

Wisconsin Trappers Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Stage Stop Inn, Mosinee, Wi
June 29, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Arnold Groehler at 9:04 am. The pledge to the flag was recited by all present. Roll call was taken by Sec. Kirchmeyer. Those present were; Pres. Arnie Groehler, VP Jr. Prudlick, Sec. Rich Kirchmeyer, NTA rep. Scott McAuley, Mike Kortenhof, Jim Gordon, Chris Hamerla, Brian Riske, Larry Meyer, and Mike Kluetzman. Judy Floistad was a proxy for Stan Hoeft, and Dan Carroll was a proxy for Patrice Rhodes. John Bauer and Treas. Russ Warmka were excused. Dave Louis was unexcused. Also present were Lee Sillars (P&F) and Jim Binder (WCTEP)

Pres. Groehler recited the WTA mission statement.

Agenda Repair; M. Kortenhof asked to add if the WTA would sponsor an event Dist. No. 3 will attend, Social media and mussel research project. (C. Hamerla)

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE March 16, 2019 WTA BOD MEETING MINUTES AS PREVIOUSLY EMAILED TO BOD MEMBERS WAS MADE BY J. Gordon and seconded by J. Floistad. MOTION CARRIED.

Pres. Groehler went over the financial statement provided by S. Van. The WTA is financially stable but not flush. R. Kirchmeyer asked for a financial profit and loss from the Spring Banquet. The WTA BOD has requested in the past that all committee chairs to give such a report in a timely matter. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY S. McAuley and seconded by D. Carroll. MOTION CARRIED.

Pres. Report; Pres. Groehler informed the BOD that he has been in Madison many times representing the WTA and many legislators don't know anything about the WTA and trapping.

VP report; VP Prudlick has been working on implementing a Heritage Donors Club. This club gives WTA members and sponsor capabilities to donate to the WTA above and beyond paying membership dues. A special patch is going to be the award for this club. Jr. would like the WTA to have a 20- foot trailer to store artifacts that he has collected and other WTA artifacts that that people would like to donate and be displayed in the trailer and special events. A MOTION WAS MADE FOR THE WTA TO PURCHASE A 20 FOOT TRAILER TO BE USED FOR DISPLAYING WTA ARTIFACTS was made by J. Gordon and seconded by J. Floistad. MOTION CARRIED.(No actual WTA monies will be spent on trailer) Any person or business can donate towards the purchasing of the trailer. R. Kirchmeyer commented that Larry Vanderhoff is the present WTA Historian and some one should check with him about what he has, and should it be included in this new trailer.

P&F Report; L. Sillars informed the BOD that Deb Koltis and Shawn Bazille have volunteered to be on the P&F committee. The committee is interested in creating a Social Media Director position for the WTA. This person would help with Face Book and the WTA web-site and other social media areas the WTA BOD is interested in to promote the WTA.

A MOTION TO CREATE A WTA SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR POSITION WITH A STIPEND OF \$1000.00 WHICH WILL BE GOOD UNTIL DEC. 31ST, 2019. AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE WTA BOD (Jan. 2020). THE POSITION WILL BE REEVALUATED. The motion was made by L. Meyer and seconded by B. Riske. Discussion; How will this directly profit the WTA, nothing in the 2019 budget, at what cost will this be for a full year, and can the WTA afford such an expense even if it does let people know what the WTA does. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION TO ALLOW PRES. A. GROEHLER TO APPOINT A WTA SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR WAS MADE BY B. Riske and seconded by C. Hamerla. The P&F committee will procure a contract and job description for a WTA Social Media Director. A contract needs to be produced for a 5- year period for the position of WCTEP coordinator. The initial start of the contract will be April 1st, 2019.

The WTA has 3 stipend positions dealing with trapping they are as follows; WCTEP cord. \$4,000.00, Jim Binder, Wolf Trapper Ed. Cord. \$2,000.00, Mike Wilhte, Trapper Ed. Correspondence Cord., \$4,000.00 Mike Widner. A MOTION TO OFFER THE 3 WTA TRAPPER ED CORD. POSITIONS EACH A 5 YEAR CONTRACT WAS MADE BY J. Gordon and seconded by M. Kluetzman. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE PRINTING OF THE 2019-2020 TRAPPING REGULATIONS WITH A \$1,500.00 DONATION WAS MADE BY D. Carrol and seconded by B. Riske. MOTION CARRIED.

Pres. Groehler asked if there are any nominations for the WTA Vice Presidents position which is held presently by Jr. Prudlick. Jr is not seeking re-election. THANK YOU, JR., FOR ALL YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE WTA AS OUR Vice President. Pres. Groehler asked the BOD to help find a potential candidate for the WTA VP position.

WCTEP Report; Jim Binder gave his official e-mail address to the BOD that he will use for trapper ed. The address is; WCTEP@gmail .com. Jim is working with Bobby Mack on producing some trapping videos. Eventually the whole trapper ed program will be available on video. He has 12-15 trapper ed kits which are now available to be delivered to Ag teachers.

NTA Report; S. McAuley said the 2019 NTA convention will be held in Springfield, Mo. On July 11-12-13. Scott asked and was given permission to purchase 10 NTA fry pans for raffles/auctions for the WTA at the cost of \$10.00 per pan. Scott has a muskrat blanket that was produced by Wild Things. The pelts were donated by Dan Carrol, and the tanning paid for by Scott McAuley. The WTA has \$900.00 invested in the blanket for sewing. Scott suggested that a raffle be started for the blanket and sell tickets at some of the events he attends. Wild Things does have some muskrat hides left which some hats could be made and used for raffle items or the WTA auction.

FTA Report; The WTA did not receive the bid for the 2021 FTA convention. It is possible we could host the event in 2022 but the WTA will need to find a facility that is climate controlled.

Merchandise Report; Sales have been slow. The WTA merchandise trailer is now stored indoors. There is a need for a new cash register for selling merchandise. The BOD supported the purchasing of a cash register.

FTW Report; Maddie Riske is the new FTW Pres. The FTA presently has 16 members. The FTW is hoping to recruit volunteers to help at the WTA Fall Rondy. There are 11 youth signed up for the 2019 Trees for

Tomorrow Aug. 7th to the 10th Trap Camp. A neighboring landowner has a beaver problem so hopefully the youth will get to trap some beaver. Any district can contribute money to the Trap Camp.

There is going to be a Learn to Trap event held at the Richard Bong facility on July 31st in Kenosha County. There is space for 30 youth.

The Fall WTA Rondy will be held in Marshfield at the fair grounds on Sept. 6th and 7th. Bryce Larson is in charge of the demo area. Judy Floistad has a design for the 2019 buttons and is starting to produce them. The WTA contract for the Marshfield fair grounds is good for 2019 and 2020. The WTA may need to look for other venues to hold our fall rondy at in the future. The WTA Fall raffle is ready, and tickets are available. Prizes are; Golden Hawk canoe, skinning machine, Henry gun, and fur garments.

New Bus; A discussion was had about the use of foot snares for bear in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Bear Hunters Assoc., Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the WDNR bear committee has not support such a method to harvest bears in the past. A comment was made that maybe if the WTA would support the hunting of fisher with hounds the hound men might support the foot snaring of bear. The BOD will ask the membership what position or positions they would support or not support at the 2019 Fall Rondy. The WTA membership in the past has unanimously not supported the use of hounds to hunt fisher, the membership would have to reverse their position if they wanted to make a deal with the hounds' men. Some comments were made that the WTA website needs to be updated The WTA by-laws are not posted and a BOD director does not have access to a proxy letter. A question was asked about a poster advertising the 2019 WTA Fall Rondy.

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE WTA BOD MEETING AT 1:45 pm was made by S. McAuley and seconded by C. Hamerla. MOTION CARRIED.

The next WTA BOD meeting will be held on Oct. 12th, 2019 at the Stage Stop Restaurant in Mosinee.

Respectfully Submitted by;

Richard Kirchmeyer

Sec. WTA