

Wisconsin Trappers Association  
Board of Director Meeting Minutes  
Stoney Creek Inn Rothschild, Wi.

March 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Groehler at 9:00 am. The pledge to the flag was recite by all present. Those present were: Pres. Arnie Groehler, VP. Jeremy Ebner, Treasurer Russ Warmka, Sec. Richard Kirchmeyer, NTA Rep. Scott McAuley, Ron Kwansy, Mike Kortenhof, Steve O'Mary, Jim Gordon, Chris Hamerla, Brian Riske, Ken Skattebo, Mike Kluetzman, and Larry Meyer. Judy Floistad was a proxy for Stan Hoeft. Denny Knuth was a proxy for Patrice Rhodes. P&F Committee Lee Sillars had a excused absence.

Pres. Groehler read the WTA mission statement.

There were no agenda repairs.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE JAN. 09, 2021 MEETING MINUTES THAT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY EMAILED TO ALL B.O.D. MEMBERS BY Jim Gordon and seconded by Denny Knuth. MOTION CARRIED.

Russ Warmka presented the financial report. There were some questions about some line items, but none were controversial. One question was about the Dan Busch scholarship. Sec Kirchmeyer will look into past minutes to see what was to be done with these scholarship monies. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY Jim Gordon and seconded by Jeremy Ebner. MOTION CARRIED.

Pres. Report: Pres. Groehler said that 2021 will be called the year of the wolf by WTA. WTA is in need of a Convention coordinator. Pam Mathers is interested in stepping down. Currently WTA needs nominations for all awards. If you have anyone you would like to nominate for one of the awards available. PLEASE contact Chris Bezio. The WTA is working on insurance issues. Pres. Groehler introduced the interim V.P. of WTA Jeremy Ebner.

P&F Comm; President Groehler reported for Lee Sillars that the committee is working on redoing the Convention Cord. Position duties and are looking for qualified candidates to fill the position. They are also working on the Social Media cord. position job duties. The 2022 Budget will be ready for the June/July BOD meeting. The 2022 budget will then need to be approved at the Fall WTA Convention membership meeting.

Larry Meyer gave a report on the Sporting Coalition for Wetlands that he represents the WTA on. A MOTION THAT THE WTA BOD SUPPORTS THE PROPOSED RAISE IN DUCK STAMP FEES IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR 2021 AS LONG AS THE MONIES GOES TO WETLAND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT WAS MADE Richard Kirchmeyer and seconded by Scott McAuley. MOTION CARRIED.

NTA Report; Scott McAuley stated that the annual NTA Convention will be held on July 20-22 in Spencer, Iowa. The NTA is promoting a deer antler donation program, if you donate 10 pounds of antlers you can

get into the convention free. (No skull plates can be attached) Scott will have the WTA booth at Farm Tech Days which are held July 20-22. Scott needs help with manning the booth.

FTA Report: A MOTION THAT THE WTA PUT A BID INTO THE FTA TO SPONSOR THE 2023 ANNUAL FTA CONVENTION WAS MADE BY Jim Gordon and seconded by Brian Riske. MOTION CARRIED.

FTW Report: Dick McCarthy has scheduled the annual Trees for Tomorrow trap camp for July 28-30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The FTW needs youth to join the group so they can become functional again. Any WTA District can donate to the Trap Camp. Donations are appreciated because this means there is not such a huge expense to the youth and their families.

WCTEP Report; Mike Widner reported that the correspondence course still has a lot of people taking this type of course. In 2021 he graduated 459 trappers from this course. 2021 already has 260 graduated so far. June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, will be the last day that you can take the correspondence course and not be required to take a field test also.

Wolf Cord. Report: Mike Whilhite is looking forward to being able to provide Wolf Trapping Classes in the upcoming months. It is not mandatory to take a wolf trapping class to trap wolves here in Wisconsin but if you want to attend such a class it is rewarding to be able to get knowledge from expert wolf trappers. (Est. cost \$20.00) Mike and others are working on putting together 6 wolf trapping kits to be used throughout the state for these classes. There was some discussion on the present wolf application date and permit allocation time. A MOTION THAT THE WTA BOD PROMOTES THE APPLICATION DEADLINE TIME BE CHANGED FROM AUGUST 01 TO DECEMBER 10 OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR WAS MADE BY Scott McAuley and seconded by Mike Kortenhof. MOTION CARRIED. (This allows more time for a harvest permit holder to get ready for the harvest season)

WCTEP Report; Jim Binder There are an estimated 360 qualified instructors for the Trapper Ed classes in Wisconsin. A MOTION TO EXTEND THE QUALIFICATION TIME TO STAY QUALIFIED TO BE A TRAPPER ED INSTRUCTOR BE CHANGED FROM 3 YEARS TO 4 YEARS (You will need to teach one class in a four-year period to stay qualified) WAS MADE BY Mike Kortenhof and seconded by Steve O'Mary. MOTION CARRIED. A MOTION THAT THE WTA BOD SUPPORTS BUYING LIABILITY INSURANCE TO COVER TRAPPER ED COURSES, ALSO ASKING THAT THE DNR CO-PAY THIS INSURANCE AND ALSO THAT THE FEE CHARGED FOR THE TRAPPER ED CLASSES BE INCREASED TO HELP PAY FOR THE LIABILITY INSURANCE WAS MADE BY Brian Riske and seconded by Judy Floistad. MOTION CARRIED. Jim is trying to put together a Women's Trap Camp.

New Business; Jody Hamerla informed all that there are 2020 convention buttons and shirts available.

Richard Kirchmeyer informed the WTA BOD that he will be officially resigning as WTA Secretary at the end of the WTA Membership meeting later today. He informed the BOD that he has been elected to the V.P. position of the Wisconsin Bowhunters Assoc. and is in the process of starting a new Church which he also serves as the President of that council. To many things to do and too little time.

Brian Riske recommended that the proceeds from a table at the Spring Membership convention be designated to the two trap camps each and every year. The WTA BOD agreed.

Next WTA BOD Meeting; July 10,2021 9:00 a.m. (Place to be designated)

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY J. Gordon and seconded By S. McAuley. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted by; Richard Kirchmeyer WTA Sec.