

Wisconsin Trappers Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Ashley Shooting Club Moisnee, WI
July 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Groehler at 9:00am. The pledge to the flag was recited by all present at the meeting. Those present were: President Arnie Groehler, Vice President Jeremy Ebner, Treasure Russ Warmka, Secretary Dylan Lucas, Personnel and Finance Lee Sillars, NTA Rep. Scott McAuley, Judy Floistad, Ron Kwansy, Mike Kortenhof, Jim Gordon, Chris Hamerla, Brian Riske, Ken Skattebo, Larry Meyer. Steve O'Mary, Patrice Rose, and Mike Kluetzman were absent.

President Groehler read the WTA mission Statement.

There were no agenda repairs.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE MARCH 20, 2021 MEETING MINUTES BY ARNIE GROEHLER AND SECONDED BY JEREMY EBNER.

Russ Warmka presented the financial report. The Spring banquet had a good outcome and did well for the WTA. Questions about the Dan Busch scholarship came up for discussion again. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY Jim Gordon and seconded by Lee Sillars. MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: President Groehler talked about the proposal of shooting muskrats and beavers within 50' of roadway stemming from an ongoing northern Wisconsin beaver problem with road right of ways. Changes to the nuisance trapping page contact form was brought up to have no direct affiliation to the WTA. Railroad Crossing continues to be an issue and is an ongoing battle. The badger season passed all the way through senior DNR official but was shot down by the governor. Question was asked if the WTA will pay for paper copies of the 21/22 trapping regulation. A MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR WISCONSIN TRAPPING REGULATIONS PRINTED COPIES PAID FOR BY WTA NOT TO EXCEED 1,500\$ BY Jeremy Ebner seconded by Larry Meyer. MOTION CARRIED. WTA working on insurance issues but gaining good ground. Raising trapper's education was discussed and a MOTION WAS MADE BY Larry Meyer TO RAISE TRAPPERS' EDUCATION FOR 12.00\$ TO 20.00\$ SECONDED BY Jeremy Ebner MOTION WAS LEFT ON THE TABLE. Increase interest in the Heritage Fund and develop it more.

P & F Comm; Lee Sillars presented the budget to the board. Event coordinator is in need and to start advertising for the position. Use same budget as last year but increase by 10,000\$ for insurance and contributions to the NTA and FTA. Review budget for electronic vote. A MOTION TO KEEP THE SAME BUDGET BUT ADD 10,000\$ WAS MADE BY Lee Sillars.

Larry Meyer gave a report on the Sporting Coalition for Wetlands that he represents the WTA on. The 5\$ increase on the Wisconsin State Duck stamp was approved by the joint finance

committee and is expected to be approved by the senate and state and signed into law. Wisconsin Farm Bureau is in support of trapping and pushed to have a Wisconsin wolf season. WFB could be a great ally for WTA. Trying to come up with a buffer strip law along waterways and would want their support. Recent trip to the Horicon marsh DU and WDNR talked about the importance of trapping. The next wetland meeting will be July 30th.

NTA report; Scott McAuley talked about the NTA convention that will be held on July 20-22 in Spencer Iowa. Scott will be at Farm Tech Days and NTA booths. Farm tech days booth may need help Wednesday and Thursday 9am-4pm. There is a booth at Cranberry Fest.

FTA report; Ron Peters: There will be a women's trap camp that will receive 2,000\$ from the FTA. Two people were voted on to attend trapper college paid for by the FTA. Big donation to New Mexico for the loss of funds due to the fight for trapping rights on public land loss. FTA hired a business Director. 2023 FTA convention in Wisconsin.

Break 11:00-11:20

FTW report; Dick McCarthy: 16 kids are signed up for the FTW camp. No insurance required for the camp. Question for districts to pay 250.00\$ to fund the camp. The Trees for Tomorrow trap camp will be held July 28-30th, 2021.

WCTEP report; There may be a potential surge for trappers' education due to the wolf season. 4 wolf trapping courses in early September or October needs finalizing. There is women trap camp scheduled for September 24,25,26th 2021. There are 30 students signed up and 8 instructors. A MOTION BY Mike Kortenhof for WTA to fund up to 1,000\$ for the women's trap camp as needed SECONDED BY Judy Floistad MOTION CARRIED. District 5 donates 500\$, District 6 donates 150\$, and district 7 donates 250\$ for the women's trap camp.

Merchandise report: Merchandise continues to sell, did well at the spring banquet. Proposal to make WTA buttons for the WTA convention. Different colored buttons for members and non-members.

WTA positions: President Groehler appointed Dylan Lucas as WTA's secretary for the remainder of the time until next election. MOTION TO NOMINATE DYLAN LUCAS AS WTA SECRETARY WAS MADE BY Jeremy Ebner SECONDED BY Larry Meyer. MOTION ACCEPTED.

Furbearer report: Same quota guidelines for otter for 2021/2022. Less than 2,000 otters taken in 2020. 53 Bobcats were taken by the tribe members. Fishers are moving more and more south permits are 100 or so.

Conservation Congress report: 3 zone muskrat zone did not go through. No early season cable restraint season either. 2021/2022 will no longer require DNR to come put Cites tag on otter they will send one in the mail. The midnight opener for muskrat season is still up in the air.

Awards: John Olson was awarded into the Wisconsin Trappers Hall of Fame.

Fall Sweepstakes: They will have many items from Trapper Art's Estate. Mounted animals, tanned animal furs, grizzly bear trap, trap tag collection. Estimated 2000 mail outs resulting in mailing stuffing issue looking for easier ways to get it done.

2021 WTA Convention in Marshfield: About $\frac{3}{4}$ full for vendors. Noon start Wednesday for set up Thursday is the vendor feed by district 6. Chairs, tables, bathrooms are ready to go. Looking for a sponsor for the tent. Busy Saturday morning leading into sweepstakes at 4:30, awards at 5:00 and 6:00pm membership meeting. Hospitality event with Jeff Everson. MOTION MADE BY Jim Gordon TO FUND 500.00\$ FOR HOSPITALITY FUND SCONDED BY Brian Riske. MOTION CARRIED.

Next WTA BOD Meeting October 9th 2021 at Ashley Shooting Club Mosinee, WI.

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY Jim Gordon and seconded by Lee Sillars. MOTION CARRIED. 1:50PM

Submitted by: Dylan Lucas

