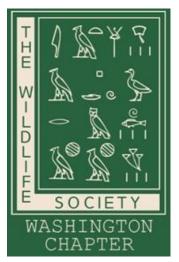
## Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society Executive Board (EB) Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Google Meet Conference Call



#### **Board Members**

Matt Wilson, Past President
Alex Pavlinovic, President
George Ritchotte, President Elect
Claudine Reynolds, Vice President
James Butch, Treasurer
Candace Bennett, Secretary
Jake Verschuyl, Board Member at Large
Jen Syrowitz, Board Member at Large
Kris Ernest, Board Member at Large
Katie Soltysiak, Board Member at Large

## **Regrets**

#### **Attendees**

Tony Fuchs, Grants Committee Chair Bruce Thompson, Former WA-TWS Treasurer Merci Clinton, Scholarship Committee Chair Bill Vogel, Awards Committee Chair

## **September Action Items**

- 1. Agenda
  - a. **Candace B.** will add a topic to October's agenda about Chapter incorporation insurance.
  - b. CandaceB. will add a topic to October's agenda about future JAMs.
- 2. Incorporation
  - a. **Claudine R.** will send the final incorporation paperwork for review and signatures to Alex P.
- 3. JAM 2024
  - a. George R. will work with IDTWS on when to add information to our website.
- 4. 2024 Budget
  - a. **James B.** will work with **Alex P.** and **Bruce T.** on creating an operating budget for 2024.
- 5. Google Drive
  - a. **Candace B.** will create a folder for Instagram and Facebook posting.
- 6. National TWS Meeting
  - a. **Candace B.** will send a poll to WA-TWS members to see if there will be any attendees.

### Agenda

- 1. August Action Items (items in blue completed)
  - a. Member Recruitment Letter
    - i. Candace B. will send out the WA-TWS recruitment letter to members.
- 2. DEI and IDEA Updates (Kris E. and Alex P.)

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- a. Meeting to be held next week
- 3. Northwest Section Update (Matt W.)
  - a. Meeting yesterday
  - b. Working on returning to by-laws for elections of board members
  - c. Choosing one or two topics to parent TWS
    - i. wages
    - ii. looking for paid support staff
    - iii. discussion on other chapters/sections not having enough applicants for scholarships or grants.
      - 1. brainstorming on ideas to generate more applicants.
- 4. JAM 2024 (George R.)
  - a. Looking for sponsors
    - i. Bruce T. has a spreadsheet with over 100 contacts with about a 30% fund rate.
      - 1. How to navigate that the meeting is in Idaho.
        - a. We should do our own search.
      - 2. Student lodging has not been offered by IDTWS in the past, just free entry.
        - a. There is a person who is assigned to student liaison.
        - b. Bruce T. will meet with George R.
  - b. Session
    - i. Indigenous Knowledge is moving forward.
      - 1. Mark Thompson may participate.
  - c. Advertising on WA-TWS website
    - i. November calls for abstracts.
- 5. Recruitment Letter
  - a. No responses from members.
  - b. 51% open rate of the email campaign.
- 6. Chapter Incorporation (Claudine R.)
  - a. Mandatory to incorporate.
  - b. Annual fees
    - i. Fees include about \$175/year.
  - c. Insurance
    - i. Will add a topic for October.
- 7. Membership Committee (Katie S.)
  - a. Four members
  - b. Vision and Mission Statement completed.
  - c. University Chapters development
    - i. 26 different schools
    - ii. Going to WSU at the end of the month
  - d. Wants to collaborate with DEI and Education/Outreach Committees
  - e. 5k event as an option
  - f. Social media
    - i. working on Instagram account

# Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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#### ii. Motion:

- 1. Alex P. motioned to create an Instagram account for WA-TWS.
  - a. Seconded by Claudine R./Candace B.
  - b. Discussion
    - i. Important for outreach
    - ii. Google drive: add a folder for content.
    - iii. Candace can help link account with Facebook.
    - iv. Add videos about presentations to universities and introductions to EB members.
  - c. Vote: 8 ayes (all)
    - i. Motion carries
- 8. Budget (James B.)
  - a. Donations
    - i. \$5000 donation from the estate of Ruth Igrass (spelling)
      - 1. Placed in checking account.
  - b. WAFed
    - i. \$12,000 money market
    - ii. \$8,000 CD that matures this year.
      - 1. will need to roll it over into another CD.
    - iii. \$5500 in checking
- 9. Conservation Committee (Jen S.)
  - a. What projects to move forward?
    - i. Three of six members attended.
    - ii. monthly scheduled meeting
    - iii. Working on topics for the Committee
      - 1. Statewide Connectivity Action Plan
        - a. sagebrush initiatives in this section as well.
      - 2. Beaver and beaver management
      - 3. DFW Commission and relevancy
      - 4. Solar site and transmission (also parent TWS)
        - a. sagebrush initiatives in this section as well.
  - b. At national TWS conservation training
- 10. OSF/NWPT Conservation Project (Bill V.)
  - a. Maps sent to EB.
  - b. Looking for support for this project
- 11. TWS National Meeting
  - a. Attendance?
    - i. No one is planning on attending.
    - ii. Should we set up lunch?
    - iii. Ideas?
- 12. Newsletter (Alex P.)
  - a. Working on finalizing.
- 13. General Updates
  - a. Nothing additional

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**Next Meeting:** October 19, 2023; 4:00-5:00pm

Adjourned at 5:15pm