

MOTWS Minutes of Executive Board Meeting -11/05/09

Attendees: Rochelle (Ro) Renken -President, Alan Leary - Treasurer, Kevin Hedgpeth - President Elect, Debra Burns-Board Member at Large, Jeff Esely-Secretary, John Vogel-Past President, and Liz Ball-Professional Development Workshop Committee Head.

Meeting called to order by Rochelle at 10am.

Old Business:

- The board had discussion of the revisions to the operations manual.
 1. John reviewed new changes to the manual. Rochelle indicated that the perpetual Sydney Stephens award plaque is actually located at the MDC RS office rather than Runge, and that the Runge award perpetual plaque is located at Runge nature center. Alan suggested that we need to get an electronic backup copy of the artwork for the various awards in case Larsigns Engraving or Red Weir Athletic supplies go out of business. Rochelle indicated she would talk to Red Weir about this and Alan would talk to Larsigns.
 2. John indicated that we probably needed more information in the manual pertaining to the travel grant. The group discussed whether the manual needs to address deadlines for applying for the travel grant. John asked if preference should be given to people applying for funds to attend the TWS meeting, but the group felt that equal priority should be given for any wildlife related travel requests. The group decided that a single deadline of January 15 for the next year's grants would be appropriate. This deadline would be announced in the December newsletter. John suggested that we include the travel grant application form in the manual as an appendix.
 3. It was decided that "corresponding with TWS student chapters" should be removed from the "Board Member" duties, and would be replaced with "assist officers with duties as needed".
 4. Alan felt that the Treasurer's first official duties should be listed as beginning in January-March.
 5. Alan asked if checking the MU Graduate Fellowship account balance was a necessary duty for the Treasurer and the group felt that was.
 6. It was decided that checking the mail should be listed under the President's duties but there should be a statement that the president could designate a TWS member to check the mail.
 7. It was decided that the Chapter website updates would be removed from Secretary duties.
- The board then approved the operations manual revisions with the above mentioned changes and the board commended John and the committee for the excellent work done on the Manual revisions.
- John then led discussion on the proposed revisions to the Chapter bylaws.
 1. It was decided that the date at which dues are due should be revised. It was decided that members must pay their dues by the end of the year in order to vote at the following business meeting.

2. The board felt that the statement: “Members who have not paid current-year dues in the Society at the international level shall lose their voting membership status in the Missouri Chapter, but may retain affiliate membership status” should be removed. John will contact Shannon Pederson to see if Nationals will be OK with this.
3. John indicated that he reformatted Article VIII, Section 2, and asked if this reformatting needed to be voted on. Rochelle indicated that all changes to the bylaws will be voted on in one packaged vote.
4. John will make the above mentioned changes and then send the bylaws to Nationals for approval, and then the changes will be voted on at the business meeting.

New Business

- Rochelle introduced Liz Ball. Rochelle indicated that she felt it would be good to have an ad hoc committee to plan an annual professional workshop. The board agreed that this was a good idea. Liz has indicated that she would like to become more involved with the Chapter and Rochelle recommended that she head up this committee. The board gave Liz some information regarding the previous workshop and provided some additional logistical recommendations to help her in planning the next event. Rochelle indicated that one of the goals of the workshop is to make our members feel as if they are getting something out of being a member of MOTWS. Kevin suggested that we pursue getting MDC leadership academy course accreditation for the workshop. Deb recommended speaking to Emilie Hill about this. Any other ideas that board members have should be directed to Liz.
- Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study: Rochelle indicated that the Chapter may want to get involved with this study. Alan suggested that we form an ad hoc committee to potentially put together a position statement. John recommended that we call upon the Resolutions and Public Statements Committee for this. Rochelle indicated that unfortunately we don't currently have a chair to this committee. Kevin suggested that we contact the TWS national organization to see if they have additional information about the study. Potential people to head the committee are: Brian Canaday, Janet Sternburg, Doyle Brown, Dan Witter, Dave Erikson, Dave Urich, and Tom Bell. Rochelle will approach these to try to recruit a committee head.
- Annual Meeting: Rochelle indicated that we need to prioritize what we want to do at the annual meeting. John felt that we could fit in two presentations in addition to annual business. Alan recommended that we not try to dedicate too much time to speakers since the meeting is at MNRC and the attendees may be tired of listening to presentations. Rochelle recommended that we invite TWS President Bruce Leopold to give a short presentation of approximately 10-15 minutes, and John Shultz could talk about impacts of lead ammunition for approximately 20 minutes, and someone else could give a brief summary presentation about the Missouri River Study for approximately 10 minutes. Shauna Marquardt could also give a short 10 minute presentation about her trip to

the TWS convention. John recommended that we ask Tom Bell about giving the presentation on the Missouri River Study. John also suggested that we consider the Missouri River Study as a theme for MNRC in 2011. Rochelle suggested that we talk to Ted so see if a theme has been established. The board felt that we should provide a comp room for Bruce Leopold. Deb indicated that we could probably get Bruce's MNRC registration comped also.

- Other MNRC business: Rochelle indicated that Jeff Demand has agreed to compose a schedule for people to work the MOTWS booth at MNRC. Rochelle said we need to decide on the big ticket raffle item which is usually a firearm. The raffle is usually held at the awards banquet. Kevin said he would arrange the raffle item. The board agreed that spending limit should be less than \$300.
- MOTWS Chapter of the Year Award: Alan recommended that our chapter nominate ourselves for the Chapter of the Year award and he distributed the application form to the board members. Rochelle volunteered to compose a draft application for the board to review and comment on.
- December Newsletter Items: Rochelle listed the following items to be included in the newsletter: 1) proposed bylaws, 2) wind energy workshop, 3) committee reports, 4) Missouri river study, 5) publicity on ad hoc committee on annual professional workshop, 6) publicity about 2010 spring student workshop, 7) publicity about John Shultz's presentation on lead ammunition, 8) New deadline for applying for travel grant.

Other Business:

- Spring Student Workshop: Kevin will research dates for the Spring Student Workshop. The workshop will be held at the Drury-Mincy MDC Conservation Area on Bull Shoals and activities might include a prescribed burn, hog trapping, cave tour, bat monitoring, reptile and amphibian surveys and mussel surveys.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30pm.