

**The Wildlife Society – Western Section  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Sonoma County Water Agency, Santa Rosa, CA  
April 26, 2014**

In Attendance: Natasha Dvorak, President; Don Yasuda, President-elect, Membership Committee Chair; Doug Bell, Past President; Cynthia Perrine, Program Director, Western Section Representative; John Mc Nerney, Treasurer (called in for PM); Janae Scruggs, Secretary; Rhys Evans, Professional Development Chair; Erin Aquino-Carhart, Conservation Affairs Chair (called in); Mandi McElroy, Student Affairs Committee Co-Chair; Wendy Knight, CA Central Coast Chapter Rep; Rachel Sprague, Hawaii Chapter Rep; Mackenzie Jeffress, Nevada Chapter Rep; Hal Holland, Sacramento-Shasta Chapter Rep; Matthew Bettelheim, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Rep; Jeff Lincer, Southern California Chapter Rep (departed at 1500); Brooke Wainwright, Cal Poly Student Chapter Rep; Joseluis Ocaranza, UCSB Student Chapter Rep; Candace Renger, Conference Planner; Janine Payne, Past Secretary/member

Called to Order: 1115

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<b>Approve Agenda</b>	Amend with Interm Actions	Motion – Approve Agenda 1 <sup>st</sup> – Perrine 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Bettelheim Motion Passed  Amendment with Interm Actions 1 <sup>st</sup> – Perrine 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Knight Motion Passed	
<b>Previous Month's Minutes</b>	Attendance and Interm Actions	Motion – Approve with addition of interm actions and correction of attendance 1 <sup>st</sup> – Perrine 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Lincer Abstain: Holland Motion Passed	
<b>Interm Action</b>		Bat Workshop Motion – Approve the Bat Workshop dates and budgets. 1 <sup>st</sup> – Yasuda 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Davis Abstain: Perrine Motion Passed	<b>Professional Development</b> – Start coordinating the events.
<b>Review Action Items from Previous Meeting</b>	All completed with exception of those in Action Area		<b>Payne/Scruggs</b> – Will complete the July 2013 meeting minutes.  <b>Scruggs/Perrine/Payne</b> – Process to add Interm Actions to

			<p>minutes</p> <p><b>McNerney/Perrine</b> – Look at the Executive Director position and a possible position and duty statement.</p> <p><b>Hawk</b> – Create a subcommittee to discuss the approach to the historical Executive Director position, and consideration of the Board (members: Martini-Lamb, McNerney, Perrine, Evans, Rachel, Yasuda, Burg)</p>
<p><b>Highlights from Chapter, Committee and Officer Reports</b></p>	<p>UCSB Chapter– Herping event with faculty Sam Sweet; USFWS Career Symposium near Hopper Mountain</p> <p>CalPoly SLO Chapter – Students visiting WHAR Wolf Sanctuary in Paso Robles</p> <p>San Francisco Chapter – Interested in doing another workshop in Advanced Camera Workshop; hosted a Greens and Beast Feast</p> <p>Sac-Shasta Chapter – Swainson Hawk Workshop; Eagle workshop in future Hike today for Student Professional Mixer; trying to engage Shasta region</p> <p>HI Chapter – Section 7 Workshop is postponed to late May-early June.</p> <p>NV Chapter – Improving communication with members</p> <p>CA Central Coast Chapter – Great turnout for their symposium; Created a Facebook page; hosting a Kit Fox Workshop in July</p> <p>President – Monthly Executive Committee meeting will be revived</p> <p>President-Elect – Potential conference theme –“Interagency Alignment to Further the Goals of Conservation”; continue to combine the strategic and operation plans; engaging committee members in the planning that would work for multiple years.</p> <p>Program Director Contract – Perrine reviewed status and future of Strategic</p>	<p>Motion – Approve Program Contract for total hours and allocating the Field Camp hours to duties as defined by President</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> – Lincer</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> – Evans</p> <p>Abstained – Perrine</p> <p>Motion Passed</p> <p>Sponsorship for TWS Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Previously donated related to quiz bowl</li> <li>- Current budget has separate line item of donation/sponsors of \$3000</li> <li>- Would like it tied to event</li> </ul> <p>Life member Tasks</p> <p>Recognition of life members</p> <p>Notification to Treasurer for deposit into endowment</p>	<p><b>Sprague</b> – Discuss with chapter a concurrent conference with the annual conference (Contact: Perrine)</p> <p><b>Renger</b> – Work with Executive Committee for monthly meeting (operations and strategic plan)</p> <p><b>Dvorak</b> – Setting a deadline for Strategic Plan</p> <p><b>Perrine/Evans/Aquino-Carhart (and committees)</b> – Complete the appropriate sections of Strategic Plan</p> <p><b>Perrine</b> – Follow up with Nationals re: possible items to sponsor</p> <p><b>Burg</b> – Provide a detailed proposal to Board re: Brian Cypher’s travel for TWS Fellow Award</p> <p><b>Yasuda</b> – Create a process with Eric for membership between chapter, section, and national</p>

	<p>and Operational Plan, approve plan in fall for implementation in spring  Reallocating the hours detailed for Field Camp to other duties as assigned</p> <p>Western Section Representative – Reviewed new staff positions and the fresh energy they are bringing to headquarters and down to the local levels</p> <p>Treasurer – In positive from the conference</p> <p>Marti Kie asked for past meeting and notes – Janine commented that she has provided them to Eric for posting</p> <p>June 16-27 – Field Camp, extended education thru Cal Poly SLO</p> <p>Membership – Issues with payment and levels being captured at appropriate</p> <p>Student Affairs – Looking for ambassadors for TWS student chapters and other colleges/universities in the Section</p> <p>Conservation Affairs – Debra Hawk did a great job representing TWS Nationals and WS at the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Meeting (Sacramento, April 14-15)</p>		
<p><b>Gray Wolf Stakeholders Group/CA Wolf Plan Update</b></p>	<p>CDFW requested TWS and TWS-WS to provide recommendations for peer reviewers of plan</p> <p>Additional information in newsletter</p>		
<p><b>Full Archival Scanning of Transactions</b></p>	<p>Transactions from over the years are incomplete in electronic format. The articles are scanned in full, but the drawings, pictures, and lists are not included. McNerney discussed the</p>	<p>Motion – To approve the expenditure of \$1000 for scanning transactions in two formats (pdf, and another high resolution)  1<sup>st</sup> – McNerney</p>	<p><b>McNerney</b> – Complete the archival scanning of transactions task</p>

	possibilities of scanning and making available online to membership. Estimated cost for scanning is \$700. Discussion continued for alternative format, and it wasn't included in the budget	2 <sup>nd</sup> – Perrine Motion Passed	
<b>Western Wildlife</b>	TABLED!		<b>Sousa</b> – Proposal for re-structuring of the Western Wildlife beyond the transactions.
<b>Western Section Anthology</b>	<p>Bettelheim pitched the idea of publishing a book that includes a collection of stories from wildlife professionals and call it "Wildlife Confessionals."</p> <p>Discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost of book</li> <li>- Target audience</li> <li>- Separation</li> <li>- Editorial board for review and development of stories</li> <li>- ISBN vs Ebook</li> <li>- Format (book, blog, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Bettelheim's experience in publishing a children's book provided insight on the process.</p>	Board was open to the idea and welcomed a proposal from Bettelheim.	<b>Bettelheim</b> – Prepare proposal for Board review
<b>Identify CNPS 2015 Conference Co-Chair</b>	<p>CNPS is looking for a co-chair of a session plant and animal relationships. The conference is January 13-17, 2014 in San Jose.</p> <p>Possible professionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ivan Parr</li> <li>- Rhys Evans also said he could be a back up if others are not available</li> <li>- McNerney suggested someone with CA Native Grasslands Association</li> </ul>		
<b>2014 Conference Member Survey Results</b>	In general, the professionals supported Reno and new schedule. No big red flags were identified.	<p>Focus on school schedules for scheduling dates of conference</p> <p>Continue separate student survey</p>	<p><b>McElroy</b> – Check into school schedules for student chapters and other Section schools for coming years. 2017</p> <p><b>Evans</b> – Check into other professional organization</p>

	<p>Criticisms: Banquet length, concurrent sessions of repeat topics,</p> <p>Discussion for future moving conference away from end of January due student schedule and concerns from waterfowl hunters</p> <p>Student survey very successful (if they attended, it exceeded their expectations)</p>		<p>conferences for coming years.</p> <p><b>McElroy</b> – Feedback on conference schedule preferences by students (lunch time for resume workshop)</p>
<p><b>Future Annual Conference (2016 and 2017)</b></p>	<p>Renger discussed final options for venue Riverside (3 hotels) or Pomona (Sheraton)</p> <p>Compared differences, location, possible options to cover the catering minimum (\$37,000 vs 58,000), WiFi connections, transportation, nearby food options</p> <p>Discussed locations for 2017</p>	<p>Once contracts are finalized, information will be provided to Executive Committee for decision</p>	<p><b>Renger</b> – Look at Monterey, Redding, and San Jose conference venues</p>
<p><b>Strategic Planning and Operations Plan</b></p>	<p>Key components: (1) Member Engagement, (2) Finance, and (3) Communication</p> <p>Dvorak identified a need a short term and long term solution for communication (Google docs, Yahoo, website, etc.)</p> <p>Email – Yasuda suggested finding a service that allows for custom member list, and doesn't require members to take many steps to be a part of the email list.</p> <p>Discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Testing a system with allboard before expanding to membership</li> <li>- Consider ones that have extra features that may be beneficial to the Section</li> <li>- Consider expanding email lists to include at least 2,500 people.</li> <li>- File sharing with for future committees.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Yasuda, Scruggs, Sprague, Payne, Erin, Eric</b> – Email and file sharing platform for communication (deadline - 2 weeks)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider “cloud options” for file sharing</li> <li>- Investing for long term considering the membership</li> </ul>		
<b>Follow-up Discussions/Action Item Review</b>			<b>Renger/Evans</b> – Quarterly Professional Development Committee Meetings

Lunch: 1245-1315

Adjourned: 1703  
 1st – Rachel  
 2<sup>nd</sup> – Brooke  
 Motion Passed