthly balance sheets and complete financial reports for end of year. The P&F committee would like to see quarterly reports.

Motion to accept the January 31, 2024 Financial Report as presented, made by Jacob Van Schyndel, second by Scott McAuley, motion passes with Larry Meyer Descending.

President's Report – Arnold Groehler

Financial –

- Multiple double payments were being made on invoices in the past, to resolve the problem, all payments will be reviewed by the President prior to being released.
- Marshfield Chamber of Commerce sent an invoice for 2023 and a check was written before being questioned. How many times has this happened?
- Billing issues with the insurance company for trapper education classes, check was cut for an exorbitant amount. Arnie discovered it after the check was issued. WTA had to go through a dispute process to claw back the money from the insurance company.
- District sub-accounts needs to be controlled within the districts.

Membership –

- Address lists are not being updated as people move within the state.
- Deceased members are not being removed ... needs to be addressed by the districts.

Taxation issues –

- Nonprofit organizations cannot accumulate and hold large amounts of money. IE. District 3 has a large balance in their account. The trigger was the district has more money in their account than the WTA general account.
- Donations to affiliated organization if fiscally responsible. Districts can donate as well from the funds when approved by their memberships.

President Report – Arnold Groehler (continued)

Social Media –

- Encourage more respectable pictures and articles for the WTA online presence.
- Arnie participated in two (2) podcasts providing information about beaver.
- If we present the message; other organizations cannot tell the message for us ... Proactive vs Reactive.
- 94th Raccoon Feed for Delafield American Legion ... 435 people in attendance, politicians, international presence, was huge social event. Fantastic food and value-added trapping products. A great opportunity to capitalize on social media.

Vice President's Report – Deb Koltis

Membership challenges –

- Talked with the FFA about what they use for their membership.
- Talking with 3 other groups also looking for similar membership programs.
- Steve Van also does the membership for FTA.
- Not everyone knows how to manipulate data within Excel.
- Membership Coordinator.

Trailers –

- District trailer inventory and condition report ... need input from the directors.
- Authorize the trailer committee to spend money to buy the Heritage Trailer.
 - Trailer show demo trailer plus updates ???
 - Expected to spend 15k-20k for the trailer.

Motion to authorize the Trailer Committee to purchase a trailer, to be ready to be presented at the WTA 2024 Fall Rendezvous in Antigo, Wisconsin, up to the amount of \$20,000.00, made by Jacob Van Schyndel , seconded Ron Koltis, motion passes unanimously.

- District 5 will donate \$2500.00 to the Historical Trailer fund.

District Director's Manual –

- Revisit and update the manual for directors.

Social Media –

- MORE, MORE, MORE ... Skye has done a fantastic job, but she has so much more going on now. Good to hear that Rebecca Van Lannen is interested in the post. Deb has offered to become a moderator for the social media platforms to provide approval of content.
- Navigation on wistrap.org website for easier WTA and Director management functions.

Personnel and Finance Committee – Lee Sillars

- FTW coordinator – still looking for someone.
 - Establish and publish duties and expectations for coordinator position.
 - Rather than an individual, set-up a committee, activities included at the district level? Contact Lee if you're interested in participating on the committee.
 - Name change: Future trapping Leaders ??, "13-14+ year olds are not future trappers, they are trappers."
- Proposed Director responsibilities
- WTA By-Law Change Requirements
 - WTA BOD to approve any proposed changes.
 - Requires existing by-laws with removals and changes lined out, and new text added to be published in a WTA publication.
 - Membership to vote on approval. How much of a majority?
 - BOD to vote changes at next BOD meeting.

National Trapper's Association Report – Scott McAuley

- Declining membership - Loss ~300 members this past year 2023-2024.
- Scott McAuley will forward NTA minutes on to the BOD members.
- Calander Raffle – currently stands at ~\$42000.00 profit. Other fund raisers.
- National Convention, July 25 – 27, 2024 @ W. H. Lyon Fairgrounds, Souix Falls, South Dakota. WTA will be located in the Kid's Cave.
- National Convention 2025 in Harrisonburg, Virginia, same place as this year's FTA convention.
- NTA continues representing trapper by participate in podcasts and conventions.
- Fur Bearers Unlimited is changing their name to National Trappers Foundation.
- Copy of upcoming events in Wisconsin passed out.

FTA Convention Report – Ron Peters

- Update on trapping legislation and fur bans around the nation – Washington (defeated), Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, and Colorado.
- FTA is becoming more recognized and making valuable contacts as they **attend** more conservation groups and legislative meetings and conferences outside the trapping communities.
- Membership – Wisconsin: 156 and 16 life members.
- National Convention, June 13-15, 2024 in Harrisonburg, Virginia.
- Discussion about beavers, beaver trapping and population models in Wisconsin and how to solicit help from the FTA, when a lawsuit is initiated.
- ***Special BOD online meeting to be scheduled for approval of a donation to FTA before their Convention.***

Future Trappers of Wisconsin Report – Mike Kortenhof, Steve O’Mary

- Youth Trapper ED Camp, July 17 - 20, 2024 @ ‘Trees for Tomorrow’, Eagle River, Wisconsin. Camp is full w/waiting list. Looking for traps that the youth trappers can work on at camp and take home.
- No Name Gang Youth Trapper Ed Camp, June 10 -14, 2024 @ Wichman Farms, Marion, Wisconsin. Camp is also full and also looking for traps for the youth trappers.
- Wisconsin’s model of trap camps for youth and women are being well received and many states are looking at or have implemented copies of the model.
- Social media within the youth camps already exists, chat etc., but could be better organized. It does require parental consent forms to post pictures of the youth.

Merchandise Report – Jody Hamerla

- Total online sales for 2023 - \$3562.50. 6.8% increase, year over year from 2022.
- January 1 – March 11, 2024 (first quarter sales) - \$1160.00
- Banquet – in past years, actual merchandise has been provided for table game prizes rather than the \$\$ coupons used in the distant past, which have been difficult to deal with.
- New merchandise!!!
- Coloring books – have plenty (5 boxes), will check with Errin Kiesow-Webb before the trapper ed season to ensure adequate supply.
- Old, obsolete odds and ends from the merchandise trailer, for the heritage trailer??? Scott Mc Auley will take the box until the heritage trailer is ready.

Sportsman for Wetlands/ Conservation Report – Larry Meyers

- 56,000 acres in the Pelican River Forest, near Rhinelander was purchased in January 2024 using \$4,000,000 of State stewardship funds and \$12,000,00 from the U.S. Forestry Service.
- The Kincaid add-on to Princess Point Wildlife Area is expected to be open for the 2025 duck season.
- Spring Conservation Hearings
 - In – person: Monday, April 8, 2024 starting at 6:30 PM in all counties. Check the WCC Spring Hearing website for county locations.
 - On – line: April 10, 2024 starting noon thru April 13, 2024 end noon.
- The pre – disaster flood resilience program (Wisconsin State Statute 323.63) is available to communities experiencing flooding problems.
- The Sporting Coalition of Wetlands made up of 8 conservation organizations, including the WTA, is changing their bumper sticker (to include a muskrat). Cost to each organization is estimated to be \$200.00 to \$250.00.

New Business – Arnie Groehler

- Elections for President and NTA Coordinator at the WTA Fall Convention in Antigo, Wisconsin, September 7, 2024.
- Fall Sweepstakes Drawing – 2! Items, looking to get Menards and Kwik Trip gift cards donated, 7 guns are in process (\$2400.00 cost from Montello Holiday), chain saw carving will be done end of March. Tickets are \$10.00 a piece or 3 for \$20.00. Ticket packages will be sent to members. All prizes, but the handgun, will be on display at the convention.
- Corporate partnerships – regional and national corporations are looking to assist and promote organizations like ours, we should be directing more efforts to enlisting their support and would take pressure off the local vendors. Regarding membership list release, the WTA has in the past decided not to release that information without the membership approval.
- WTA Stipends – discussion about social media and what WTA wants to be included, sharing responsibilities, etc. to be ongoing. Job description and contracts exist. Bring all parties together, and come back to the board with a plan.

Motion to approve, for 2024, the current stipend positions, to the individuals currently receiving them, at the existing value amounts (no increases), made by Jim Gordon, seconded by Jacob Van Schyndel, motion passes unanimously.

- Ron Peters brought up what Minnesota is doing with their magazine (with examples) and the “Trapper Warrior 99 Club” they use as an additional revenue stream.
- The Conservation Congress question at the hearings is asking for a change to 6:00 AM from midnight.
- Announce Chris Bezio and Vicky Warner as ‘Hall of Fame’ inductees at both the General Membership Meeting and the evening Banquet.
- Sr. Woman’s Trap Setting Plaque has a sponsor.
- State of the Industry by Mike Wilhide – not much going on the wolf front. Trapping license sales across the country are on a rise. New trappers are not so concerned about prices, but more about predation and sustainability. Range fur prices are up 30%. However, Copenhagen is closing its doors and going out of business.

**Next BOD Meeting: Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 9 AM at the Ashley Shooting Club,
2290 Cty Road X, Mosinee, WI 54455**

**Motion to Adjourn made by Jacob Van Schyndel, second by Lee Sillars, passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned 12:00 PM by President Arnold Groelher**

Submitted by Scott Robb, Secretary

WTA Board of Director's Meeting (by email)

June 1, 2024

A motion to donate \$3000.00 to the FTA to be presented at their national convention banquet, June 13, 2024 in Harrisonburg, Virginia was made by Arnold Groehler, seconded by Scott Robb.

The general conscience of the board members was:

- The WTA should hold off on all donations until the Heritage Trailer has been purchased and the board has the latest updated financial reports following that purchase. Donations can be sent at a later date.
- All donations must have "for educational purposes" noted on the memo line to ensure the WTA maintains its' C3 non-profit status.

No vote was taken on the motion. The motion remains open and can be addressed at a future board meeting.

Submitted by Scott Robb, Secretary

WTA Board of Director's Meeting

July 6, 2024

Ashley Shooting Club, 2290 CTY Road X, Mosinee, WI 54455

Meeting Called to Order – President Arnold Groehler @ 9:03 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – present

President - Arnold Groehler, Vice President – Deb Koltis, Secretary – Scott Robb,
Treasurer -absent, NTA Director - Scott McAuley, Personnel & Finance - absent

District 1 Judy Floistad (proxy)

District 2 absent

District 3 Mike Kortenhof

District 4 Steve O'Mary

District 5 Jim Gordon

District 6 Ron Koltis

District 7 Brian Riske

District 8 absent

District 9 Allen Nickle (proxy)

District 10 Larry Meyer

District 11 Scott Schoenike (proxy)

Also, present - Jody Zuelsdorff (Merchandise), Ron Peters (FTA)

WTA Mission Statement - read by President Groehler

Call for New Business (agenda repair): None

Secretary's Report – Scott Robb

March 16, 2024 BOD minutes presented.

June email correspondence regarding FTA donation – to be addressed in the President's report.

Motion to accept March 16, 2024 Minutes as presented, made by Ron Koltis, second by Deb Koltis, motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Arnold Groehler for Russ Warmka

May 31, 2024 Financial Balance Sheet presented.

WTA has money; the heritage trailer will be the largest expense. Donations to organizations are being postponed until after the trailer purchase. No Spring Banquet report available. A discussion about issues occurring during the 2024 Spring Banquet and Convention @ Hotel Mead.

2025 Spring Banquet will be held @ La Sure's, 3125 S. Washburn Street, Oshkosh, WI

2025 Spring Convention will be hosted by Cobblestone Suites, 920-303-1133.

Motion to accept the May 31, 2024 Financial Report as presented, made by Scott McAuley, second by Ron Koltis, motion passes unanimously.

President's Report – Arnold Groehler

- 'The Beaver Institute', an international group, is looking to protect beavers for their 'GREEN' impact. Their current proposal is to eliminate trapping of beaver on the Milwaukee River; resulting in beavers redirecting waters away from the Deep-Water Tunnel. They champion the use of water diversionary devices in beaver dams to control flooding and the establishment of population goals. The WIDNR and The Beaver Institute have 6 months to satisfactorily resolve their differences on beaver before a lawsuit could be brought. **They're argument is how can beaver trapping be allowed when no population models exist to gauge the impact of trapping and its' effects on the beaver population and surrounding environment.** Consequently, other groups are looking at population modelling to restrict other hunting and trapping opportunities. The WTA's concern is that the WIDNR will give up trapping rights to appease these groups.
- The wolf issue has been quiet. Several legislative proposals have been created by: Rep. Tom Tiffany, and Senators Tammy Balwin and Ron Johnson to remove Great Lake Timber Wolves as endangered species. A long process is ahead. Montana has recently lost part of their season due to perceived conflicts with the grizzly bear.
- At the monthly meetings that the DNR held with outdoor group stakeholders, they disclosed that the WIDNR is financially going broke. This year they have a \$16 million short fall in their budget. Cuts are foreseeable in services and personal. DNR has request that the WTA subsidize the printing regulations as has occur consistently in the past. Last year there was a delay in getting regulations out to the public. This year regulations have been reviewed, corrected and are now ready for the printer. The goal for the state to combine all the outdoor regulations into a single regulation book.
- **A motion was made to provide the WIDNR with \$1500.00 for printing of the 2024-2025 Trapping Regulations, made by Larry Meyer, seconded by Al Nickel, motion passes unanimously.**
- Master's degree funding for Errin Kiesow-Webb, WTA provided the programs first year funding needs. Errin has secured additional funding for the program and has not approached the WTA for any further assistance. She will be reporting back on the program at the membership meeting this fall. The WTA also sponsored her to attend the 2024 Fur Takers' College (\$900.00) using funds donated back from last year's sweepstake raffle of the Fur Takers' college tuition prize.
- With the uncertainty of available funds with the trailer purchase; WTA will hold off presenting checks: but the conscience and desire is to donate funds to the FTA, NTA, sportsman's alliance and other worthwhile organization, annually, as funds are available.
- Insurance – in good standing with West Bend Mutual. Over charges from the past year were refunded to the WTA.

President's Report – Arnold Groehler (continued)

- Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – Brian Riske is currently the District 5 director, Arnie will be taking over as the new District 8 director. Trapping will be well represented.
- Active membership lists continue to be the biggest challenge. Deceased members need to be removed ... needs to be addressed by the districts. Encourage members to step up at both the district and state levels to move in and become the next leaders.
- Trap donations – as trappers and manufacturers are aging out of trapping, more are looking for places to liquidate or donate their trapping inventories. WTA may need to start a salvage and sorting program for used equipment.
- This will be Arnie last full Board of Director's meeting other than the acceptance of the membership voting at the Fall Convention. Thank you for your years of service as the WTA President and your ongoing commitment to the organization.

Vice President's Report – Deb Koltis

Membership challenges –

- SR. Life Membership – 65 YO, all application literature and media needs to be consistent.
- Recommending pruning the membership list at 2022.
- There is a need for a Membership Coordinator.
- In 2023, there were 4096 licensed Wisconsin trappers (does not include Conservation Patrons license holders which includes trapping).

Personnel and Finance Committee – Arnold Groehler for Lee Sillars

- FTW coordinator – still looking for someone.
- WTA By-Law Change Requirements were brought forward for consideration by the BOD. After lengthy discussion, the proposal will be taken up at the 2024 December BOD meeting.
- Director's duties need updating and made available to Directors in the form of a handbook. Directors should be signing that they have received the handbook and be held responsible for performing the duties. The duties should also be available on the WTA website (www.wistrap.org).

The board broke from session at 10:37 AM

The board resumed back into session at 10:50 AM

Convention update - Arnold Groehler for Julie Gabris

- Buttons – buttons are all done, no sample was brought to the meeting.
- Access Ability Wisconsin, Inc. has been invited to the convention to show case their products for individuals with limited mobility challenges. Product trials will be available with a modest, returnable depot.
- 2nd year at Antigo, WI. Currently vendor enrollments are a little down.

Convention update - Arnold Groehler for Julie Gabris (continued)

- District responsibilities – help always needed for setup and takedown, look to expand the core group of volunteers.
- Vendor feed on Thursday, historically short on salads and desserts. Antigo affords us ample storage, so a big plus. The donation jar needs to be consistently visible! Colored sheet in the vendor packet to say donations are appreciated.
- Trapperman feed is Friday.
- More signage needed. Handicap parking, etc., sawhorses available for signage.
- Main gate canopy, set up early before convention opens.
- Advertising – Antigo website for free advertising; newspaper, radio, billboards, fair marquee and banners. Published in trapper magazines. Encourage everyone to attend.
- For future consideration, getting a 'headliner' to increase draw into the convention.

FTA Convention Report – Ron Peters

- Arnie attended the FTA convention this year in Harrisonburg, VA.
- 2025 FTA convention will be held in Spencer, Iowa, 3rd week in July, dates are not yet determined. This is one week following the NTA national convention.
- In the future, there is a possibility of a combined FTA/NTA convention.
 - Thoughts on a combined NTA or FTA and state convention?
 - What are the advantages for the WTA to host a combined FTA/NTA convention financially?
 - Not wanting to do a convention in the middle of the summer, more toward trapping season.
- Air guns and traps may be added to the Pittman – Robertson Act (11% tax) in the future, allowing access to funding sources for related activities and education.
- The Colorado lawsuit related to Mountain Lion and Bobcat could have national implications.
- The WTA has a good relationship with the WIDNR, but there needs to be a separation between state government employees and the public.
- The trapping landscape is changing to ADC. In the future there may be a separation between ADC trapping vs. hobby trapping. Remote trap monitoring may be available to trappers as soon as this year.
- There is no lynx in Wisconsin, we do not want the added regulations imposed in states with a lynx population (Maine).

Future Trappers of Wisconsin Report – Mike Kortenhof, Steve O'Mary

- No Name Gang Youth Trapper Ed Camp was a success. 16 students.
- Youth camp at 'Trees for Tomorrow' is all set to go. 26 students
 - Tails and stick project for the kids ... collect tails to attach to the sticks.
 - A grant application was written, uncertain of the award yet.

Sportsman for Wetlands/ Conservation Report – Larry Meyers

- May was America's Wetland Month. Rep. Scott Johnson and Rep. Jenna Jacobsen both responded with positive feedback to being contacted by Larry Meyer concerning the importance of the WTA in wetland preservation efforts. Make contact with your legislators especially if they will be new.
- WIDNR is going broke, especially the fish and wildlife account. Services may need to be cut including LTE positions. The stewardship funds have been cut by legislators; possible funding solutions include: raising license fees, charging others user access fees, asking for an increase in the state's sales tax, and/or legislators providing increases in the stewardship funding. We could lose the State Trapper Education Coordinator position; along with cuts to services in state wildlife areas.

Merchandise Report – Jody Hamerla

- E-store sales typically decline during the summer. April through June 2024 sales were \$541.50.
- Three new items: a new patch, new hoody with contrasting sleeves, and a new zip-up hoody. Also new t-shirts and ball caps for the convention.
- Selling clearance items to reduce inventories.
- Banquet – sales are swinging back to cash from credit card usage. Total 2024 banquet sales were 1774.03 after fees (a 26% reduction from 2023).
- The merchandise trailer is now parked at Jody's apartment complex, free of charge, a saving of \$720/year in trailer storage fees.
- 2nd edition coloring books are almost ready for printing. Historically a 50/50 split in printing costs with the WIDNR. The FTA scholarship Fund has given the WCTEP a \$1500.00 grant ... contact Shawn Rossler and let him know this is the project to apply those funds toward.
- No more Animal Wildcards.

The board broke from session for lunch at 12:00 PM

The board returned back into session at 12: 30 PM

National Trapper's Association Report – Scott McAuley

- National Convention, July 25 – 27, 2024 @ W. H. Lyon Fairgrounds, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. WTA will be located in the Kid's Cave. Business meetings will occur Tuesday, July 23 and Wednesday, July 24. Scott Robb will attend as an alternate for Wisconsin.
- Construction of an Interpretative Center on the office grounds @ Belford, IN. building materials have been donated. A volunteer construction weekend will be arranged coming this fall.

National Trapper's Association Report – Scott McAuley (continued)

- Events attending– Green Bay, Wisconsin Dells, and the Miss Wisconsin contest – Miss Wisconsin Teen USA 2024, Olivia May Negri from Park Fall, WI contacted Scott McAuley to learn more about the WTA and has agreed to attend events with the WTA. She will receive a fur jacket for her appearances.
- Future Events attending - Farm Tech Days (Aug 13 – 15), Warrens Cranberry Festival (Sept 27-29), and the Waterfowl Expo (Aug 24, need volunteers) would like to demo raccoon trapping for the waterfowlers.

Heritage (historical) Trailer Update – Scott McAuley

- Two quotes received –
 - \$16800.00 no awning
 - \$15690.00 with an electric awning (I-39 Trailer)
 - Trailers are 20 ft long x 8.5 ft wide x 7 ft high with rear ramp and 4 ft side door, 10,000 lbs. capacity, 2-5/16 dia. ball hitch, recessed spare tire (in the floor) and 30-amp shore power box.
 - Recommendation from the trailer committee is to go with the \$15690.00 I-39 Trailer quote including with the awning. Can be pulled with a ½ ton truck.

Motion to proceed with the purchase of a trailer, from 'I-39 Trailer', Steve Van and Russ Warmka to coordinate to ensure funds availability; was made by Jim Gordon , seconded by Steve O'Mary, motion passes unanimously.

Districts choosing to support the purchase of the trailer with district funds, contact Steve Van to move those funds for the Heritage Trailer purchase.

- Start gathering items to be put into the trailer. Mary Kassity, historian, passed away, where might those historical items be located?
- Plaques – ongoing history of the officers that served the WTA and the 'Hall of Fame' recipients.

New Business – Arnie Groehler

- Elections for President and NTA Coordinator at the WTA Fall Convention in Antigo, Wisconsin, September 7, 2024.
- Jody Hamerla gave an update on the Women's Trap Camp.
 - Jenna Malinoski is lead organizer for the activities of the camp.
 - Merchandize will be available @ the Fall convention. Mike Wilhide donated booth space for the Women's Trap Camp.
 - 98 graduates (1 male) from 4 states and the United Kingdom.
 - Wisconsin resident first year trapper retention is greater than 65%.

New Business – Arnie Groehler (continued)

- Jenna and Bryant White (AFWA) submitted a grant to the Multi-State Conservation Grant Program to expand the Woman's Trap Camp program to 4 states asking for funding of a larger equipment trailer.
- This year's camp will be August 23 – 25 @ The Discovery Center, Manitowish Waters, WI. 31 Attendees, 15 Instructors, and 2 Jr. Instructors. New course materials include 2 webinars.
- Fall Sweepstakes update by Brian Riske – looking to get Menards and Kwik Trip gift cards donated, 7 guns are in process (\$2400.00 cost from Montello Holiday), Fisher chain saw carving donated by District 7. Ticket packages will be sent to members next week (~ June 9, 2024).
- Corporate partnerships – we should be directing more efforts to enlisting regional and national organizations support and would take pressure off the local vendors, examples: Vortex, Henry Rifles. Regarding membership list release, the WTA has in the past decided not to release that information without the membership approval.
- Membership list updates – continue to purge the membership lists for your districts. Eliminate non renewals, deceased members and transfer active members that have moved into other districts. Chris Bezio sponsored a single WTA Life Membership for membership renewal. WTA should consider a membership coordinator and adding membership drive.
- New business
 - discussion about transportation of auction items after the auction and distance to the parking area ... the parking area is moving.
 - Heritage Membership patches – gold patch?? Ron Peters will investigate.
 - Trap packages for Agriculture instructors teaching trapping in schools. Schools will buy the packages. Determine which schools may have an interest in your districts.

Next BOD Meeting: Saturday, September 7, 2024, immediately following the General Membership Meeting for ratification of the President and NTA Director positions at the Langlade County Fairground, 1633 Neva Road, Antigo, WI 54409

**Next Full BOD Meeting: Saturday, October 12, 2024, @ 9:00 AM
At the Ashley Shooting Club
2290 CTY Road X, Mosinee, WI 54455**

**Motion to Adjourn made by Steve O'Mary, second by Jim Gordon, passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned 1:43 PM by President Arnold Groehler**

Submitted by Scott Robb, Secretary

MINUTES FOR YOUR VIEWING: WILL BE APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING.

Wisconsin Trappers Association General Fall Meeting at the Langlade County Fairgrounds, Antigo, WI.

On Saturday, September 7, 2024, at 6:35 PM President Arnold Groehler called the meeting to Order.

Flag Pledge.

Mission statement was read.

Attendance was taken; President Arnold Groehler, Vice President Deb Koltis, Treasurer Russ Warmka, P & F Lee Sillars, NTA Liaison Scott McAuley were present. Secretary Scott Robb had excused (medical) absence. District 1 Proxy for Kevin Austin-Judy Floistad, District 2 Ron Kwasny, District 3 proxy for Michael Kortenhof-Jenna Malinowski, District 4 Steve O'Mary, District 5 Jim Gordon, District 6 Ron Koltis, District 7 Brian Riske, District 8 Jacob Van Schyndal-absent, District 9 proxy for Patrice Rhodes-Al Nickel, District 10 Larry Meyer, District 11 Michael Kluetzman was absent.

55 members signed the membership list, and all Districts were represented and present in the 55 members.

Secretaries Report by Acting Secretary Larry Meyer for Scott Robb. The minutes from the March 16, 2024, WTA General Meeting at Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. was presented to the members. Two corrections were noted by members: Page three middle of page "Any nominations can be forwarded to Al Nickel-Sergeant at Arms until September 7, 2024. NOT September 7, 2023. Page three bottom of page: The next membership meeting will be held at the Langlade County Fairgrounds in Antigo, Wisconsin on Saturday, September 7, 2024 @ 6:00 PM. NOT September 7, 2023. Junior Prudlick motion to accept the Secretaries Report from March 16, 2024. Seconded by Chris Hamerla. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report by Russ Warmka. Written report as of August 31, 2024, Total Liabilities and Equity--\$149,966.61.

Warmka reported that on Friday, September 6, 2024, 840 people paid attendance at the WTA Convention in Antigo, WI. 200 people paid attendance as of 10 AM Saturday, September 7, 2024.

Jim Gordon: Motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Ron Koltis. Motion passed.

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President's Report by Arnold Groehler

1. Election year, politicians are looking for endorsements from the WTA. The Sgt of Arms at the Wisconsin State Capital is a member of the WTA.
2. Beaver lawsuit. Waiting to see what happens, APHIS is involved. NTA may get involved, as their lawyers are very good.
3. WDNR financial crisis in Fish and Wildlife account. Took 22 million dollars from forestry. License fees have not increased in 20 years. Possible tax increase or charge other WDNR users like bird watchers, hikers, etc.
4. Arnold Groehler will not run for President, has some medical issues. Need leadership in future from younger members. We made it through the Covid years. Education is very important.

Vice Presidents Report: Deb Koltis

1. Went to Districts meetings and Rendezvous. Districts were very good hosts.
2. Erinn Kiesow Webb (WDNR Assistant Furbearer ecologist) has left to attend the fur Takers College in Indiana. WTA covering the expense. Erinn will be taking 10 people at a time on the trapline and questioned on the perceptions of trapping.
3. Vice President called Junior Prudlick to give a report on The Outdoor Heritage Trailer. Prudlick reported that Heritage trailer will have wiring, plexi-glass, they need a person who could design the trailer.
4. WTA Membership-working on it. Checking with other states on how they do their membership. Hope to have a report at our March 2025, General meeting.

Personnel and Finance Report by Lee Sillars.

1. We are still looking for a Future Trappers of Wisconsin Director.
2. Bi-laws will be printed in the Wisconsin Trapper Magazine.

NTA Report by Scott McAuley

1. Scott Robb attended the NTA meeting in South Dakota for Wisconsin.
2. NTA Convention in 2025 will be in Harrisonburg, Virginia. NTA Convention in 2026 will be in Richmond, Indiana.

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3. Miss. Wisconsin Teen Olivia Negri would like a sheared Beaver jacket. She will attend our events.
4. Beaver Lawsuit could happen in any state if passed. NTA may get involved. Both have the same expert witness. The NTA attorney is very good, his name is Gary Lestica.
5. Farm Tech days in 2025 will be about a mile from Jim Binders farm.

FTA Report Ron Peters. Peters is on the FTA BOD's.

1. The FTA Convention will be from July 25 through 27, 2025.
2. State of Colorado; fall election ballot to vote for eliminating bobcat and mountain lion hunting and trapping for fur or trophy. Dan Gates is an FTA member from Colorado that is on the BOD's.
3. There are only 144 FTA members from Wisconsin. We need more members from Wisconsin.

President Arnold Groehler recognized the following organizations that WTA is involved with:

1. Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. Brian Riske is an associate director from District 5 and Arnold Groehler is the State affiliate Director from WTA.
2. Sporting Coalition for Wetlands, eight organizations including WTA.
3. Women's Trap Camp, and two youth camps directed by Mike Kortenhof and Steve O'Mary (No name Gang).

Women's Trap Camp report by Jenna Malinowski

1. Total of 129 Graduates since the Women's Trap Camp started.'
2. Putting on a women trap camp class cost between 9 thousand and 10 thousand dollars. Applying for a \$120,000 Grant.
3. In 2024 we graduated 31 students from WTC.
4. Need a new trailer, a double axel trailer.

Correspondence and online trapper Education Report by Mike Widner

1. As of September 3, 2024, we have 112 online graduates and 27 CC graduates.

Wolf Report by Arnold Groehler (Mike Wilhite had to leave for another convention). No new news on wolves.

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WDNR Report by Shawn Rossler, Furbearer Ecologist

1. Name tags for all Trapper Ed Instructors. If not picked up, will mail them to the instructors.
2. Trapping regulations should be available in about 10 days.
3. Bobcat Fisher and Otter: Will be collecting samples. Otters will collect the jaw on trappers first otter catch of season, trappers will get a letter on collecting the jaw.

Voting: Called for any other nominations by VP Deb Koltis:

Member nominated Larry Meyer. Larry Meyer refused, saying he supported Scott Zimmerman for President. After three announcements for nominations, Junior Prudlick made a motion to close the nominations for President.

Seconded by Steve O'Mary. Motion passed.

President Groehler called for nominations for NTA Liaison. After three announcements of nominations, Virgil Schroeder made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Jim Gordon. Motion passed.

Next meeting (Spring meeting WTA) will be in March 2025 at the Oshkosh Lasaur Hotel, Oshkosh, WI.

Virgil Schroeder suggested that WTA host FTA or NTA in Wisconsin. President Groehler discouraged the suggestion because of cost and organization.

Al Nickel, Sgt. at Arms announced the election results:

NTA Liaison for WTA: Scott McAuley.

President of WTA: Scott Zimmerman

Scott Zimmerman: Motion to adjourn. Seconded by Chris Baumgart.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Minutes prepared by Larry Meyer, Acting Secretary for the WTA.

MINUTES FOR YOUR VIEWING; WILL BE APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING

Wisconsin Trappers Association BOD's meeting on Ratification of the Election Results on Saturday, September 7, 2024, at the Langlade County fairgrounds, Antigo, WI.

7:46 PM Meeting called to order by President Arnold Groehler.

Roll Call present: President Arnold Groehler, Vice President Deb Koltis, Secretary Scott Robb, excused absence (medical), Treasurer Russ Warmka, Personnel and Finance Lee Sillars, NTA Director Scott McAuley, District 1 proxy for Kevin Austin-Judy Floistad, District 2 Ron Kwasny, District 3 proxy for Mike Kortenhof-Jenna Malinowski, District 4 Steve O'Mary, District 5 Jim Gordon, District 6 Ron Koltis, District 7 Brian Riske, District 8 Proxy for Jacob VanSchyndal-Dan Cichantek, District 9 proxy for Patrice Rhodes-Al Nickel, District 10 Larry Meyer, District 11 Michael Kluetzman-Absent.

Motion by Jim Gordon to accept the election results: President Scott Zimmerman and NTA Liaison Scott McAuley. Seconded by Ron Koltis. Motion passed.

Motion by Scott McAuley: Change the signer from former President Arnold Groehler to current President Scott Zimmerman at our Associate Bank Account. Seconded by Dan Cichantek. Motion passed.

Motion by Jim Gordon to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Al Nickel. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Prepared by Acting Secretary Larry Meyer for the WTA

Wisconsin Trappers Association BOD's meeting at the Ashley Gun Club, 2290 County Road X, Mosinee, WI., on Saturday, October 12, 2024.

President Scott Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.
Pledge of Alliance to the US Flag.

Roll call: President Scott Zimmerman, Vice President Deb Koltis, Treasurer Russ Warmka, Secretary Scott Robb-excused absence (medical), Personnel and Finance Lee Sillars, NTA Director Scott McAuley, District 1 Judy Floistad proxy for Kevin Austin, District 2 Ron Kwasny, District 3 Mike Kortenhof, District 4 Steve O'Mary, District 5 Jim Gordon, District 6 Ron Koltis, District 7 Brian Riske, District 8 Jacob Van Schyndal, District 9 Al Nickel proxy for Patrice Rhodes. District 10 Larry Meyer. District 11 is currently vacant.
Other people in attendance: Jody Zuelsdorff WTA Merchandise Coordinator, Erinn Kiesow-Webb, Assistant Furbearer ecologist-WDNR, John Erwin former WTA President and host, Junior Prudlick from District 5.

President Zimmerman read the mission statement. Motion by Ron Koltis to accept the mission statement. Seconded by Al Nickel. Motion passed.
Will revisit the mission statement, not to change content but to look at the wording.

Agenda Repair: Erinn Kiesow-Webb and Scott McAuley will be moved up as they have to leave early. Al Nickel will talk about the Sandhill Wildlife area and Trapper Education. Larry Meyer will give the Conservation Report.

Erinn Kiesow-Webb reported that research project will start on November 1, 2024, in the Madison, Wisconsin area. The red fox will be targeted with cable restraints and foothold traps. Three undergraduate techs will be assisting. The red fox will be collared with GPS and a blood draw will be taken. Five different members from the public will attend each day and will fill out a survey. This research project will go till January or February 2025.

Secretary's Report by Acting Secretary Larry Meyer: The minutes from BOD's Meeting on September 7, 2024, were sent to all BOD's members. Corrections were made. Minutes are on the WTA website. Motion by Scott McAuley to

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accept the Secretaries report that was sent to the BODs by email. Second by Lee Sillars. Motion passed.

Financial Report by Russ Warmka: A written report from the 2024 fall Convention in Antigo, WI. Total Income was \$68,630. Total expense was \$16,123.28. Profit was \$52,506.23. Attendance at the gate, not including vendors, was 1373. Friday night Auction brought in \$6981.

No WTA financial report was given, as this report was just given in September 2024. No motions were made.

President's Report: Scott Zimmerman

1. Year around coon season. Take to the Districts to see what they say. President is against having year around coon season. Hard to change the seasons.
2. County Deer Advisory Councils. Extending the deer season into January keeps trappers off the private property until February. Can not have good coon, and they are not harvested.
3. WTA Auction at Convention on Friday night. Asked that no donations from vendors be collected on Friday except for the Friday night auction. Other donations can be collected on Saturday.
4. WTA Districts should not be buying items at the Friday night Auction, we are not taking in money for WTA, as the district's money is WTA money. Also Districts out bid individual buyers. We will revisit this before September 2025.
5. Parking at the fall convention: We need more help with parking, with people wearing vests.
6. Traps with teeth, want to save these traps. President wrote a letter to WDNR to keep traps with teeth for water sets.
7. WTA has not been listed as an FTA affiliate for the last two years. We are now listed as Fur Takers of America Affiliate.
8. WTA is now listed as asking our legislators to have restrictions on the use of wake boats, along with many other organizations.
9. WDNR audit is going to occur. They asked Ex-President Arnold Groehler questions on Trapper Education.
10. P & F contracts are not up to date on people getting paid for annual services to WTA.

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11. Scotch Creek, Edgar, Wisconsin, restoration project. We cannot help them financially. They are applying for Grants. This is in District 6.

NTA Report by Scott McAuley: NTA will have a workshop Nov. 8 and 9, 2024. Bad time of year to have a workshop.

Will WTA Sponsor a Wood County Wildlife Area (21,000 acres). People will mow and clean up walking trails. A plaque will be put up showing that WTA is sponsoring this wildlife area. BODs agreed to this.

Vice Presidents report: Deb Koltis

1. Trapper Education class to be given to military veterans at Victory Camp, Willard, WI. starting Oct. 19, 2024.
2. The WTA name is Trade Name.
3. WTA membership-checking with the Upper Peninsula Michigan Trapper's Association, where districts keep the membership and collect the money.
(Membership drive-get a list of license trappers from WDNR)
Needs software, will check with NTA.

Personnel and Finance Report by Lee Sillars

1. We are still looking for an FTW Coordinator. Will advertise in the Trapper magazine and on the website.
2. A list of the district director's responsibilities was provided. There was a verbal acceptance of district responsibilities by the BOD's.
3. A list of the WTA bylaw change requirements was presented in writing.
Scott McAuley made the following motion: Change the wording to 'Bylaw change Policy" and eliminate the following "Any deviation from these approved bylaw change requirements will invalidate any bylaw changes", will be made on the bylaws. Second by Ron Kwasny.
Motion passed.

Merchandise Report by Jody Zuelsdorff was in writing.

1. Fall Convention sales total \$7035, a 15.13% increase from 2023 convention, but items were more expensive in 2024.
2. The cost of printing and embroidered items is much higher.

Page Four (merchandise report continued)

Online sales of merchandise are down. July 1, 2024, through Sept. 30, 2024, was \$467.

3. Information on Future Trappers of Wisconsin is being printed on the back of the front page of the FTW Coloring book.
4. WTA trap tags for our convention. Suggested getting 100 tags printed and selling them at the next fall convention.

Scott McAuley stated that he has access to extra Wisconsin Trappers Magazines for people that want them.

Traps Camps: Mike Kortenhof

The 2024 Trap Camp cost \$9,000, we had 25 students-cost was \$125 per student. Next year's camp will be on July 23 through July 26, 2025.

No Name Trap Camp: Steve O'Mary

The cost is \$150 per student. Next camp will be at Crex Meadows in Burnett County on August 4 through 8, 2025.

Women's Trap Camp: Jody Zuelsdorf and Deb Koltis

The next camp will be on March 28 through 30, 2025 at the Sandhill Wildlife Area. The cost is \$100 per student. The class is already filled with 30 registered women.

WTA Sweepstakes by Brian Riske. A printed sheet was provided.

Profit from sale of sweepstake tickets was \$18350. Expense was \$6,851.88. Total profit put back into general account was \$11,498.12. Sweepstake prize donations, value of \$850. \$750 from District 7, \$100 from Fleet Farm.

1. Brian Riske suggested that sweepstake tickets should be \$20 apiece or 6 tickets for \$100.
2. Prevent any free tickets.

Motion by Scott McAuley: The Sweepstakes should be all cash. Second by Al Nickel. Motion passed.

President Scott Zimmerman: animal for 2025 fall convention: Possibly a bobcat. Will discuss more at next meeting.

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Report on Historical Trailer by Russ Warmka.

The cost of the trailer was \$15,000 plus. More cost is expected for setting up the inside of the trailer. Discussion on what items should go into the trailer.

Conservation Report by Larry Meyer (Written report)

1. Meeting with WWF and WDNR on budget problems in the WDNR. 19 participants. Heard about the financial problems in wildlife management and conservation wardens. No action taken.
2. Conservation Congress Fur Harvest Committee met August 17, 2024. Three advanced resolutions to District Council. 1. Jaw spread to 9 inches for water sets. 2. Beaver season on Upper Mississippi Wildlife refuge to open on same date as Wisconsin opening date. 3. Support a BMP rating on all jaw spreads of traps used in Wisconsin.
3. Recommend an increase in Bobcat permit application from \$6 to \$10, with \$5 being used for furbearer research.
4. Sporting Coalition for Wetlands: 1. WTA is on list with many other organizations to recommend legislators to have restrictions on wake boats. 2. Large restoration project in Meadow Valley Wildlife Area. Drainage ditches being converted to wetlands. Wisconsin Waterfowl Association is taking on the project.
5. WTA needs to encourage trappers to attend Spring Conservation hearings, especially in Richland County.

Report on Sandhill Wildlife Area by Al Nickel

Workshops on trapping have been held at Sandhill wildlife area for over 40 years. We need a plaque to put up recognizing trapper workshops at Sandhill Wildlife Area.

President Zimmerman recommended a WTA game cookbook on cooking furbearer animals for food. More discussion on this at our next meeting.

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Discussion on having Paul Antczak (from Mountain man show) come back in 2025. Also, we talked about having water at our demo area at the convention. More discussion at our next meeting.

Discussion on trap donations to WTA. We should sell these traps on Friday night Auction, to make money for WTA.

President Zimmerman reported that Arnold Groehler will be handling insurance for WTA including Rendezvous and trapper Education Classes.

Discussion on trailer for the women's trapper education camp. Tabled for now to find out where trailers are and what we can do.

District reports or concerns:

District 2 reported that they will again have a sweepstakes, and their next meeting is in February 2025.

No other District reports.

Next BOD's meeting will be a virtual meeting (Zoom) on Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn by Al Nickel. Second by Ron Koltis. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.

Minutes prepared by Larry Meyer, acting Secretary for WTA