



Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies



65th Annual Meeting Proceedings
July 12 - 14, 1998
Lawrence, Kansas



Hosted by:
Kansas Department of
Wildlife and Parks



TABLE OF CONTENTS

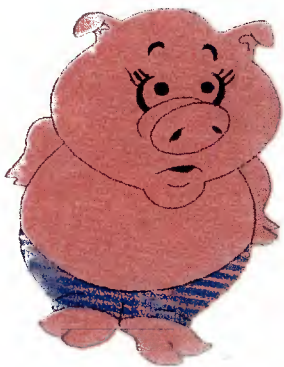
Objectives.....	3
Past Meeting Locations and Dates.....	4
1998 Committee and Working Group List.....	7
Constitution and By-Laws.....	8
Attendance Roster.....	14
Agenda.....	17
Round Table Discussion Minutes.....	21
Business Meeting Minutes.....	43
Attachments:	
Treasurer's Report.....	a
Resolutions.....	b
Contribution List.....	f
Letter to Dan Glickman.....	g
Past Minutes (Iowa 1997).....	j



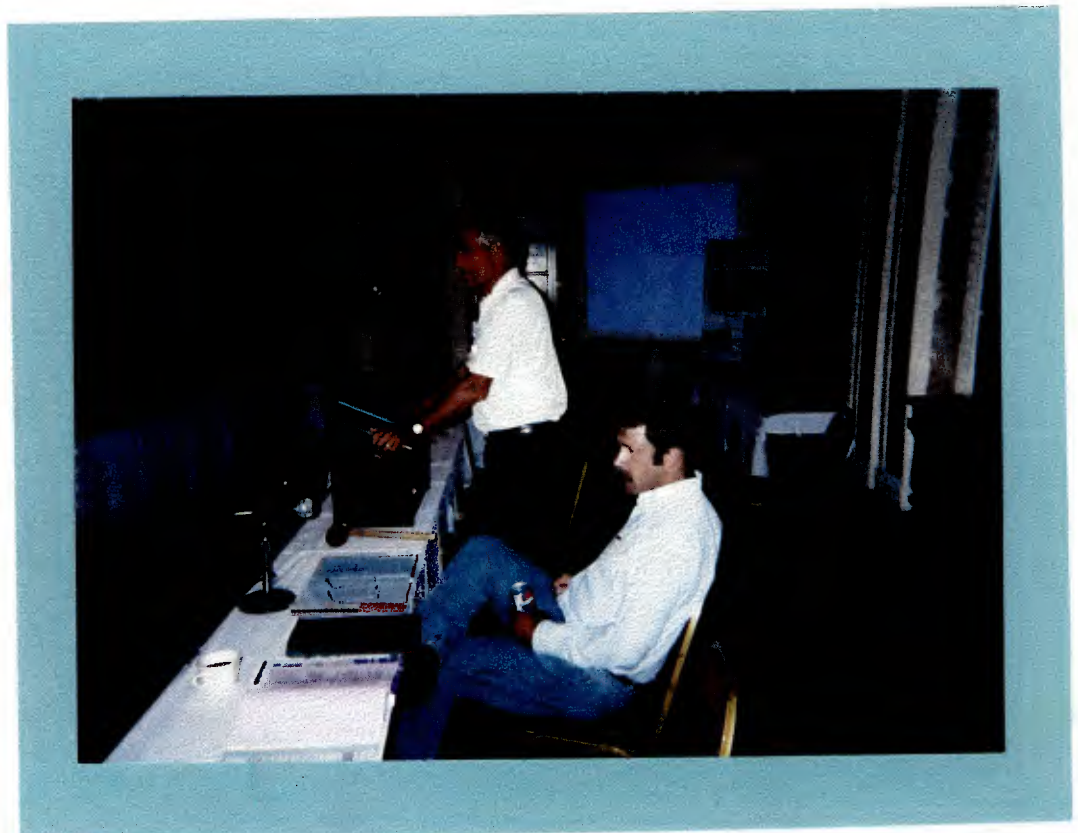
What a good looking bunch of guys!



From Farm Bills...



Louise



...to pig stories.

Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be to protect the right of jurisdiction of the Midwestern states over their wildlife resources on public and private lands; to scrutinize carefully state and federal wildlife legislation and regulations and to offer support or opposition to legislative proposals or federal regulations in accordance with the best interests of the Midwestern states; to serve as a clearinghouse for the exchange of ideas concerning wildlife and fisheries management, research techniques, wildlife law enforcement, hunting and outdoor safety, and information and education; and to encourage and assist sportsmen's and conservationists' organizations so that the fullest measure of cooperation may be secured from our citizenry in the protection, preservation, restoration and management of our fish and wildlife resources.

Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Meeting Locations and Dates

1. Des Moines, Iowa	1934	33. Wichita, Kansas	1966
2. St. Paul, Minnesota	1935	34. Des Moines, Iowa	1967
3. Madison Wisconsin	1936	35. Chicago, Illinois	1968
4. Sioux Falls, South Dakota	1937	36. St. Louis, Missouri	1969
5. Omaha, Nebraska	1938	37. Winnipeg, Manitoba	1970
6. Madison, Wisconsin	1939	38. Aspen, Colorado	1971
7. Mason City, Iowa	1940	39. Wichita, Kansas	1972
8. St. Louis, Missouri	1941	40. Bismarck, North Dakota	1973
9. Duluth, Minnesota	1942	41. Duluth, Minnesota	1974
10. Fox Lake, Illinois	1943	42. Traverse City, Michigan	1975
11. Bismarck, North Dakota	1944	43. Rapid City, South Dakota	1976
12. Indianapolis, Indiana	1945	44. Lincoln, Nebraska	1977
13. Rapid City, South Dakota	1946	45. Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1978
14. Roscommon, Michigan	1947	46. Nashville, Indiana	1979
15. Put-in-Bay, Ohio	1948	47. Columbus, Ohio	1980
16. Lincoln, Nebraska	1949	48. Des Moines, Iowa	1981
17. Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1950	49. Springfield, Illinois	1982
18. Wichita, Kansas	1951	50. Lexington, Kentucky	1983
19. Des Moines, Iowa	1952	51. Hannibal, Missouri	1984
20. Dorset, Ontario	1953	52. Wichita, Kansas	1985
21. St. Louis, Missouri	1954	53. Vail, Colorado	1986
22. Estes Park, Colorado	1955	54. Winnipeg, Manitoba	1987
23. Springfield, Illinois	1956	55. Bismarck, North Dakota	1988
24. Park Rapids, Minnesota	1957	56. Duluth, Minnesota	1989
25. Bismarck, North Dakota	1958	57. Grand Rapids, Michigan	1990
26. West Lafayette, Indiana	1959	58. Rapid City, South Dakota	1991
27. Rapid City, South Dakota	1960	59. Green Bay, Wisconsin	1992
28. Higgins Lake, Michigan	1961	60. Ashland, Nebraska	1993
29. Omaha, Nebraska	1962	61. Estes Park, Colorado	1994
30. Columbus, Ohio	1963	62. Galena, Illinois	1995
31. Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1964	63. South Bend, Indiana	1996
32. Toronto, Ontario	1965	64. Des Moines, Iowa	1997

65. Lawrence, Kansas

1998

Late night beers...





...Early morning meetings.

**COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MIDWEST FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES**
including other related organizations
January 1998

Standing Committees (identified in bylaws)

Executive Committee

President Steve Williams (KS)
Past President Al Farris (IA)
First Vice-President Tom Young (KY)
Doug Hansen (SD) At Large
Steve Miller (WI) At Large
Secretary-Treasurer Joe Kramer (KS)

Auditing Committee

Chairman Tom Young (KY)
Doug Hansen (SD)
Gary Doxtater (IN)

Resolutions Committee

Chairman Steve Miller (WI)
Mike Budzik (OH)
Roger Holmes (MN)

Nominating/Awards Committee

Chairman Bruce McCloskey (CO)
Jeff Ver Steeg (IL)
Dean Hildebrand (ND)

Official Technical Working Committees

Legal Committee

Chairman Amelia McIntyre (KS)

Midwest Private Land Wildlife Management Group

Jeff Sole (KY)

Wildlife Diversity Technical Working Committee

Dennis Figg (MO)

Related Working Groups/Organizations (incomplete list)

Midwest Deer and Turkey Study Group

Midwest Pheasant Study Group

Mid-Continent Warmwater Fish Culture Workshop

Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers

Prairie Grouse Technical Council

Western Sage/Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Workshop

Midwest 4-State Quail Working Group (in formation - IL, IN, KY, MO)

Bodies on Which the AMFWA is Represented

Executive Committee of IAFWA

Steve Williams (KS)

Migratory Wildlife Committee of the IAFWA

Al Farris (IA)

Council of Environmental Education (formerly Western Regional Environmental Education Council)

Jim Wilson (MO)

Responsive Management Advisory Board

George Burgoyne, Jr. (MI)

Partners in Flight

Al Farris (IA)

Cities

Charles Pils (WI)



Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ASSOCIATION OF MIDWEST FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES

PREAMBLE

The name of this organization shall be the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The objectives of the Association shall be to protect the right of jurisdiction of the Midwestern states over their wildlife resources on public and private lands; to scrutinize carefully state and federal wildlife legislation proposals or federal regulations in accordance with the best interests of the Midwestern states; to serve as a clearinghouse for the exchange of ideas concerning wildlife and fisheries management, research techniques, wildlife law enforcement, hunting and outdoor safety, and information and education; and to encourage and assist sportsmen's and conservationists' organizations so that the fullest measure of cooperation may be secured from our citizenry in the protection, preservation, restoration and management of our fish and wildlife resources.

ARTICLE I **OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall be President, First Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer. The President and First Vice-President shall be nominated from the members of the states and provinces on an alphabetical rotation bases, with the First Vice-President being from the state or province next in order of rotation. The term of office shall be for one year commencing thirty (30) days following adjournment of the annual Association meeting through thirty (30) days following adjournment of the succeeding annual meeting. The First Vice-President shall automatically succeed to President if he/she remains eligible. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by members and serve until replaced.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers, and one representative from each state and province except those represented by the elected officers. Such state or provincial Board member shall be the chief executive officer of the fish and wildlife agency of his/her state or province, or his/her designee.

ARTICLE II **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership shall be by states and provinces and representation of each state and province at meetings shall be by its duly authorized representative or representatives.

Section 2. The area of membership in the Association shall be the states of Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, and the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario and such additional states and provinces as may request membership and be elected by majority vote of the member states and provinces in annual meeting.

Section 3. Membership in the Association of an individual shall terminate upon the expiration of the member's term of office as a state fish and wildlife administrator.

Section 4. Persons who cannot qualify for regular membership in the Association may be elected Honorary Members by unanimous vote of members.

Section 5. Other professional organizations may be granted affiliate membership in the Association based upon demonstration that the Constitution and Bylaws of said organizations meet the basic standards of the Association. Application for affiliate membership shall be forwarded to the President at least 90 days prior to a regular meeting of the Association and shall include a current Constitution and Bylaws and a letter stating the organization's justification for affiliate membership. Affiliate membership shall be voted on by the voting representatives and must attain a majority vote of a quorum. Affiliated membership dues shall be \$25.00 per year; however, this fee may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum.

ARTICLE III

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, appoint all special committees, preside at meetings of the Board of Directors, shall record and compile proceedings of that year and perform such other duties as are naturally incumbent upon the office.

Section 2. The First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the latter's absence, and specific duties may be assigned as deemed necessary by the President.

Section 3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a record of all transactions of the meetings of the Association, as well as meetings of the Board of Directors, shall notify members of the time and place of meetings and perform such duties as are naturally incumbent upon the office. He/she shall forward five copies to each member in good standing, with the cost of preparation and handling to be paid out of the Association's fund. All other copies are for distribution at the discretion of the host state or province. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds of the Association and draw all warrants for the payment of claims properly presented. He/she shall bill the members and collect the annual dues. It is the intent of the Association that the costs of the annual meetings and related business functions, not to exceed \$500.00 may be paid by the Association.

Section 4. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be custodian of all permanent files and other assets of the Association.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall conduct the business of the Association.

ARTICLE IV **MEETINGS**

One regular meeting shall be held annually. The meeting will be held in and hosted by the state or province in which the outgoing President has administrative responsibility, or in such other locations designated by the Association. When necessary, special meetings may be called by the President. Members shall be given 180 days notice of regular annual meetings and special meetings may be called on ten days notice.

ARTICLE V **VOTING**

Voting shall be by states and provinces, as units. Each state and province shall have one vote. All voting shall be by voice vote, except that a request by any member state or province for a secret ballot shall be honored. Any matters of Association business requiring action in the interim between meetings may be handled by the Board of Directors, by majority vote by mail ballot.

ARTICLE VI **DUES**

Annual Dues shall be \$100.00 per member state and province, payable in advance, at or before each annual meeting; provided, that annual dues may be suspended for any given year by a majority vote of a quorum.

ARTICLE VII

QUORUM

A simple majority of all member states and provinces in good standing constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENT

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Association may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of a quorum; provided, however, a written copy of such proposed amendment shall have been received by the President and sent by him/her to the Secretary/Treasurer and to members at least thirty days before the regular annual meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. With approval of the First Vice-President, the President may call for voting by mail in lieu of a meeting. In this event, the thirty day notice shall still apply, the date of opening ballots shall be previously announced, written notice sent to each member within forty-eight hours of vote tabulation by the Secretary/Treasurer, and all ballots shall be kept for one year following the vote.

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be three kinds of committees: Standing, Director's Ad Hoc, and Technical Working.

Section 2. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the incoming President within thirty (30) days after assuming office, they shall serve during the period intervening between annual meetings and at such meetings, or until the purpose of each such committee has been accomplished and it has been discharged by the President.

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of six members of the Association: The President, First Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, immediate Past President, and two other members to be appointed by the President with specific consideration for geographical balance.
- B. The Auditing Committee shall be composed of three members: The Vice-President of the Association, who shall act as chairman, and two other members to be appointed by the President.
- C. The Resolutions Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President.
- D. The Nominating/Awards Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President.

Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees may be established as deemed necessary by the President of the Association and shall serve until the purpose of each such committee has been accomplished and it has been discharged by the President.

Section 4. The Association may establish Technical Working Committees as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Association. Upon establishment, these committees shall adhere to the following:

- A. Within one year from establishment, each committee shall submit to the Association for approval a Mission statement, a list of specific responsibilities, and a description of operating procedures that will become part of the official minutes of the Association.
- B. All Technical Working Committees shall submit a written report to the President 30 days in advance of the annual meeting and may choose to conduct necessary committee business during the period between annual meetings as per their approved operating procedures.
- C. Resolutions from Technical Working Committees for Association action shall be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

Amended: July, 1995

Obviously they knew what kinds of guys ...



... they were dealing with...



... they sent a school bus didn't they.

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KANSAS - what a great state!



What was that you used to keep deer away, lion dung (John?)? Where do you get that in Nebraska, Jim?

ASSOCIATION OF MIDWEST FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES
65th ANNUAL DIRECTOR'S MEETING
July 12 - 14, 1998
Eldridge Hotel, Crystal Ball Room
Lawrence, KS

AGENDA

Sunday, July 12, 1998

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Registration - Eldridge Hotel |
| 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | President's Reception (<i>finger food and cash bar - family welcome - informal attire</i>) |
| | Kansas Award Winning Video Presentation - Bob Mathews |
| 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. | Jazz Quartet in Courtyard of Eldridge Hotel (<i>cash bar - family welcome - informal attire</i>) |

Monday, July 13, 1998

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Registration - Eldridge Hotel |
| 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. | Guest Speakers
Steve Williams - Welcome to Kansas
Max Peterson, Int'l Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies |
| 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Round Table Discussion (<i>States should bring pertinent material related to the following topics - <u>NO</u> State reports.</i>)
Private Land and Water Access Programs
Deer Management in Midwest States
Hunter and Angler Retention Programs |
| 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Lunch - Eldridge Hotel |
| 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Round Table Discussion - continued |
| 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | MAT Team - Dwight Guynn |
| 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | ** Perry State Park (<i>Personal watercraft demonstration, swimming and recreation - transportation available, family welcome - informal attire.</i>) |

(Please note that we will not be returning to the hotel before supper, if you wish to change you will need to bring your clothes - a bath house is available for you to change in.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | ** Supper - Cajun's Queen Ferry (<i>family welcome - informal attire</i>) |
|-----------------------|--|

AGENDA - continued

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. CREP - Roger Holmes

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Call to Order AMFWA Business Meeting - Eldridge Hotel
Committee Reports
 Resolutions Committee Report
 Legal Committee Report
 Midwest Private Land Wildlife Management Group Report
 Wildlife Diversity Technical Working Committee Report
 Cites Report
 NCTC Training (Walt Gasson - State Liaison)
 Other Committee Reports
 Treasurer's Report
 Auditing Committee Report
 Resolutions Committee Vote
 Nominating Awards Committee
 Passing the Gavel to Kentucky

12:00 p.m. Lunch - Eldridge Hotel

*** In case of rain or wind - alternative plans for Monday afternoon and evening would include a tour of the Kansas University Natural History Museum and supper at the Free State Brewery.*



And the band played on...



Rest and ...



... Relaxation.

**Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Annual Director's Meeting
July 13, 1998 - Round table Discussion
Eldridge Hotel
Lawrence, Kansas**

GUEST SPEAKERS

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everybody to Kansas. We appreciate the great turn-out. We hope you will enjoy yourself the next couple of days, will learn a few things and will have a good meeting. Some of you know that I originated in New England and spent a lot of time growing up in Pennsylvania. I have been here a little over 3 years and I would say my time spent here has been some of the most enjoyable in my career. It is due, in a large part, to the staff of the Department of Wildlife and Parks. I mentioned last night that I would like to thank Joe Kramer, and Sheila Kemmis in particular, for all of the work they have done to put this meeting together. Most of you know Rob Manes, my Assistant Secretary, please take a moment and introduce yourself if you don't already know him. We will have an opportunity to see a little bit of Kansas this afternoon when we go to Perry Reservoir. If you haven't been to Kansas, this State is much more diverse than I imagined before I came here. From the eastern deciduous forest in the northeast part of the State to the Flint Hills, which is a beautiful part of Kansas about an hour west of here. We've got the high plains in western Kansas and the Gyp Hills in south central Kansas. Obviously we are a prairie State, everything from tall, to mixed, to short grass prairie and wildlife abounds all over the State. We are really blessed with great Fish and Wildlife resources here. We do have a lot of challenges. I suspect, some of the same challenges that you face in your States. Some of the biggest ones are water quality issues, if our friends in Nebraska would take care of their water we wouldn't have so many water quality issues. We have a very small percentage of public land. Threatened and Endangered species issues, habitat loss, etc. Things that you all share. It is a pleasure and an honor to be here in Kansas at this time because things are going quite well for us. Today and tomorrow we have put together an agenda that we hope will be a benefit to you and provide some information that you can take back and use in your own agencies. We have changed a little bit from the way it has been done in the past. We are not going to have the State Reports. The Executive Committee met in Orlando at the International and talked about a little different format. We thought we could better spend our time looking at three issues that are common to this region. We will have a round-table discussion. What we are looking for is some innovative approaches to addressing some of these issues. We will have a report from the MAT Team and Max is going to bring us up to date on some National issues. There are a couple of other things I wanted to bring to your attention. We had discussed providing some money to the International for Teaming With Wildlife and the Executive Committee did send a check for \$25,000. That would bring our total contribution to \$55,000 to that effort. The other thing that we have done, through the Executive Committee, was to invest all but \$50,000 of the Jaschek trust to CD's and the \$50,000 in Merrill Lynch. If anyone has any resolutions that you would like the group to consider tomorrow, would you

please get those to Steve Miller so he has a chance to work with that Committee. Finally, I would apologize, we wanted to have Governor Graves come and welcome you to Kansas but he is on the campaign trail, he sends his regrets and regards to this group. On behalf of the Department of Wildlife and Parks I welcome you all here. If we can assist you in any way please let one of us know and we will do what we can.

Max Peterson - IAFWA:

I am going to do things a little bit differently today. I am going to give you a written handout that will bring you up to date on things. What I would like to do is look back with you, over the years at Fish and Wildlife management as it relates to this part of the Country, then talk about today and what I see ahead. I grew up in Missouri and the only thing I could remember about Lawrence, Kansas, was some kind of a rare bird out here, some kind of a hawk that did something with a little round ball and frequently beat my home state of Missouri in that game, and continues to do so. Must be the water that allows them to do that. As I think of the Midwest over my 10 years with the Association I recognize that the leadership in the Midwest is providing lots of things. The Director here who has been the Director of the most States, is Jerry Conley, who has been our President and is back to his roots, since he grew up in the flatlands of Missouri. We also have our Vice-President, Roger Holmes, who has also chaired our Migratory Waterfowl protocol with Canada which has now been ratified by the Senate which is a major accomplishment. Maybe more importantly there are many of you who chair important Committees, including Rob who chairs our Educational Funding Committee and Jeff VerSteege who, doesn't chair the Baiting Committee but, I hear from him quite often because he does a lot of work on that Committee. Also, Dox chairs our Education Committee. We are indebted to you in the Midwest. The Midwest uniquely has been associated with all of the Farm Bills going back to 1985, in terms of both providing the important political support, but equally important, helping provide some of the real critical ideas. In 1985, the first Farm Bill with a Conservation Reserve Program was put forward. This was a revolutionary idea at that time. We were actually going to pay for conservation instead of paying for people not to do something. Peter Meyers was an essential part of that bill and subsequently went on to be the Chief of the Soil Conservation Service and then Assistant Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. One of the things that you do, that we don't think about, is involve and nurture people who are going to go on and be important National figures or important members of the State Legislature. I would be remiss in not mentioning the former Governor of Kansas, Mike Hayden who continues to be an important force nationally for conservation. I spent hours on the Hill with Mike working on the Farm Bill. Also, Mike Nesman of his staff, was probably one of the key figures in the Wallop-Breaux Reauthorization. That Reauthorization, which includes getting back a portion of the Motor Boat fuel tax which had been languishing over in the general fund, will mean a little over a million dollars to some States. The minimum a State will get will be \$300,000 annually. If we spend a few minutes looking back, we recognize that 60 years ago when Pittman-Robinson was first put on the books, this part of the world was in the midst of a big depression. It was the time of the dust bowl in Kansas and Nebraska, in fact someone in Congress when they saw a cloud of dust, would say, there is Kansas passing by the Nation's Capitol. It was time a in which the Conservation effort was awakening because of the Great Depression. There was no deer or

turkey season, at that time, for a very good reason, there were no deer or turkey of any numbers. It was a time when Fish and Wildlife was in pretty bad shape. It is a great tribute to the spirit of this Country that in the midst of this Great Depression the Conservation effort arose. The most unlikely combination of a Congressman from Virginia named Robinson, teamed up with a Congressman from Nevada named Pittman, who was still pushing the gold standard, by the way. They teamed up with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Secretary of Ag., Henry Wallace. At that time the Fish and Wildlife Service was in the Department of Agriculture, we didn't move to the Department of Interior until 1940. The President called a conference on wildlife. I have a copy of the 1937 House and Senate reports on the establishment of the Pittman-Robinson act if you would like to see it. It is one of the great historic pieces where the President is quoted as saying, "The American public value of wildlife and the disappearance of wildlife from the scene, would be a great tragedy...". At that time the prevailing opinion was that you were not going to see any major mammals anywhere except in a zoo. It was widely assumed that the animals would disappear. This story is basically unknown to the current generation of people. The great success story of bringing back the wild turkey, the white-tailed deer, the elk, and the moose, it was felt, was a great recovery of species and would bring us the acclaim of the public and the public would rise up and honor us and our problems would be solved. Success was defined as recovery of these game species for Fish and Wildlife Agencies. I guess I can say that you have been successful, in a few cases, too successful. Today, we find that the big problem is too many deer, elk, or geese competing with domestic livestock. One success always breeds another set of problems. While we celebrate that success we recognize that the public at large are basically unaware of the conservation accomplishments that you and your predecessors have been a part of. Not only is the general public unaware, but their Representatives in Congress are unaware. Only one out of ten is familiar with Wallop-Breaux and Pittman-Robertson. Recent surveys of the public indicated that very few of your public know where your funding comes from, or know what you do with it. Most people think you are funded from the general fund and that you have lots of money because you are out there rounding up endangered species, etc. In fact, most of the public thinks you have too much money, they would rather not see you too much. I am not sure how this happened, I guess we rested on our laurels. Ten years ago pretty much everyone involved in wildlife management wore a white hat. Those foresters were the black hat people. The public at large wants wildlife in large abundance to view, not particularly white-tailed deer in their backyard or Canada geese on their golf course. They want them seen but not heard and not interfering with anything they want to do. They want abundant wildlife but not the problems associated with it. The next fact of life, that we have seen controversy on, is what do you do about too much wildlife. The public wants you to get rid of it but not kill it. As we enjoy the success of restoring game species we cannot really say the same thing about non-game species. We continue to add species to the Threatened and Endangered list. The fact is there has been very little money available to spend for non-game species. Colorado is the first State in the Union that had a non-game checkoff, now 26 or 27 States have them. The first year all kinds of people check them off and the next year there are other items to check off and the money has gradually decreased. A few states, like Missouri, Minnesota and Arkansas have done special funding projects to raise money. One of the latest successes is in Virginia, where they took part of the sales tax, that relates to outdoor supplies and equipment, a portion of the existing sales tax,

and used it for non-game species. Wildlife associated recreation is the fastest growing type of outdoor recreation in the United States today and it is about \$130 billion activity. The total budget of all of the Fish and Wildlife agencies is about \$2 million nationally. Jeff Woldon who heads up the Teaming With Wildlife Coalition out of DPI, decided to introduce a bill to divert this sales tax to the Fish and Wildlife agencies in Virginia. It went through both houses of the State Legislature without a descending vote. By the time it arrived on the Governor's desk for signature, there were more calls on the 800 number on that subject than any other subject, before the whole State Legislature. It provides \$12 million annually to the State of Virginia and it can be spent for any kind of Fish and Wildlife, it is not earmarked in any fashion. Let me point out that the private landowner holds the key to the future of fish and wildlife in this country. Two-thirds of the United States is in private ownership. Traditionally landowners have been relatively friendly to doing good things for wildlife and that continues to be the case, as far as we can tell. Landowners now find themselves trying to deal with the over-abundance of wildlife, which is causing problems in the terms of crop depredation, as well as finding their land habitat for some Threatened and Endangered species. They find themselves at both ends of the spectrum, too much wildlife and habitat for T&E species. That is causing many landowners to become anti-wildlife according to national polls. Unfortunately some of the landowners then see the Fish and Wildlife agencies as some sort of enemy, or at least part of the problem, bringing back too much wildlife and being the regulatory agency for T&E species. The general public consensus is that Fish and Wildlife agencies only care about game species and not non-game species. I admit to being an optimist when it comes to this. I feel that State Fish and Wildlife agencies are in a great place right now, in that you have the attention of the public in many respects. The public at large is very interested in wildlife. Any advertisement you see or hear, uses wildlife as the number one thing used. They are the poster person, for sport utility vehicles to the latest soft drink. We are in a great position to say now, that we can do for non-game species, what we did for game species. We can restore these species, we know how to do it, but we have to have funds to do it. We can, and are willing and able to do it, and we are beginning to do it with the money we've got. You may have some staff, Commission and public who do not want to get involved in this field. We really do not have a choice if we want to stay involved in the fish and wildlife business, only 10% of the population is fisherman and hunters. Species out there don't know whether they are game or non-game, they react to habitat, and that is the business all of us have been in for a long time, habitat. Fortunately, six years ago when states decided to launch the Teaming With Wildlife initiative there was an understanding at that time that this was the direction we needed to go to reach out and build a broader constituency. Every Fish and Wildlife agency in the Union basically has the responsibility for all wildlife in it's borders. This effort now has a coalition of 3,000 groups and organizations representing 50 to 100 million people. This has an objective of providing \$350 million for three purposes. One is conservation of the non-game species, second is conservation and education and third is wildlife dependent recreation. Right now the groups that oppose the work that you do, are working very hard at putting an education program in the public schools. Fund for Animals has a major effort to put an education program in all of the public schools in the United States that counters this kill them and string them up attitude, of the Fish and Wildlife agencies. The third piece, wildlife dependent recreation, is to pick up the public interest in recreation. The Congress decided that

the need was there, but the anti-tax sentiment in the Congress meant that this could not move this year, and maybe not in the near future. As you know they hit upon an alternate funding source, called Outer Continental Shelf Oil. Basically what they are going to do is fund Teaming With Wildlife with a different source of funds. They are also going to do this by creating a sub-account within Pittman-Robertson. It is very important that we get behind this issue.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Private Land and Water Access Programs:

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

This year we are going to have a combination habitat improvement and access program. In the next few months we will decide if we want straight access the following year. The reception has been outstanding. Surveys of landowners enrolled, was good. One thing that the task force considered was maybe we are trying to solve a problem that we don't have. You can still get access fairly easily in Nebraska, by asking, but we found that a lot of our urban populations have forgotten how to ask permission. In the CRP acres it is hard to locate the owners of the property, in some cases, where you are trying to obtain permission. As Kansas has expressed we felt this would be a service to our hunting constituency. We feel good about it and everyone from both ends of the spectrum seem to feel good about it, from landowners to hunters. We are taking a little bit of a different approach as we are requiring habitat improvement as part of it.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We talked a lot about leasing ideas. Are there other programs out there regarding access to private lands? Anyone else out there have any other thoughts to share with us?

Doug Hansen - South Dakota:

The issue of access of private land really came to a head in South Dakota during our last Legislative session and it forced us to look very hard at access programs, beyond where we have been today. We felt very fortunate that our walk-in area program has been as successful as it has been but, the issues in the Legislature forced us to look at other opportunities. Land acquisition and fee title is always a controversial thing and has become increasingly so. It almost forced us to look at other types of leasing arrangements, in addition to the walk-in area programs. The handout I have is basically a framework of ideas that we have put together, other than our walk-in, and ways to enhance, our walk-in area program. You will notice we put it in the format of problem/statement, some guiding principles and the following pages looked at some brainstorming ideas. I would like to touch on a few new concepts, or new areas. One is longer term leases. Short term leases discourages doing any long term habitat development. We are working experimentally with increasing the payment on a few contracts. We found that once you get up to where you are roughly covering the tax load on the farm or ranch, that they become very interested in that. It is a bench mark so to speak. We also have structured our payment schedule around the tax load. We have been able to secure a couple of large ranch properties on a longer term basis using these principles. We have adopted the philosophy that if we are going to provide public access, we are going to have to pay more, especially in the commercial areas, to compete with the commercial fee market. That does bother some people as they feel we have become just another hunting club, on a large scale. It is easy to justify because the public is so demanding for access that this is a way that we can do it. There were some interesting trade-offs in the Legislature. The Sportsman would agree to increased numbers of non-resident waterfowl permits, if the money made from that was ear-marked to obtain more private land access. This

gave us a source of funds and we were able to secure a large number of acres around Pierre, that was previously closed to hunting. Previous fee hunting land is now being converted to public access land. We recently purchased a 3,000 acre ranch from an estate, with an agreement to lease it back to the landowner. He then agreed to allow free hunting access for 20 years. At the end of the 20 years he wanted the option to buy back the property. We really came out ahead in the long run but we cannot afford to do many of those, but it is an interesting concept. The foundation put up the money, so the agreement is actually between them. The access will be provided through our department. This could be an alternative to fee title acquisition. The deed will change hands for a while, but there is the option for them to buy it back. Another thing that came out of our Legislature is that they decided to put a surcharge on all license fees, we estimated that this would raise roughly \$1.2 million. That money was ear-marked, half to wildlife damage management programs to assist landowners, and the other half was dedicated for access programs. This is in addition to, our walk-in program that has provided roughly 500,000 acres for small game hunting, now we have an additional 600,000 coming up in calendar year 1999 to work on more access programs.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

In the State of Kansas, for 25 years we have had a very aggressive private land program and we have pumped a lot of money into habitat on private land, but we found out, for one thing, that it was not federal aid reimbursable. We were utilizing a lot of money with habitat plantings, statewide. We were pumping a lot of resources into private land but we had a lot of our Sportsman concerned because they couldn't hunt it. About 10 years ago, we had some aggressive leadership, still do right now, and we became all things for all people. Alan Wentz and Bob Meinen were very aggressive thinkers. We tried to be all things for all people with a private land access program and it ate our lunch. The Legislature ripped us apart, we alienated our constituency because we tried to create too much. We have learned from that and in the last three years were able to keep it simple-stupid and basically it is an upland game program now. We knew South Dakota was successful. We have a lot of absentee landowners and 3 million acres of CRP in Kansas. Also, we had a lot of private landowners who wanted to do something with their land other than have people run all over them and the State was ready for that kind of a program. The Midwest has a lot of wide open country and we still have landowners that don't see that many hunters, so it was easier to sell here. In the States that have a lot larger number of hunters, and more populated areas, might be tougher to sell. The access program in our State, now that it is open to the public, is federal aid reimbursable.

Rob Manes - Kansas:

To stimulate thought, Joe talked about an initial private land initiative that we fumbled with 10 years ago. The concept was exciting and viable, except for the complexity and newness. The basis of it was the formation of management and financial partnerships with local economic entities, whether it was counties or regions or even individual communities that would act as brokers, coordinators and beneficiaries of private land access, in their respective areas. The big problem was that when you added in that middle man, the complexity of it over-road the benefits and the attractiveness of being able to directly link hunting access and local economic benefits. It

was in some part political and scared a lot of people away. Here we are 10 years later with a similar, but more effective, system.

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

We used to have, in Nebraska 20 years ago, quite a few community based access programs where small communities in Nebraska, through some local entity, would put on things like hunter breakfasts, which are still common in many small towns. With that, they would combine an access program that may only last for the first week of pheasant season, for example, but they would go out and sign up land that was open to hunting. A lot of this catered to non-resident pheasant hunters and as they came into the community they would find out about the breakfast and then they would have an opportunity to get a map that would show them where they could go hunting. That has declined over the years and last year, along with our State Department of Economic Development, started to visit some of the small communities to see why they were not doing it anymore. We only visited four or five last year and hope to visit more this year trying to find out where they are still doing it and what the factors are, that is making it still work in those areas. We haven't given up on maybe some revival of that program.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

How much is this costing you?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

At around \$450,000 last year.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

That included additional help for litter pick up, posting, and suppling ATV's for posting. We have 19 biologists but used temporaries to help post. That \$450,000 was the total cost last year. We are expecting to go up from 330,000 to 450,000 and our long term goal is ½ million acres in two years.

Rob Manes - Kansas:

We are looking at ongoing expenditures for fishing access, hunting access and habitat components at around \$750,000 a year.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

And you don't charge anything, the hunter doesn't pay anything extra? Do the hunters pay additional beyond hunting license fees?

Rob Manes - Kansas:

No. There is some pressure from various individuals and groups for us to look at doing that but for the reasons Joe outlined earlier, so far we have resisted it.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

Did you see an increase in hunting license sales?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We think so, but it is tough to tease that out with pretty good pheasant and quail hunting last year. If I am testifying, absolutely.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

We are going to do it. We are going to take money from the migratory permit that we are selling now and are going to lease dove hunting property. We are just now getting into it and do not have brochures or anything yet. We are going to get our feet wet a little bit.

Rob Manes - Kansas:

We ran into some snags when we tried to pilot the fishing access program. We were looking at longer term contracts, year-round access and we ran into some problems with landowner acceptance that we didn't encounter with the hunting access program. I think we have gotten those worked out with some short term contracts. We were shooting for 10 year contracts originally.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

There is a lot of watershed in the Flint Hills. About 25% of our anglers are utilizing private land ponds in the State so we went after a private land fishing program. We used to stock ponds and the Legislature stopped that, so we had to try and figure out some way to get access to those bodies of water. As Steve mentioned earlier, we only had three naturalist streams in our State so we have very limited stream access. We have some of the most beautiful streams, but are very inaccessible. This program is moving a lot slower, for all kinds of reasons, because of the enormous amount of different ways you have to manage an angler. We have to go slow. Keeping your programs separate is important. Budgeting them together is a mistake because you may have one program that works, and another that fails miserably, and you don't want the good ones to fall by the wayside. You need to be careful how you set them up. The pressure that we have taken off our public land in the last three years, has been unbelievable. We had a lot of our public land hunters upset with us because we had good looking habitat but you couldn't see anything. In the last three years, because of our private land access, our quality of hunting on our public lands is way up.

Rob Manes - Kansas:

I might add a few numbers to that. We have about 300,000 acres of public hunting land in the State so the walk-in program has more than doubled the amount of land.

Max Peterson, IAFWA:

There are a couple of states that I know of that have some kind of a stamp that is associated with this land, in which the hunters pay an additional fee for the use of this land. One of the oldest ones, I think, is in South Carolina where they created these wildlife management areas which originally included National Forest and private land. They charge a \$10 additional fee to hunt deer there. They had an increase of hunting pressure on those lands because hunters felt that it must be good land because habitat work was being done and they were charging an additional fee. They do habitat work and provide law enforcement from those funds. This not only is a self

funding project but, it also creates some additional income. Virginia also has a special stamp, that dates way back, that primarily relates to National Forest land, but they are doing some work on private land now.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

That is one of the things that we will consider in the future and we are hedging our bets that hunters will recognize and appreciate the free access to this land for however many years it will remain. Then we come back looking for license increases. We hope that goodwill will lead the support.

Max Peterson, IAFWA:

In South Carolina they don't increase the license fee they just provide a stamp if you want to hunt on those particular lands.

Doug Hansen - South Dakota:

It can work to your advantage, like that fee increase situation. We used the example of our walk-in area program many times when we were looking for a fee increase. We would say, if we are going to continue to provide these good programs, like the walk-in access program, we need financial support. It is really a very visible example of why you need that continuous support.

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

In Nebraska's CRP map, combination habitat improvement and access program, we have three sources of funding. We have a \$10 habitat stamp that hunters and trappers have to buy, so we have a habitat cash funding source. We also have game cash funding from license sales and then Pheasants Forever is a partner for about \$50,000 a year. If we expand into straight access, without habitat improvement components, we won't use our habitat stamp dollars, we would use game cash. Pheasants Forever won't pay for straight access either. I think Kirk would agree, that we could sell an access stamp, or some other dedicated funding to our sportsman right now, because their appetite has been wetted on this program and they are all for it. We will be a little bit of a reverse situation than you are. We are at a point where we might have to ask for an additional stamp, or funding increase in our license sales, if we want to go any further.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I hate to cut this off but I think we ought to do a raffle and let you stretch your legs, or whatever.

John Mumma - Colorado:

While you are getting ready to do that, I remember when that conference was held on buying lands. We just completed the Western Association's annual meeting and one of the actions that was undertaken at that time, was the creation of a new standing committee on Public Wildlife/Private Lands. I tend to agree with Max that a lot of the future of wildlife management, in this country, is going to rest on the will of landowners and maybe it is time for us to be thinking about a new workshop or symposium that would bring together many of the concepts. I have heard some really good ideas here today and I think we need to explore the opportunities

out there as well as the challenges. There are some great threats out there as well as opportunities. In our part of the world, fragmentation, sub-development and destruction of habitat are apparent. I know WMI, and a number of other entities, were involved with that earlier symposium. Maybe we should look at getting a major symposium set up a year or two down the road.

Deer Management in Midwest States

Terry Riley, WMI:

(missed beginning comments due to tape change) We need to base the direction we are going on factual information rather than a lot of speculation and generalization. That is what we are trying to do.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Sometimes asking people, and not assuming, is innovative for Fish and Wildlife agencies.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

Looking at your brochure I do not see any mention of exclusion techniques. One I have used in my backyard is using chicken wire, but you don't use it as a fence, you lay it on the ground. You use the larger mesh and deer will not walk on it. Chicken wire is cheap, you can lay it on the grass, put rocks on it or something to keep it from rolling up. It is not obtrusive because people can't see it from a distance. I found it works really well. It has to be wide enough so that they don't try to step over it, so I laid two strips down. They won't step on it, and it acts like a cattle guard. In a confined area around haystacks it might work and it beats all of that high dollar fences people build and farmers can drive right over it. The only thing is, you have to keep grass clippings and fallen leaves, or other debris, off of it or they will walk on it.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

How did you ever find this out? Did the fence fall down, or what?

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

That is how the other guy found out about it. The guy who told me about it had put some up as a fence and the deer went right through it. He found out after it laid on the ground that they didn't seem to go over it. I tried it and it worked. It has to be a barrier of about 6 feet deep but it will only work in an area where they are commonly coming through.

Mike Budzik - Ohio:

Jim Douglas should give his lion poop story.

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

We were talking about this last evening and Tom was talking about all of the expense he went through to protect his garden. He put up a 10 foot fence plus barbed wire rolled on top of that. I was telling a story of the time I was in the regional office and we were getting an unusually high number of complaints about deer damage. My secretary told me that while I was out, I got a

phone call from a person who had a deer damage complaint. I asked where they were and she said it was an urban problem, a garden. I told her all of our zon guns were loaned out and the biologists were out working on large scale depredation problems. Off the cuff, I told her that I had heard someone mention that lion shit would keep deer away from the garden. About that time I had to go out of the office. In the meantime, the guy had called back and she told him that lion shit worked, she was just trying to be helpful. I didn't know about this until a couple of days later when he called me back to thank the office for the recommendation. He went to the local zoo and talked them out of some lion shit and it worked really wonderful.

John Mumma - Colorado:

In the trade, we call that lion dung.

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

While I've got the Mic. I might mention that I have a couple of handouts that I don't want to take back home. One is a deer hunter survey that we did last year as part of the human dimensions effort to find out how our hunters feel about our management program. Back on the transferable permit question, that of course, has raised it's head in Nebraska the last few years. What has brought it to a peak, is the resurgence of elk in northwest Nebraska. With deer, a lot of the landowners felt they should have transferable permit opportunities because of deer damage. The transferable issue came close to making it's way into Legislative action last year but because of elk, not because of elk damage really but, because of the opportunity to make lots of money. Up to now, we have resisted the transferable permit scenario. We have looked at Colorado's "Ranching for Wildlife" program and thought that might actually be applicable to the elk situation, but we don't know where we can hold our foot on that slippery slope of transferable permits. There may be situations where it would work, but we are afraid that we might keep sliding down that slope with our deer permits.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I would suggest that we try to let one another know, on these issues, because there is nothing more embarrassing then saying no other state does it and have somebody say, well Nebraska just did it, or so and so just did it. Maybe if we commit to each other that we keep folks aware. It really scares me, the philosophical issues that John raised. The fact that, if private landowners are managing deer through transferring permits, they are taking the permits out of the hands of the regular population, then we are out of business and we are not managing deer anymore.

Jim Douglas - Nebraska:

We were watching South Dakota's situation very closely. Those Nebraska citizens who live closer to South Dakota or Colorado, plus those that hunt big game in many states, they keep track of what is going on in other places. They will be the first ones to bring that up.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

We issue doe permits to individual landowners. We go out and determine how much damage they have. They can sell the permits if they want to, we allow that, but very few do that, that we have knowledge of. Most of them choose to bring in their own friends and we haven't had a

problem with it. Those are doe only permits and in addition they have to have their deer tags and hunting licenses. They are good only during the bow and gun season. Most landowners don't sell them. We have something else, any landowner can kill a deer or any animal anytime during the year if they have damage and they don't even have to call us. That has become a pressure relief valve for many landowners. They have an option to take the problem animals any time they want, they just have to contact the Conservation Officer after they have taken the animal and they have to dispose of it. The animal is not to be used for eating purposes.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

We don't have that in Wisconsin, you have to have a permit to shoot a deer. Our animal damage program underwent some modifications in the Legislature this past session. We have to pay for damage claims that are properly filed up to \$15,000. The maximum used to be \$5,000. Also, there was a lot of conflict between our landowners and our hunting community regarding whether landowners were letting hunters on to their land. There is a requirement, that a landowner in the program would have to allow two hunters per 40 on their land for hunting. There were a lot of allegations that some of them weren't complying with that restriction. The Legislature removed the hunter density requirement and said if you are in the animal damage program your land is open to deer hunting. Things really hit the fan when word of this got out so they took some action and it has now been modified to a minimum of two hunters per 40. We only had the unlimited decision for about six months and then it got changed. Our program is one where we are paying for damage complaints. It works but we have a lot of conflict. There have been instances where the landowner went over the edge, financially, because of deer damage. We also do a lot of fencing with our baitment program. We have fenced just about every major apple orchard in the state of Wisconsin and we have fenced some other large farms, 300 or 400 acres. They are eligible for a 50% cost share with that program. It is going to cost us a lot more now that the cap has been raised and we don't have the money coming in from the \$1.00 surcharge on the licenses. What will happen will be that these claims will start to be prorated and farmers are going to start getting 40 or 50 cents on the dollar, and that will probably prompt some additional action by the Legislature. We are continuing to go around and around with this thing. More and more of our rural landscape is being bought by hunters who buy for recreational hunting, not for farming. It works, but yet at times, it doesn't.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

Back to the point that Tom made. I think we should focus in on that idea and let people shoot these animals. Ten or Fifteen years ago when our deer population hit an all time low, a lot of our managers had a hard time reconciling the fact that if the deer herd grew, that it was important to issue permits. They had the authority to make that recommendation into the central office and they wouldn't do it. The landowners were getting madder and madder and it got real close to making us pay wildlife damage. We still don't pay one cent in wildlife damage and there is a state law that prohibits the state from paying damage caused by wild animals. I helped get that through about 15 years ago. We issued landowners permits to kill the animal doing the damage and most of them don't do it. We don't hear much anymore about deer damage because they know they can get a permit and they can shoot a deer, or more, if necessary.

Rob Manes - Kansas:

We are have started to issue the landowner a permit to kill a deer, without wasting it. Number one, they aren't so anxious once they have that permit in hand, but knowing that they can is very important to them. I think this will also prevent us from having to pay damage payments over the long haul. It may be our only hope. We have had to overcome considerable internal cultural opposition, and we continue to do that. I think the ability and willingness to hand that permit to the landowner, may go a long way to preventing damage payments and to retain the ability to manage for a quality deer herd.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

I can follow up to that, too. It is important to allow the landowners to shoot at offending animals or trap them. Word gets around that you are trying to protect crops but the animals can't be killed. It instills in the landowner that the best way to deal with problem animals is to kill them. We are doing the same thing through our goose control program. We are doing Goose roundups and we are taking the adults and sending them to the food shelves. We have been through court on that and we won. The Fish and Wildlife Service went through a lot of trouble the last couple of years on, it but we prevailed. We are trying to control the goose population in the Twin City area by taking up to 10,000 birds a year, trapping them and sending the adults to the food shelves. The public is used to the idea and they support it. There was very little support for the people who brought suit against us. You just have to remind people that surplus animals have to be killed.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

I just don't know how you guys pulled that off. In Wisconsin, you have to have \$1,000 or more in damage, which has to be approved by the people who inspect the farm, before we issue a shooting permit. Then our manager would prescribe a limit, usually in ten deer increments. We have had guys kill 140 deer. It is not unusual for guys to kill 30 or 40 and the neighbors just go nuts. The local problems that this creates for us, taints the issue. We have been paying damage since the 50's. We are trying to get more sportsman involved in helping the landowners so that it is not such an onerous issue. We have some guys who fit the requirements of the program and go out and kill the deer for spite, more than anything else.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

We are going through a wolf management plan in the state of Minnesota and we have everybody involved including livestock growers, sheep growers, anti-hunters and trappers and the Trappers Association. About 40 of them will sit around the table trying to negotiate a plan. What we are hoping for is that they will come out of the meeting with an idea and adopt the concept that any landowner that has a wolf on his land, and that animal is causing damage, that landowner can kill it. We started that in 1973 with managing black bear, they were an unprotected species and could be killed any time year-round. We got them on the protected list with the proviso that any black bear doing damage could be killed. That is still a law in Minnesota. We thought if that works for bears, then it ought to work for wolves. We are hoping that well go through. If the DNR ends up developing the plan, that is what we are going to recommend and we hope we can

make that stick. Going back to idea like Tom was talking about, if the landowner is having a problem with a wolf he knows he can go out and kill that wolf and that takes a lot of the pressure and frustration away.

John Mumma - Colorado:

I envy Minnesota's position because I think Colorado has the unenviable position of paying more game damage payments than any other state in the country. The Wildlife Commission meets every month and every other month is a regulation setting or a decision making meeting, and every other month we process game damage claims. We pay anywhere between 1/2 and 3/4 of a million dollars annually. We have fenced every single orchard in the state with 8 foot high game fences. We have another program where 5% of our license revenues, through a cooperative program, goes into what's called a "Habitat Partnership Program". That is essentially used to try and avoid having to pay damages. It is a forage and fencing plan. We have two full time people providing fencing to landowners for haystacks and stack yards. We pay a tremendous amount for bear and lion damage claims on sheep. We are paying every time we turn around, unbelievable amounts of claims. Some of the only proviso's that prevent landowners from making those claims is if they charge over \$100 for access for people to come on their ground, we do not pay any damage. Two years ago, the State Legislature took the authority to manage depredating animals away from the Division of Wildlife and placed that with the Commissioner of Agriculture and gave them exclusive jurisdiction to control depredating animals. That is a subject of our audit right now. Should the Division of Wildlife, that has no control for managing depredating animals, be required to pay for the damage they cause. It will be interesting to see where that falls out. The philosophy that has evolved over time, has been that if you are willing to have higher birds and animals, deer or animals, then you should be willing to pay for some of these. It has gotten to the point where I am not sure that it is worth the cost of having higher herds of deer, elk or antelope just to have a few more hunters out there. We are probably paying more for damage then we are gaining benefits.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

I stand corrected on one point. The Department of Agriculture does pay for damage in Minnesota caused by wolves and that was \$400 a head and it was just increased by the State Legislature to \$750. That came about 15 years ago when the wolf was completely protected in Minnesota. It has to be proven that it was wolf damage. For any endangered species that is causing damage, the only other payment that has been made was when a bald eagle killed somebody's ducks.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

When we had all of these changes on our deer damage law, the Legislature in their wisdom, added turkeys. So now we have bear, geese, deer and turkeys. This was to spite one of the most thorough studies we ever did on turkeys that showed that they don't do any crop damage at all, except in highly unusual situations. Science and research wasn't the issue, it was perception.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

To sum up what Roger was talking about. The statues that we have about landowners. We have never paid any damage and I think that over the years, that is one of the reasons. Once the landowner finds out that they have control of the species that are on their land, they don't take the animals. It has worked well for us.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

It has worked well for us, so far. As long as we are willing to sacrifice 100 deer across the state of Kansas to some guy shooting them on his farm. To save the integrity of the whole deer management program, and 300,000 or 400,000 other deer, I think that is a pretty good return. It is noon we will have another topic to discuss after lunch.

Hunter and Angler Retention Programs

Mike Budzik - Ohio:

License sales are driven by recruitment. Getting more hunters and anglers and keeping them can be linked to many factors. Animal population, transient abundance, weather patterns, less leisure time, competing interests, the aging of the baby boomer generation and urbanization are some. Over 50% of all fishing licenses are sold from 12 of Ohio's 88 counties, which happen to be surround Lake Erie. Twenty-five percent of all hunting licenses come from 7 counties and those are the major metropolitan counties. There are many socio-demographic factors that have influenced a person's decision to purchase a licence. What has our response been? We are trying to learn as much as we can, as quickly as we can about why Ohio would, or would not, hunt or fish. We are working on a state natural survey, creel surveys, reviewing existing surveys by the Sportfish and Boating Council and we are trying to identify the most significant problems. We've got an angler retention recruitment project using GIS and socio-demographic information to explore what these relationships are. We are implementing some programs designed to increase participation, acquire and develop access, promote and enhance existing opportunities and get them better information. On controlled fishing areas, basically we would like to revamp new publications, do lake maps, lake area fishing guides and try to increase urban use, women's opportunities, Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs, outdoor sportsman and youth hunts. We are looking to improve our customer service. We have a 1-800 wildlife line and a point of sale system that will be coming on line. On the 1-800 wildlife line, we found out that we were missing almost 62% of the calls of people coming in and wanting information for hunter safety courses, etc. If we didn't get a call in four rings then the person had to call back. We did a real critical self-analysis and we are making some major steps to correct that for this fall. We are trying to evaluate trends and barriers to opportunities. We are looking at marketing and developing and enhancing GIS database applications. In terms of numbers for the fishing license for 1997, our sales have leveled off at about 770,000, about 1/2 of a percent increase over 1996. Hunting licenses for 1997 are still in progress, we predict looking a 1 - 2% decline from 1996 sales. There is some good information in this handout but it is not real positive in some respects.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Max did a good job of talking about the history of restoration of wildlife. If we look at demographics, think about age structure and etc., in deer populations, what is happening to the hunter population. We did a great job restoring wildlife but we are doing a lousy job restoring hunters and maintaining and retaining the hunting heritage. That kind of stuff is critical and that is the same kind of exercise we went through when we were trying to figure out how to restore certain populations of wildlife. Get the baseline and try to figure out where we are at.

Terry Riley, WMI:

I was at a Pheasants Forever banquet a couple of months ago and there is an interesting private industry effort going on. South Dakota has their share of pheasant farms and I happened to sit by a guy who manages one of them for a person who lives in California. The guy in California was looking to expand the interests of those who use these game preserves and he felt that he had to capture the youth. They are having the same problem we are, if we don't keep the young coming to these we won't have a business in the future. He got together with the people who put on the hunter safety program and offered a day of free shooting to the kids with their excess birds, or hens that aren't so popular for other things. They felt that they might be able to recruit a lot of people. Evidently now all of the kids in northeast South Dakota are looking more forward to going to this hunt on the game preserve, then they are worried about the hunter safety course. The opportunity to have private industry actually do it for us, in many ways is a good plan. Also, the state and Pheasants Forever have gotten involved in helping to provide information. This is a unique opportunity and may be a way of approaching some of our private industry groups that may be faced with the same dilemma and working cooperatively with them to help us.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

At the shooting sports summit we heard a lot of talk from the private side, trap ranges, skeet ranges, sporting clays ranges and they were missing the point. They were designing more complicated shoots and new games and making it more difficult because they were trying to keep the old-timers that have mastered the sporting clays course challenged. I really think they are missing the boat here for kids. The private side is struggling with it, but I am not sure they are struggling with the right problem. I think some other states are allowing free shooting at preserves and so on.

John Mumma - Colorado:

Steve, let me share another viewpoint that we have had shared with us this last year. While I have the floor let me invite everyone of you next July to a beautiful drive in Colorado where we will be hosting the Western. Actually this was one of the major subjects at the Western Association meeting. In Colorado we underwent a major management review a couple of years ago. One of the outcomes of that was setting up and staffing a fairly sizable human dimensions program. Let me tell you about some things that we have found out this past year and a half, as a result of doing that. While we were struggling and thinking that we needed to have a bigger percentage of the public hunt and fish, and we needed to have more recruitment also, we held 20 meetings around the state of Colorado discussing fish management policy. We also held 15

meetings to discuss big game management. What we heard was that there were too many fisherman. The fisherman want fewer people out there competing with them and the hunters want 50% fewer hunters statewide. They would like to see the reduction come from the non-resident ranks and it is a growing problem. They are not concerned about the financial ramifications, or about the future of the sport. Maybe we are only hearing from the vocal crowd that is very conservative out there. Like most of your states we have quite a number of educational, as well as information and education, programs. One of the brand new ones that we are embarking on is at the Denver Zoo. The Zoo receives millions of visitors a year and we have exhibits and displays about the work that wildlife conservation does that we help fund. A new \$5 million building has just been completed on the site of the Denver Zoo. We are major financial partners in that with the Gates Rubber Company. It is the "Wildlife Conservation Education Center" and there is a full staff of instructors that will be teaching, including two people from our staff, classrooms, etc. We did a lot of research there and it is one of the more exciting activities that we are engaged in. (Missed final comments due to tape change.)

MAT Team

Dwight Guynn, MAT Team:

One of the approaches we have taken is to sit down with the States and get their perspectives rather than saying, here is the answer. We will distribute the results of this survey with an executive summary that we will put out, in Savannah. We will also mail everybody the report in the mail. We will send assessments to the reviewers in August. Options will be discussed at the fall meeting in September at the International. Internal decisions and discussions of the review will be in October. Charter options for that will be identified at that point. In October, or November, we will have a review and will have representatives from each of the regional groups, someone from the Midwest, West, etc. and will distribute that in November. Drafts will go to Jamie Clark as well, so she will see what is coming down the pike. My report with the options and levels of funding will be available in December. We are not going to do this without your input, we need your help to do this. The final decision will be made by Jamie Clark but if input is received from all of the people we just talked about, particularly Directors of States, then we don't see a problem with that. The question we need to ask of the process is, have we left anything out. Are there things we need to do different at this point? We have now met with each of the regional organizations and we can change any of the process from this point on, whatever you feel is important. Any questions about the process? I am trying to get you out of here without too much time. We've asked Mark to put the questions on the computer and you also have the paper copies if you would rather do it on paper. Mark, I am going to turn it over to you.

Mark:

First of all I would like to say, I don't want you to be scared off with us running around and punching all sorts of weird buttons. You can use your enter key or your arrow key. Second, if you do feel uncomfortable you can have a hard copy. From a practical standpoint, if there are not enough computers to go around, maybe you can use a hard copy. We have a couple of Directors here who have already done this at the Western Association. We are going to report all of the results from this separately as Fish and Wildlife Agency Directors, so figure out the person you want to do this. The second thing I would like to say is, that I really appreciated the previous hour or so of discussion on hunting and fishing recruitment. We have been involved with that for over 15 years now and I would like to draw a couple of things to your attention. First, a lot of the answers to these questions are out there. The only problem is that there is this grand canyon between what researchers, and other people like me, know, versus what the end user knows. Actually, we are doing another project now and I just happened to have this in my briefcase. It is a fairly major study that we did ending in 1996 called "Factors Related to Hunting and Fishing Participation". We used federal aid money. It was a huge, 1/2 million dollar, study on literature review where we looked at about 20 years of research, in terms of what people had found out before hand. We looked at hunting and fishing participation on a state-by-state and nationwide level, in terms of what was happening out there in terms of participation. We laid that on backdrop of demographic changes. From that we were able to point out some of the major variables that are effecting hunting and fishing participation. We also conducted major opinion polls on hunters, on ex-hunters, anglers and ex-anglers and people who had never hunted or

fished. This study, three years in the making, culminated several reports. One very small, hopefully very easy to read, report is available. Since then we have done a lot more studies for Fish and Wildlife agencies. We are doing another book that I also want to tell you about called "Wildlife and the American Experience", it is a federal aid project that we have been writing for two years. Over the past 10 years, starting with the Western Association we conducted over 300 surveys on attitudes on hunting and fishing to the restoration of wolves in Yellowstone to wildlife viewing and everything else. What we have been doing over the past two years is taking these, over 300 different studies, and putting it into a fairly simple, and hopefully easy to read, book. That will be available in the next month or so. It is pretty comprehensive. We also have a number of workshops coming up. I would like to end this by saying, we would never think about developing a fish or wildlife management, a biological plan, without doing the appropriate research. The same should be true with our hunting and fishing programs and our people programs, otherwise we are just winging it. The survey is on the CATY system and it is real effective. It shouldn't take any more than 20 or 25 minutes to do. (Gave instructions for doing survey.) We really appreciate you taking the time to do this for us. Thanks.

Geometrically Challenged?



Roundtable Discussion...



... at square tables. Hmm...



Another hat - just what I wanted. Thanks!



**Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Annual Director's Meeting
July 14, 1998 - Business Meeting
Eldridge Hotel
Lawrence, Kansas**

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and I don't know how many of you have heard about this but I felt that I might, Private Land Coordinators are the ones who asked me to do this through their committee that has been working on this in the Midwest and he asked me to explain this. I'm no expert on this by any means but a couple of people in the room are so they could maybe help me out if there are some detailed questions. We got into this two years ago when the new farm program came out and our private land coordinator Kevin Lyons got interested in it so I assigned him to work on this through our State Board of Water and Soil Resources and so he took a mobility to them and he wrote a lot of our proposal. That proposal was signed by our Governor Carlson and the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary Ronniger, February 19, 1998 and what the program does is an expansion of course of CRP and it allows us to enroll to start with, up a 100,000 acres of land into the CRP program and the area targeted is the basin of the Minnesota River and we intend to enroll up to 100,000 acres of land that is right in the flood plain, 30,000 in the tributaries of the Minnesota River and 30,000 acres of crop land filter strips and 30,000 of prairie pothole wetlands will be restored in that area. Don't bother taking notes on any of this because I have handouts for all of you with all of this on it. I've given enough of these to know that I don't hand them out until after I'm done so you're not paging through them. The idea of all this is to bring federal money into the State that we would not have otherwise and the State of Minnesota will end up paying 20% of the overall cost of the program. Now this is a 200 million dollar program and so we are talking a big effort here. The reason we thought it would be important to present here at the Midwest is that some of you other states should get involved with this because there is a big payoff. This is the kind of money that does not come along more than once every 10 or 20 years and you got a tremendous opportunity here to do a lot on the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat. That's why I felt it important to present this to you firsthand and the one problem with this is that it does take matching money at the State level. Of course the problem becomes where you get that matching money and we're getting ours through our "Reinvest in Minnesota" program and we went to the Legislature and got an appropriation to match this and our rim program, as you may know - I gave a talk on this here once before. The rim program, the rim reserve program is patterned after the federal farm programing and we put that together, I wrote most of it in fact in 1984, and that was written at a time when the federal farm program looked like it might go out of existence. It occurred to me at the time that if that's the case maybe we should develop our own cropland reserve program and we did that with a couple of changes. The first one was that the rim reserve program would be perpetual and the other one was that the people would get paid up front. At that time in 1984, a lot of farmers were losing their farms and it looked at the same time, as I said, that the farm program might not continue. That was really up in the air, so that program became quite popular and that in fact

enabled some people to save their farms because they could take some piece of it that was not productive and put that into rim. They could get an up-front payment that amounted to quite a bit of money and use that to help pay the bills. So that happened, that program has continued ever since and it gets funded annually at about 10 - 15 million dollars a year. So there are I think about 50,000 acres are now enrolled in rim across the state under permanent easements and so we had the program in place to plug right into "CREP" and that's what we did. The additional things that the state will have to pay are 50% of the costs for conservation practices. Then for permanent easements there is a bonus that's paid and that's the hook here of course for the landowners where a lump sum payment for rim contract supplements, that's the rim and for permanent easements the bonus is calculated by multiplying the total CRP rental payments over the duration of the contract, which all of these CRP contracts are 15 year, so that's whatever the annual contract is multiplied by 15 years. You take 40% of that's how you calculate the bonus. When the people sign up for this they get paid that right then and that's the sign in bonus just like you're writing a contract with a ball player I guess. Then the program goes into CRP for 15 years and then at the end of the CRP program the rim program kicks in. That easement kicks in as a perpetual easement so that land is tied up forever and the person already has received the payment, received it 15 years prior to that. So there is a lot of interest in it, its being handled by our Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Soil and Water Conservation District with technical input from us. The implementation of it is just under way now. We had a few problems in Minnesota because of the cutbacks in personnel, particularly with the Conservation Districts, or I should say, there have been some cutbacks but they've got a lot of work to do with the CRP program as does our Board of Water and Soil Resources and they really didn't get any extra help to do that. With our CRP sign-up, for example, a year ago, our Wildlife Area Managers volunteered, were encouraged to, and worked in the district offices, in the FSA offices across the agricultural part of the State and spent a couple of weeks right in those offices helping the landowners and explaining to the landowners what CRP was and that increased our sign-up from the first go-round from 15% of the contracts being approved up to 80%. So we got a real big sign-up last fall and a lot of our managers do understand the farm program and understand CRP so that ties right in with them being able to explain CREP. But, as far as we can see this is the biggest pay-off that there is in wildlife management and it even exceeds Teaming, Max. So this is something that, a few hours of our Manager's time spent, or perhaps a couple of hours per contract, means that we've got an average of, I don't know what the average contract is, but a couple hundred acres probably permanently set aside for wildlife in the case of CREP and the case of CRP, ten to fifteen years. So we are very excited about this and we feel there is no better way to spend our time and money then on this program. So I will make a couple of other comments. The first state in the nation to get an approved contract was the State of Maryland and they are doing some similar things around Chesapeake Bay, which delights me, I had a opportunity to be on Chesapeake Bay for three weeks this spring, beautiful area. The water looks just like the water in the Minnesota River. Now our governor, in 1994, I think it was, set a goal, no it was 1992, because it was a 10 year goal. He set a goal of making the Minnesota River swimmable and fishable by the year 2002 and we have a ways to go, I guess, before I would swim in the river, but we are making a lot of progress. We have been able to measure a marked improvement of water quality at Mankato, which is about half-way down the river in the south

central part of the state. That was the goal and that was put in our proposal and that is still a goal, of course, we don't have much time to do that but it may in fact be swimmable by 2002. People swim in it now but probably shouldn't. But it was rated as one of the most polluted and endangered rivers in the country so we are making a lot of effort there. There is a joint powers board of 35 counties, maybe 29 I don't recall, but that are really excited about cleaning up the Minnesota River. They are working hard on this. There are a lot of things going on and it ties in with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. We have been directing our efforts into that river basin through the North American Plan and we just got a project approved for restoring wetlands within the Minnesota River basin, so that this all ties together. It is a big effort and it is an effort that is going to pay off downstream, obviously because a good share of the silt load that is coming down the Mississippi River is coming out of the Minnesota. So we think there is an opportunity to make a lot of improvements in the most significant river system in the U.S., at least in our opinion. A couple of other states that are involved in this, Illinois - I was commenting on that the other day - in fact they have the largest improved contract of \$250 million, \$195,000 in Maryland and ours is \$223,000 total, then New York, Oregon and Washington also have proposals in. So this is a big opportunity and I would encourage you to get involved. I've got folders here for I think everybody in the room and they are two different colors but they are all the same and we can just pass them out. I think I am out of time but if you have any questions, I would be pleased to try and answer any questions you have.

Question - (couldn't hear who) What is the time frame, have you started it?

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

(Answer) - The proposal, I don't think there is any time frame as far as getting the proposal in, we now are going to sign up, it's a continuous thing, there is \$100,000 that, I mean a \$100 million, that is appropriated to us or that is available to us to see how we do. If we use that up then there is an additional, I think, 70 or 80 million, I'm not sure of the figure. I think \$70 million, available to us, to continue on with this. I don't know, Terry might know that, if there is a time when the sign-up have to end. Do you know Terry?

Terry Riley - Wildlife Management Institute - South Dakota:

No, right now basically you have to sign a 15 year contract and you can sign them up as long as there are still acres available through the CRP program. There are 6 million acres available through this and continuous CRP sign-up. We haven't touched that 6 million acres very much so FSA is encouraging anybody to put these forbs out and get more partnerships involved in it the better. Our people come to us for money and expertise and I talked to him about multi-state type of proposals the other day and he said he was pretty much in favor of those. They have a better chance of getting them approved if they make applications from both states. He received a few applications but had not had a chance to go over them yet. There are time frames that we cut short because he was relatively new and Minnesota and others were submitting errors and I think they were being fostered down. It's hard to say exactly how many times they are going to have to send them back to you to get it the way they want it. It does have a lot of possibilities within it, the rules themselves are very specific about what people can do. So it is just a matter of putting

together a proposal. Minnesota is looking at having a short Especially departments that aren't necessarily divisional departments, you water quality people, for instance, would have money from EPA or from or something. You bring those back to the table.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

Now remember you don't have to necessarily come in with a \$200 million program either, 10% of that and you could do a heck of a lot, you don't have to pick a watershed, it doesn't have to even be on a watershed basis. It doesn't have to be size that covers 35 counties either, it could be a lot smaller but the point is to just get started. It is just like the Teaming With Wildlife plan, it is something that we can't afford to not be involved with.

Kirby Cottrell - Illinois:

Roger this is just to mention a little bit about what Illinois did before you did. We approached our program with idea that it was kind of tweaking the continuous sign-up program. What we were looking for was to have the kind of practices that left out in the wild and continuous and do it that way. Ours mirror yours because of the 100,000 acres. The one difference between your proposal and ours is that we have three options for landowners to consider: whether to sign up for an additional 15 years beyond the 15 year federal program, or an additional 35 years, or they can do a permanent easement. Our agreement was signed in late March and we are working on some ground. One of the keys that I think that helped us is, I don't know how - it just happened, was the fact that we had a good working relationship before we developed ours. I should say a good working relationship between FSA and NRCS at the state level and that really helped when making an agreement with DC. Because the boys in DC want to see working together at the state level.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

And in our case Kirby, what we ending up doing, as I said, was taking our private land coordinator and putting him in their office to rate this proposal and you really should consider that. They are all busy they don't have time to put in, and it was a full time job for a year and a half for them to rate that.

Kirby Cottrell - Illinois:

We are in the process of getting involved with NRCS. NRCS has a heavy work load but we are beginning to talk to them about plans to be written under CREP. This is our opportunity to get in there if we want to write those plans for NRCS or assist in writing those plans. So the option is to decide the schedule ... you need to take advantage of it because the window is short, the rules are out now, you don't have the flexibility that maybe we had and Minnesota and Maryland had when we started out for immediate assistance but we would be glad to give anybody assistance.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

Terry and I were talking last night, he commented on this multi-state approach that I hadn't thought about but we've got the one going which would seem to be enough. But, I haven't had a chance to talk to Fred about it, I think that - North Dakota's not here but if Minnesota, North and South Dakota got together and Manitoba we could put in a proposal on the Red River of the

North where we really need some of this stuff so when I get back I want to start talking about that. So you better get yours in sooner or we may have another one.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington, DC:

Roger just let me encourage the other states to get involved because by the year 2000 there will be a lot of people that ignore these things that will do it between now and then. These boast few resources as well as provide money for CREP. Maybe that 6 million is not best recapped, so if somebody broke that 6 million so it could change, I wouldn't let that concern anybody from applying again. In Texas, they were taking that up-front payment like you are doing and turning it into a thirty year annuity for some farmers and some of them took the payment up front and put it in the bank for twenty or thirty years or something. There are all kinds of those things.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

In agricultural states like we're all from you can put a package like this together and go to the legislature and get money where you won't get money for anything else.

Unknown:

You said something about matching - is it a 50/50 match?

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

No. In our case, and I don't know what the deals are with other states, the state of Minnesota is paying 20% of the overall cost. We are paying 50/50 match on the conservation improvements that are put on the land when they sign up and then there are certain improvements that people can be involved with and we pay 50% of that but only 20% of the overall cost of the program.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Thank you Roger. That is timely for us in Kansas who just last week met with the Governor's staff and Secretary of Ag and Secretary of Health and Environment and went over this program with them. The letter is being drafted from our Governor to Glickman saying, yea we would like to be part of it and we will start working on our proposal. We are going to try to look at it, I think probably the main focus there is from water quality, because we just settled a lawsuit over T&DL's and we need to get to work on that. But obviously there is lots of benefits to wildlife for anything we do, water quality is going to help wildlife. Well, I would like to call this meeting to order and understand that I never read Robert's Rules of Order and I'm not terribly formal so we'll work through this anyway. The first thing we need to do is roll call and just to show you that I'm not conventional I'm going to do a reverse roll call. I'm not as clever as Max is and I don't know the nicknames of the states. So I will get through roll call quickly. To my understanding there is no one here from North Dakota, Iowa, or Michigan. Is that correct? Or Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. Everybody else is here, how's that? Very good. I guess the first order to continue being nonconventional, the first order of business is to accept the minutes of the last meeting. We don't have the minutes of the last meeting so we won't be accepting them. We tried to get them and Al couldn't be here because he is at another meeting representing our interests. But we were not able to get minutes from the meeting in Iowa so I

guess we will just have to take them up at the next meeting in Kentucky. There has been one request for an addition through the agenda. Mike Budzik asks for a couple of minutes to talk about an issue so we will get you in Mike. I don't know if there is any other additions or deletions that we need to consider. I guess we can get right into the meeting. We need to move this along, folks have flights to catch, everybody is pretty busy and there is a lot of things on this agenda, so I will try to keep it moving and please don't think me rude, but we do need to keep it moving. Having said that I'd ask that Steve Miller come up and give the Resolution's Committee Report.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

Thank you Mr. President. Good morning everyone. The Resolutions' Committee consists of Roger Holmes, Mike Budzek and myself. We did send out a request for resolutions and we did not receive any from the membership except from the great state of Wisconsin. This is the only formal resolution that we have at the moment and it deals with the Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration program audit issues. I think generally what we have done, since none of you have probably seen this, why don't I read it quickly and then we can decide how to dispense with it here. "Whereas the Federal Aid to Sportfish and Restoration programs have existed for over 50 years as partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and State Fish and Wildlife Agencies and provide over \$400 million annually to support Sportfish and Wildlife, Hunter Education and Recreational Boating activities; whereas the intent of these programs and activities is to meet individual state needs for Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration; whereas the ongoing state audits have identified several issues nationwide that are critical to federal aid program implementation in the states; whereas these issues, in some cases, have been interpreted differently between Fish and Wildlife Service regions and State Fish and Wildlife agencies; now therefore be it resolved, that the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Association request that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, through appropriate committee involvement and otherwise, develop and implement an orderly and efficient process to review, evaluate and prepare mutually acceptable solutions to common audit issues, including those involved in the policy clarification process commencing with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in Savannah, Georgia in September 1998; and be it further resolved that the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Association requests that the International contact the Fish and Wildlife Service and request that it's process for receiving comments on, and reviewing issues and proposed clarifications of policy, respecting the Federal Aid in Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration programs, include consultation and consideration of comments from the International or it's committees as defined by the Association; be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service." The intent here is to try and have an orderly process to resolve a number of issues that have come up during the audits, examples: recreational activities on state lands where federal aid money is involved; timber sale work; animal damage - there is a process ongoing right now on that, as we speak, in Jackson Hole. We did not really have a formal committee meeting since we had the one resolution but, in talking with Roger and Mike I believe they support this and we would recommend this be adopted by this body, Mr. President. That would be my motion.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Is there a second?

Unknown:

Second.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Any discussion?

John Mumma - Colorado:

Mr. President, I think this would be a pretty good step and I would think that you might want to add something about support or the intent and integrity of the use of these funds. I think that is really what is at the heart of this whole issue.

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

I guess in terms of taking action on this, we could either do it now, or we could let the Audit Committee vote later on in the agenda. Maybe you would want to consider this for a little bit during the course of the other presentations in case we want to modify some language like John has proposed.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Steve is referring to, if you look at the agenda, the Resolutions Committee vote comes later, maybe that would be the thing to do. To have Steve work on some language and incorporate what John brought up, get some other thoughts and then we can take action on it later this morning. Max?

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington, DC:

As a matter of information, I think probably before this week is over Wayne McCallum will appoint an Ad Hoc Committee at the International to deal with about 14 audit questions. I think that he is going to ask the Secretary's to be one of the members on the committee. He will be talking to Jerry Conley. It will be a committee to look at 14 audit issues, law enforcement, etc.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

If that is going to happen Max, is this resolution mote or do we...

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington, DC:

I think it is fine. Because it is the form they are really doing, so I reckon you can go ahead with it and John's idea put something about integrity into it too.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

Our Legal Committee of the Midwest discussed this too and I know they are in agreement with the concept and have been working together. I have received no other formal resolutions, we will have one thanking Kansas for the good meeting at the appropriate time later in the meeting but, in terms of resolutions dealing with business, I have received no others Mr. President, so I think

that would conclude my report.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Ok, we have - what do we do with the motion (this is where I should have read Robert's Rules of Order)? We have a second on the motion.

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

I think we would delay the vote until we have the Committee vote later in the meeting.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Ok. At this time, Terry, we had some discussion about, we have a Private Land Group and Terry would like to discuss the potential of setting up a Public Land Group. I will let you speak for yourself. It would require a resolution to establish this committee, is my understanding, that is why we are bringing it up at this point.

Terry Riley, Wildlife Management Institute - South Dakota:

As many of you know we have had a really good success story with our Private Lands Working Group here in the Midwest. It is a model for a lot of other regions in the United States, similar regions to put together similar groups to work on similar types of issues. We have led a lot that has gone on with the Farm Bill and several other types of things, these CREP proposals, a lot of the stuff that we were able to pull together on the Conservation Reserve Program and a lot of other conservation programs came, a lot of the information came out of the Private Lands Working Group. It has been a tremendous asset, I believe, for this Association. One of the problems we have encountered though is we don't have a united voice similar to the Private Lands Working Group within the public lands arena that we work. There are a lot of issues, like the National Grasslands, some of the stuff that is going on in the National Forests that several states have different opinions and thrown different types of information, different messages to the Public Land Agencies about the way they deal with things. There is a different type of a process there, they have to go through the Environmental Assessment process, the Environmental Impact Statement, we all address those in different ways. Some states do a very active job, some states don't and, like I said, there are opposing messages from some states just across the border to the same agencies. I think it might behoove you to think about the possibility of creating a Public Land Working Group that could address problems that deal with multi-State issues so that we come across with a strong voice the same way that the Private Lands Working Group has done. Congress has been impressed with this group and a lot of the stuff that has come out of here and with the Working Groups and I think the other Working Groups, or Pseudo-Working Groups, that are aligning themselves with the Midwest Association are now realizing how important it is to design themselves and function similarly to the Private Lands Working Group. You may want to think about this, I have been to a number of meetings where we had different states in the Midwest attending and the Forest Service and other federal entities sometimes just get tremendously mixed messages. We don't have our act together as well as we could if we united and came together on a regular basis with those staff of yours who typically work on Public Land issues. That is all I really have, it was just a suggestion. I think we have done a tremendous job

with the Private Lands Group and I hope we can do something similar with the Public Lands. Any questions?

Unknown:

Are you aware of any of the other Regional Associations that have a working group similar to what you have in mind?

Terry Riley, Wildlife Management Institute - South Dakota:

I haven't seen any, I know that the International has a committee that does this and some of the Midwest states have members on that committee and active participants. I believe we could function at a different level at local, district and Forest supervisors and Fish and Wildlife Service refuge offices and things like that. The Fish and Wildlife Service right now is going through the Comprehensive Conservation Planning process and they are dealing with watersheds and a lot of different variables. It would be really nice if we could get together with them and feed them good sound biological advice as a united group rather than, we may or may not comment on that refuge or things of this nature. Right now, the National Grasslands are under a lot of pressure to put together multiple plans or plans for multiple grasslands. It would be nice if we could feed them some strong ideas and if it came from this group they would have to listen. It is really important. A lot of the comments they get on these plans are so crazy you wouldn't even believe it. Like tell me where I can buy that land, or sell all of the National Grasslands and there won't be a problem, how can you address those kinds of things in a plan, they need some sound biological advice and they need it really well organized. I think a Public Lands Working Group could do that.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I might make a suggestion on how to deal with this. Perhaps the incoming President, Tom Young, might want to consider, I throw this out for discussion, maybe consider, establishing an Ad Hoc Committee that kind of scopes out what Terry is talking about, what the charge of that committee might be, and then bring it back to the Association for discussion, comment and so on before we would establish any working committee. I am not crazy about Ad Hoc Committees but that is one way that we could handle this. You may have some thoughts on this, but rather than establishing a full fledged Working Committee without really having it all scooped out, that seems to be the appropriate way to handle it. Steve?

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

Mr. President, I think that is how we handled setting up the Legal and Private Lands Committee. We took some time, I believe, when we set those up and we received a proposal with the draft charge and then we had some time to deliberate on that and then we formalized it. As a result we did put it into our bylaws, the process, but one thing the bylaws doesn't make real clear is exactly what you said, we would get a proposal first of the draft charge and then our process was to go ahead and approve the formation of the technical committee and they would go through these steps, a, b, and c. So I think that is very appropriate, as it should be.

Gary Doxtater - Indiana:

I would suggest that if the new President have an assignment that checked in with the International and see what that Committee is doing, where they have taken this. I think we all are cautious about becoming Committee'ed to death and I think that needs to be looked at.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

So, I will leave that up to you, Tom. Probably will be a whole bunch of stuff like that. Next report will be the Legal Committee Report. I have Clint Riley who is the Legal Council for our Department.

Clint Riley - Kansas:

Thank you Mr. President. My name is Clint Riley, I am the current attorney for Kansas, listed on your agenda is Amelia McIntyre, she had a unique opportunity to take another position and that is why I am in front of you instead, at this point. The Legal Committee for the Midwest Association met Saturday and Sunday, just before you all arrived for this meeting. This is the notebook of the materials we covered and I was going to go through this very carefully and read all of the highlights in here to you but I understand that you are pressed for time, so I will skip that. I did hand out a copy of the agenda that we went through so that you can see the kinds of topics we were talking about and see if you have any questions about that. I will just briefly highlight a few things on that, that seem especially relevant or of a nature that are even beyond the Midwest Association to the International Association, including some reports from the International Legal Committee about a possible "Right to Hunt" constitutional amendments, some discussions about various legal cases that are ongoing, some of which you are probably familiar with, such as the case coming out of Wyoming that involves a question about federal versus state jurisdiction over management of wildlife. Also, one that is coming out of the state of Massachusetts, that you may not be familiar with, because part of the reasons it seemed important for us to discuss it briefly is that it was a case signed on by, actually several Attorney General's as part of the Midwest, including Kansas, with as far as we know, no contact with any of the Fish and Wildlife agencies, in any of the states that signed on, or any of the others. It also dealt with the question of state and federal jurisdiction over wildlife, specifically the Endangered Species Act and we do have extra cases of the *Americus* brief that was filed by those Attorney General's to the Supreme Court to ask that it be seen and heard by that court. If you are curious about seeing what some of the issues are, essentially it dealt with the taking of endangered whale and decision by lower courts that because the state allowed fishing regulations and that the fisherman that received those fishing permits caught the whales, then the state was therefore liable of the taking. Potential long range impact on a lot of different wildlife issues. Other general issues that were discussed included the wildlife violators compact which I believe will also be discussed more at the International meeting coming up in Savannah and reports from some States that have been looking at that. I think you are all probably familiar with that effort to encourage cooperation between states, it may not be something that all states are going to find feasible to become a part of immediately but it is of interest to most states. We did also spend some time talking about issues regarding federal audits that are ongoing in several states including discussion of the resolution that Steve Miller already presented to you and as he stated the Legal

Committee feels comfortable with that concept. There may be some language tweaking that is appropriate to do, but as an idea the Legal Committee does support that. Other than that I don't know that there are any other highlights that are worth taking the time with this body to discuss but I would be glad to try and answer any questions. If you have more complete questions you may check with your Legal Counsel, we will be trying to send out some information to those that were not able to attend, so hopefully they will be aware of some of the discussions that did take place. If your Legal Counsel was here they would be able to talk to you more completely about some of the topics.

Gary Doxtater - Indiana:

How many states did you have represented?

Clint Riley - Kansas:

(Change of tape, did not get response, audit questions did not catch...) Some of the audit issues that Kansas went through that finished up a few years ago, to a great extent focused on some diversion issues and then some of what we've done and lessons we have learned from that presented some materials that have developed out of that. More generally, we discussed some of the various issues that have recently been promulgated as potential changes in policy by the Service, as I understand coming out of DCAA audits, including timber harvest, including use of recreational funds and kind of discussed, not in substance as much, what those issues are as much as the need, which I think falls under the resolution, for there to be some concerted effort that those issues be discussed more fully among the states before these policy changes are implemented. At this point it seems to be on something of a fast track and that may not be the most appropriate way to achieve those policy changes. Also, in that line, some discussion of the need to maybe have, and whether or not some of those policy changes should have the effect of actual rules and go through a process that would actually be an adoption of rules rather than simple policy changes that are enacted more arbitrarily or unilaterally. That was the substance of the discussions a little bit more.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We need a motion to accept the legal report. Roger second Gary. Any further discussion? Gary?

Gary Doxtater - Indiana:

The reason I asked about the attendance is that I think this is a committee that the Directors have supported and I don't think we are doing the support to our Legal Staff in getting them to these meetings. I think we depend on them, we don't like it, we have too many attorneys the way it is, but it is a way of life and they're giving us the guidance and defending us, fighting for us and we need to fight for them to get them to these meetings.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Good point. We have a motion and a second, all in favor of accepting the Legal Report say I? Opposed? Apparently none. Thank you Clint. The next committee report is the Midwest Private Land Wildlife Management Group and Troy Schroeder who is a Regional Public Land's

Supervisor for Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and his hobby is Agriculture Liaison. He spends 100% of his time doing that and a 100% of his time also doing public land supervising.

Troy Schroeder - Kansas:

Thank you Steve. I've got handouts of a couple of things. The private land meeting report for this year, also a list of people that attended that and a letter of recommendation to Secretary Dan Glickman that I will talk about a little bit later. I would like to thank you for your continued support of the Private Land Working Group, I can personally state that I have been to three or four of these meetings now and this is the most beneficial meeting that I attend on an annual basis and I would like to urge you all to attend when the meeting is in your state. Just a little example of the dedication of this group of individuals. This CREP thing came upon us after the agenda was written up, Kevin Lyon from Minnesota graciously volunteered to make a presentation that wasn't on the agenda and we had 34 of the 38 people that attended the afternoon session also attend the 8:00 - 10:00 pm session that wasn't on the agenda. I would also like to thank Jeff Sole and the State of Kentucky for being good hosts for this year. I am actually giving this report for Jeff, Jeff offered to report but it seemed to make sense for the person that is already in the State to make the presentation rather than try to bring somebody a long ways just for that. In that regard we have made an effort to try to get on the Director's meeting schedule. I think that is going to take place in three years so that the Private Land meeting will be in the same State that your meeting is. Of course, I don't have to really tell any of you the importance of Private Land in the Midwest. In Kansas, for example, we have 97% of the land listed as private and most of that is in agricultural production and you don't have to be much of a mathematical wizard to realize the importance of that private land and wildlife management opportunity in the State and also of the Farm Bill that guides the activity on that farm land. Our 1998 meeting was held April 5-8, and was aimed primarily at evaluating the 1996 Farm Bill and some early preparation of the next one. We made some general recommendations, I am just going to briefly touch on those, you can get all of the details in the report that has been handed out. The first one is that the States have a position dedicated to Private Land coordination and Farm Bill activities, Ag Liaison if you will, so people like myself won't have to divide their time between two different disciplines. We are asking for your support for the Farm Bill network, I don't know if you talked about this earlier or not, but this is, help me out Terry if I get in trouble, a unified effort between the Wildlife Management Institute and the National Association of Conservation Districts whereby timely information on the Farm Bill and other activities, surrounding USDA in Washington, are gone through and put in language that even I can understand and sent out over the Internet. This has been extremely valuable for all of the people working on private land issues. Often times we know more about the new Farm Bill programs than the people in the local USDA offices. It is very helpful and I would like to urge you to provide, I think they are asking for \$2,000 from each State or something of that nature, or whatever you can afford to further that effort. We are also asking that we increase cooperative efforts between the States and NRCS, either through shared positions or whatever. In Kansas, for example, we have our biologists in six of the area NRCS offices. This has been a great improvement in improving relations and also for incorporating wildlife benefits on private land

where the NRCS people haven't historically had a lot of experience. At the very least it is important to have people, like those that have been mentioned here, to attend and have as many people as possible in the County offices or Area offices during program sign-up. The last general recommendation is to provide adequate field staff to assist landowners and the local working groups, County Conservation Districts, NRD's and so forth. We have, as I mentioned earlier, drafted a letter to Dan Glickman, we are asking for your concurrence of this letter and have it submitted under the President's signature to the Secretary. In general we are asking for support. In reality we don't feel, in spite of the fact that on paper this Farm Bill puts wildlife as a resource on equal basis with soil and water resources, we are seeing evidence that this has not been readily accepted by the State and County offices. We are asking for support from Secretary Glickman to make that happen. We are asking for some improvements to the sign-up process and some improvements on the environmental index rating for CRP to provide more benefits for wildlife-type practices. We are encouraging the further use of wildlife-friendly vegetation types and maybe discouraging the use of less wildlife-friendly exotic grasses. We are asking that USDA consider providing the technical assisted funds to the State Wildlife Agencies which would enable us to provide the type of support, for instance, like Kansas is providing to the area NRCS offices. Finally, in a general comment, we are asking to promote the continuous CRP buffers. This is something that is very beneficial to wildlife, it is something where we get a lot of bang for the buck, so to speak, relatively small CRP acreage that provide a good deal of wildlife and other resource benefits. We are asking to, on that same line, to include center pivot corners and field wind breaks as a part of the continuous sign-up. That pretty much takes care of the recommendations that we have made in a nut shell. In an interest of time I couldn't go into them in detail but they are in the report if anybody has any questions later I would be happy to visit about any of these issues, however, I would take any questions now that you may have as well.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Troy, I have one. If I heard right, there were at least two action items that we need to consider and act on today. One is this letter to Secretary Glickman and I am sorry I missed the other, you mentioned financial support?

Troy Schroeder - Kansas:

Right, one was support for the Farm Bill network.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

That was \$2,000?

Troy Schroeder - Kansas:

That was one suggestion that I received, \$2,000 per State. Terry do you have anything additional on that?

Terry Riley, WMI - South Dakota:

I think generally most States did get a letter from the Wildlife Management Institute on that asking for support for this organization. As we move closer and closer to the Farm Bill we have created a great feedback loop from the people in Washington and even to other people, non-

traditional people that have been involved with this in the past. It has been very valuable right now and we are getting a lot of positive feedback from it but it is a costly venture and we hope we can get the support of each State. We have several States already, particularly those States that are going to get a lot out of this. I encourage you to get involved with this, some States where there is a lot of CRP acres. With all of us working on the Farm Bill I really recommend your support for this and I know times are hard financially for many States. We are requesting it from the States not necessarily from the Association.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Then that is something that States will deliberate on their own. There is the other item that you all have a copy of the letter to Dan Glickman that does require action from the Association. You have had an opportunity to look through that. I just have one question, in that as of 12:00 this afternoon I won't be the President of the Association and I am happy to sign it prior to 12:00 but I don't know if it would be more appropriate to have Tom's name on it. Has everyone had a chance to take a look at this letter?

Unknown:

Mr Chairman, I move that we send this letter to Secretary Glickman.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Is there a second? Mike? Any discussion? Yes, Max?

Max Peterson, IAFW - Washington DC:

I ask that you keep a Bob Miles regarding policies and recommendations because we almost had a disastrous split between Midwest Directors in the 1996 Farm Bill. It is really important that you keep Bob Miles up on comments as he is actually the representative of the Association and deals with USDA. This network is a good communication network but it is not the policy network for the Association. It is just important to keep him informed.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Good point. Gary?

Gary Doxtater - Indiana:

In that past, on those types of letters we have copied the Presidents of the other Associations and the International.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We will do that. Any other comments? Motion is to approve the letter as presented and we will incorporate comments by Max, make sure that Bob gets a copy and the other Presidents of the Associations and the International. All in favor, signify by saying I? Opposed? Ok, motion passed. Thank you very much, Troy. The next item on the agenda is the Wildlife Diversity Technical Working Group, Dennis Figg couldn't be here but he told us that there would be no report at this time so that won't require any action. The next item is the Cites report and I asked Chuck Pils.

Chuck Pils - Wisconsin:

Thank you, Steve. My name is Chuck Pils, I am with the Wisconsin DNR in Madison, I am the Director of the Bureau of Endangered Resources. A couple of years ago Steve Miller tapped me on the shoulder and asked me, how would you like to go to Africa? I know Steve doesn't drink so he can't be effected that way, so little did I know that I would get involved to the extent that I did representing the Midwest in terms of Cites issues. I did go to the conference of the Party, COP 10 in Zimbabwe last year. It was a great experience and took a trip after that and saw four different countries and saw all kinds of neat stuff, 365 species of birds in Zimbabwe alone, to give you an idea. Went hunting on Father's Day, that was pretty good, the great white hunter only bagged a little dove so when I took a picture I tried to hold it out and make it look bigger then it actually was. In terms of Cites issues and updates I prepared this little one sheet report to give you an idea of what we are talking about in terms of Cites. A lot of benefits have happened in the last couple of years, in terms of the States' involvement with Cites issues. We, at the time of the Hirari meeting, felt we, meaning the Midwest States and the other States too, felt there wasn't enough dialog between the States and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and I think the COP 10 meeting in Africa stimulated a much more pro-active approach to the States getting their two cents in. We've, since then, really worked intensively with the Fish and Wildlife Service in terms of some of the issues that I have briefly outlined here. There has been a lot of call, a lot of e-mails, a lot of faxes, I have been at a number of meetings in Washington, D.C. and Arlington, Virginia with other Fish and Wildlife Service people. You have to realize that prior to this format the Service kind of did their own thing and then we responded through the Federal Register if there was some issue involved. Now we are working together in a far more proactive, cooperative way and I think it has really paid hansom dividends. Another Cite issue is that the Service set up a granting fund so, Joe I haven't sent you any expense bills for the last couple of meetings because the service is picking it up, so that is always nice to know. They have been very helpful that way too. The issues primarily that I deal with revolve around the so-called appendix one, two or three and I am circulating a little pamphlet around to give you an idea of what we are talking about. Basically Cites acronym is the Convention for International Trade for Endangered Species and they refer to plants as well as animals. Most of the main issues for the upcoming meeting, you can see at the bottom of the page, are the snapping turtle, timber rattlesnake, map turtles, Ginseng golden seal and comments on plant species. How does that impact you? Well it can because the trade on these species can have a very deleterious effect. The trick of all of this is to try to tease out species that we have problems with, for example, timber rattlesnake is a good example, in our State we tried to get it on our threatened list, other States do, Jeff I think you've got it on yours. Species may be declining but the big question is, is it due to International trade, or is it due to other factors such as habitat deterioration. A classic case for most species going down the tubes is habitat loss. Sometimes you get a combination of the both and it is a real challenge when I get comments back from the States to try to figure out which is more important. Are they all, or what? That is my challenge, what I have done is try to set up contacts with most of the Midwestern States, that has worked out very well I am happy to report, people have been contacting me electronically, by calling or sending hard copy and then I try to collate the States' response into a regional response back to the Service. Most of the times I have sent them back the individual copy of the States' letter and up until now it has been pretty

easy to roll these together. In other words, one State didn't say yes and the other one said no, they are very compatible about the needs and concerns that they have listed. I have done that and tried to work that out in a very positive way. As I said we meet with the Service about every other month and either myself, or other regional State organizations will go to Virginia and meet Don McGlokin, Max's able chieftain, he was spending most of the time there meeting with the Service. I would like to add that the most dangerous part of being in Africa was being with Don McGlokin and trying to keep up with him, elephants and hippos were nothing, this guy was hard to keep up with. Seriously, Don did a great job, he continues to spearhead this through the International and he and I are on the telephone all of the time, that has worked out quite well. What is going to happen in the future? The next meeting, the COP 11, was to be held in Indonesia but as you know there is a lot of things going on in that country right now so they have bailed out and we don't know exactly where the meeting may be held, there are all types of ideas. Maybe it will be in Nairobi, maybe in Switzerland, who knows. We are continuing to prepare for the COP 11, I am continuing to try and coordinate this Association's concerns and any input back to the Service. I feel very comfortable working with Sue Liberman, she is kind of the chief person that works in Washington, D.C. on these issues. She has been very receptive, very good to work with as have all of the federal people. Just to summarize, I have kind of summarized and collated the comments on the turtles that you see at the bottom of the page. I will continue to have dialog on these issues. The next conference was to be held in November of 1999, now because of Indonesia leaving it will probably be the beginning of the year 2000 sometime. Roughly, I should have said at the beginning, these COP meetings are held every 2 1/2 years. There is a little bit of latitude here. My roll is to continue to represent this Association, I do appreciate the privilege to be able to go to a place like that and attend an International meeting. I really enjoy it. With that I will close my comments and if anybody has any questions or concerns?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Is there a motion to accept the Cites Report? Mike Budzik, second Wisconsin. Thank you, Chuck. There is another issue that we need to address related to this. Chuck has done a good job and has served the Association very well but Chuck is retiring February, 1999 and we come to a fork in the road here and we need to decide how the Association will handle Cites issues and who might handle them for us. We have discussed this at the Executive Committee last Sunday and the Committee recommends to this group that the Association maintain it's involvement with the International with Fish and Wildlife Service in regards to Cites work. That is our recommendation to the Association. We have two opportunities here, Chuck has offered to stay on and serve in that same roll in his retirement, that is something we need to consider. We also need to consider whether there are other State personnel that may be interested in picking up the ball and running with it and that is something that the Executive Committee didn't know if there is that kind of interest out there. What we are recommending that we do is two things, one is to request or put a call I guess for State Directors to consider whether or not there may be someone in their staff that can spend time doing this, that is (a); or (b) again the Executive Committee suggested that we go to Chuck ask Chuck to scope out a work plan for the next two or three years, depending on when the next meeting is, assess the amount of time that he might have to

spend in that roll, and get some idea of what it would cost to cover his cost as serving as the Association's representative. If we go plan (b), Chuck puts this work plan together and then the incoming President and Executive Committee would be free to negotiate with Chuck over time and money and so on and so forth, again on a two or three year commitment. At that point the Association, if we choose to have Chuck continue in this roll, would provide some amount of money to the State of Wisconsin who would then pay Chuck for his time and expenses and so on. That is our recommendation, if you followed that. There is two paths that we can go, I suggest what we do, so we know where we are going to be and Chuck knows where he is going to be down the road, in the next 30 days have State Directors contact Tom if you have someone internally that can pick up the work load, if we receive nothing at that point then allow Tom and the Executive Committee to work with Chuck and have him put together a work plan. We have time to do that, the timing is good. If we do that prior to the September International meeting I think we can do it by that time. The Executive Committee could take it up at that time and make a decision on whether or not we continue with Chuck in the roll or bring somebody else in. That is what the Executive Committee recommends and I certainly would throw it open to comments and questions and if I have missed anything, Steve, Tom or Gary, feel free to chime in. Any comments or suggestions?

Chuck Pils - Wisconsin:

When do you want the work plan?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I would think if we get it prior to the September International meeting. John?

John Mumma - Colorado:

This may just be a technical point but, an individual is not a current member of the Association in good standing cannot represent the Association views.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I think I am going to let Steve Miller handle this but our discussion was such that Wisconsin would pick up Chuck as a part-time, temporary, or whatever, so he would be an employee of the Wisconsin DNR and therefore a member of the Association.

John Mumma - Colorado:

The Western also has representatives and I am curious about how many representatives we have representing our interests?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Chuck is probably in the best position to answer that.

Chuck Pils - Wisconsin:

I know the Southeast has had Johnny Perr, who is... (tape change missed a few comments).

Walt Gasson, NCTC - West Virginia:

(Missed comments but, he gave a slide presentation, explained their facilities and handed out some training booklets.)

Steve Williams - Kansas:

... (missed comments due to tape change). Region 6, Skip Ladd is here and Region 3, Marvin Moriarty, we appreciate you coming and taking time out of your busy schedules to join us here. I would also like to point out Terry Riley from the Wildlife Management Institute, thanks for coming Terry, and Barth Crouch who helped sponsor the cool part of the evening last night, he didn't sponsor the hot part. Barth is with Pheasants Forever and the State Rep. here in Kansas, so thank you. We are at Other Committee Reports. Are there any other Committee Reports? If not we will move on to the Treasurer's Report, Joe Kramer.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

Yes sir, Mr. President. For those that forgot you have the Treasurer's report in your colored folder. For those of you who don't have one I think Sheila might have some extra copies. To remind the Association when we do the Treasurer's report we do it on a calendar year basis so what you are seeing before you is the total assets beginning January 1, 1997 and ending on December 31, 1997. There has been a lot of activity since December 31, 1997 but we have had a real good Audit Committee this year with Tom Young chairing that Audit Committee and we have actually spent quite a bit of time talking to each other this year as compared to year's past. Our receipts for 1997, we collect annual dues from our membership - we collected \$1,600 and for the most part the States are doing a real good job with their \$100 annual dues to the Association, once in while we get behind but so far it has been real good. We are getting those \$100 dues in and it does help us keep the checkbook going. The inheritance, yes once again, we received some more from the Anton Walter Jaschek estate, I don't know anybody in here who will ever be able to say Anton's name right, so if you are German it is one way, if you are from Wisconsin it is another, who knows.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Seems like we ought to figure out how to say it right.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

We probably should. There was a tax refund, evidently the accountants and the attorneys kept some money or something and we have received our third payment of money from the trust. To refresh your memory, we received \$150,000 two years ago, we received an additional \$50,000 last year and this 1997 calendar year we received \$564.26. Chuck reimbursed us for \$1,096 from his Cites trip, to date for 1997 interest in the checking, savings and money market accounts - we have collected \$9,465.59, making our total receipts \$12,725.85. That made the total assets available last year at \$241,470.75. Our disbursements in calendar year 1997, the Iowa Conference charge - these were charges that the host State, Iowa, had. Al Farris has reimbursed us in the last week for \$1,802.92 from him. They did a real good job of breaking even with running there meeting. There was no cost to the Association. In fact, we have had three States in a row, Illinois, Indiana and Iowa have not charged a penny to the Association to run their

meetings. How they did that I don't know but it is a tribute to some of the dedication that we have here. The Indiana proceedings cost - that was just a billing to make sure that we took care of those but those costs were also picked up by funds that were collected the previous year. We gave \$600 for a conference to the International. I didn't sit down and visit with Max about this, we did send \$600, we were trying to figure out what we did there? I apologize, I don't know and I probably should have asked you.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington, DC.

I don't know either.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

I am wondering, was it the Nebraska Commissioner, did we send here back? That was the previous year. We paid a \$600 registration anyway. We did it. We paid \$6,000 for Chuck Pils Cites conference. That gave us total disbursements in calendar year 1997 of \$9,043.82. Our net assets of December 31, 1997, cash in the checking account is \$3,191.21, cash in our savings account - that being the Anton Walter Jaschek trust - was at \$219,779.33 and our money market account at \$9,456.39. Making the total assets in calendar year 1997 at \$232,426.93. Mr President, leaving assets as of December 31, 1997 at \$232,426.93. Are there any questions?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Maybe Joe, just for the group you would quickly go through what has occurred, not exact dollar amounts but, since December to this date with the investment and just review the \$25,000 for the International.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

At Orlando the Executive Committee met and because of the pressing time to fund the Teaming With Wildlife efforts, the Executive Committee voted to use \$25,000 of money that we had in our accounts for the Teaming effort. If you remember right the previous year we donated \$30,000. So to date we have donated \$55,000, the Midwest Association to the Teaming With Wildlife effort. Also, at that particular meeting for three years we have been trying to figure out how to invest the \$200,000 that was the Jaschek Trust. We have struggled with that and if any of you have invested money in the last couple of years it is water under the bridge but, we probably should have invested that money a little bit better than we did. When you only meet once or twice a year it makes it pretty hard to do that. I think the President has some comments about that later on. We agreed to invest \$50,000 of the \$150,000 Anton Jaschek Trust in Merrill Lynch growth fund and Merrill Lynch capital gain fund. Those are funds that we would like to, over a period of time, we are getting about 5% interest on the other \$150,000 in bank CD's. It doesn't sound like a whole lot but when we were collecting 5% of \$200,000 that allowed for \$10,000 to be made available for projects that the Association might choose to do. So, right now we have \$50,000 in two growth fund accounts with Merrill Lynch, we have \$150,000 in CD's in increments of 6-, 12-, 18- and 24-months so that we could get the most interest off of those in CD accounts. Are there any questions?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Is there a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report? John Mumma. Second? Roger. Any other discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of accepting the Treasurer's Report say I? Opposed? Thank you, Joe. I would like to just make a couple of comments about the investment. I never thought it would be so hard to invest money. I usually invest in things like hot dogs and beans so I am not really a big investor. We have entered into it very conservatively but there has been discussion in the Executive Committee about changes in the future and I am sure there will be some changes as we see how markets react and so on. We have approached it somewhat conservatively but have a higher gain. The question that we really need to deal with is, the investment part of it is one thing, how to put that money to use is really the big question in our minds. At the last meeting in Iowa, I couldn't attend, there was apparently a Committee set up to set out guidelines for the types of projects that would be considered and how those projects would be rated or ranked. No one has owned up to being on the Committee and we don't have the minutes of the meeting so we are not sure who that Committee was but, Tom Young coming in as President will establish a Committee, set a charge to do that. In fact, he has contacted people already here to do that. We will have laid out what those guidelines would be because we know that there will be a number of groups that will be coming looking for money and how we use the earnings on that investment is a critical point. I just say this, and I think I speak for everyone, our goal is not to bank a lot of money and see it grow and grow and grow, our goal is to do good things for fish and wildlife resources as an Association. That Committee will play a critical roll, in the future, of how this Association funds these projects, and the direction that we want to take in the expenditure of that money. That will evolve over the course of the next year. Any questions on that? If not, I would ask Tom Young, who is the Chairman of the Audit Committee to come up and give his report.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

The Audit Committee consisting of myself, Doug Hansen of South Dakota and Gary Doxtater of Indiana, as Steve or Joe said the job of the Treasurer anymore, and the job of the Audit Committee since we are filthy rich, or at least we think we are anyway. We did get a chance to examine the books this morning, looked them over and through the Executive Committee the other day, we found everything was in order with the books. I would like to really, from the Audit Committee, to take time to thank Joe and his staff because this thing has become a pretty big chore. It took a long time for Joe to look out and see what kind of options are out there, to look at some of the best mutual funds out there and make some decisions and basically he brought a lot of this back to us. It has taken a lot of time for Joe to do this and on behalf of the Audit Committee, and I'm sure all of you here feel the same way, that they have done a great job of assembling the information for us and providing the Executive Committee with some material and choices that we made. It is a voluntary job that Joe, he has done this for several years, and the Committee would just like to acknowledge how hard he has worked on it and his staff. With that the Audit Committee says everything looks pretty good. I don't that we need a motion or anything.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Yea, I think we do. Motion to accept the Audit Committee Report? Steve Miller. Second? Mike Budzik. Thank you, Tom. At this point, we are doing pretty good on time. Mike, if you wanted to come up, you asked to have a couple of minutes, so please come up.

Mike Budzik - Ohio:

I will try to be brief. I've shared with some of you that we have an anti-hunting referendum that will be on the ballot in November in Ohio. The initiative is to take away the Chief's authority to establish a dove hunting season. We worked long and hard to get that. I can tell you that those of you that have already faced those things in your State, you know what kind of effort it takes to defeat that. We have documented evidence through the campaign expenditures that is being funded by the three largest animal rights groups of the United States. The Humane Society of the United States, the Fund for Animals and PETA and again we get that information from the Secretary of State's office because they have to fund that. I can't stand before you and ask you for funds. I was sitting back there and debating that. I guess that would be called solicitation. I can ask you to think about this and I know a letter will be coming before this Organization along those lines. I would ask you to think about that and I would hope that you would act favorable upon that. I can tell you that the Division of Wildlife is working with the Wildlife Legislative Fund, they have an organization called the Ohio Alliance for Wildlife Conservation. They have a \$2.3 million budget. Sportsman have raised about \$1.5 million right now, the biggest expenditure will be coming in August and September to buy TV time. There is a good campaign in place and we believe the issue is very winnable. I want you to know the guidance I have given our Division staff is that I expect everyone of them to do all that they can to help and defeat this issue. They can't raise money on State time but they can on their own time. I have clearly set the sideboards on what they can do with myself trying to set the example. I guess I believe this way, I know some States have different philosophies on how they deal about these issues but in Ohio I believe that wildlife ought to be managed by the professionals and at least during my watch, if it goes down, it will not be because I didn't swing back. I don't think that we need to be timid about what we stand for and about who has paid the way and who has done what in Wildlife Conservation. Probably my observation is that the biggest failure, as wildlife professionals, has been standing before the public and having the public understand just who did all this and that is not to break our arms patting us on the back but it is sure sad that they don't really know the success stories and what we stand for and who put this all together. I just ask that when the letter comes before the group, Tom, that I would hope that you would look at it favorably. Thank you. Any questions?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Thanks Mike. Max, could I ask you a question? What did the Northeast Association do when Massachusetts was on the ropes, in terms of financial contribution? Is that an option?

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

No, I don't know. I don't think the Northeast Association did anything. I think the only option is to look at your own by-laws and see what you are allowed to do. I don't know if the Midwest by-laws passed that or not. Are you a 501-C-3 organization?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We had some discussion about that and concluded, we hope rightfully so, that under the umbrella of the International we were 501-C-3.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

We are a 501-C-4.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Then we aren't a 501-C-3.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

We do have a 501-C-3 too which doesn't exempt by-laws from giving any money. That is not true of all 501-C-3's. All kinds of organizations have this status. You might, get together with the Association, and talk with (couldn't here name of who to send to) the International and send them a copy of the by-laws and he could tell you what you need to do. If you don't have the letter from the IRS saying what you are.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

The only federal ID number we have is yours.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

Are you filing a report with the IRS every year?

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I think the correct response is, not to our knowledge but we could possibly be doing that.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

If you take in over \$25,000 a year you need to be doing that. Unfortunately the Association didn't file one for three years and discovered it ourselves and filed the form and fixed it ourselves and IRS forgave us. There is a \$5,000 penalty if they catch you.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I think you just described our strategy there.

Max Peterson, IAFWA - Washington DC:

Anyway, call and talk to him. Let me mention, we really appreciate the \$25,000, all four of the Associations gave \$25,000 to the Teaming With Wildlife initiative. We worked that out so that they could give us whatever they could according to their by-laws, that was the good news. The bad news is that Rob Jecter, the one who spearheaded getting some outside money, the contract is very expensive, they started out with a retainer fee of \$25,000 a month so that doesn't take a mathematician to figure out that it doesn't take very long to use that up. We modified that to \$8,000 and resubmitted that contract as of the end of June. He used to be a biologist in Tennessee and helped pass the original non-game act of 1980. He came in originally pro-bono to pick up small contracts and we also pick up the small contract for David Gockland, the President

of the Sportsman's Caucus to try to bring them on board. We didn't succeed, by the way. We are now in the fundraising business, we have submitted a request for a big grant from Turner Corporation and we learned yesterday that they want a new cover sheet and a little more information on the grant because they are going to consider it. We are looking for some outside funds but it is real tricky when you are looking for someone to help on legislation and lobbying these outside groups and foundations, it is hard to find anyone with that influence. Thank you for making a difference, people stood up and took notice when they heard we helped them out.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

We will obviously need to get with Lynn Zinne and figure out exactly where we are at, we are not where we thought we were that is pretty safe to say. Let's keep this moving along. Steve Miller, we have a vote. Did you receive any other requests for resolutions?

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

No, I did not receive any other resolutions so I assume we are still just dealing with the one on federal aid. A couple of modifications, I think, are in order for the resolution. If you have your copy there it will be fairly easy to follow. Based upon a couple of comments I received back from Doug Hansen, Jeff VerSteeg and John Mumma, the first one is more of an editorial one, if you go down to the "...Now therefore be it resolved..", I put in the correct phraseology for the Midwest, it should be, "Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies". If you would add in "Association of" in front of Midwest and delete the word Association at the end and add "Agencies". If you go down to the next paragraph, "...Be it further resolved...", you do the same thing so we have the correct title of our Association there. Also, based on John's comment, we tried to include some language supporting the intent of the Federal Aid in Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration, so I know we have a motion on the floor and this may have to be an amendment. I would propose it would become a fifth "Whereas", we have four at this time. I would propose it read like this, "Whereas the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies strongly supports the intent and purposes of the Federal Aid in Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration programs and seeks to maintain their integrity.". I would propose that we add that Whereas, then we would go into the "...Now therefore be it resolved...".

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I guess since there is a motion on the floor we can either do one of two things. Withdraw the motion or have the motion amended. If it is a friendly amendment I guess we don't have to worry about it. Jerry Conley made the motion and Gary second it, so we are up for discussion. Is there any discussion? I will call for a vote. All in favor of the resolution that is before you with the additions that Steve just mentioned, signify by saying I, all opposed?

Steve Miller - Wisconsin:

I guess that would conclude the business of the Resolutions Committee, Mr. Chairman.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Thank you very much Steve. We have the Nominating Awards Committee, I think John is going to handle that for Bruce.

John Mumma - Colorado:

I might use this opportunity to ask you to start thinking about nominations for next year when we convene in Kentucky. We sent out a call and most of us were kind of busy. It wasn't until later in the year that we starting getting some nominations. We got some outstanding nominations and unfortunately several of the recipients aren't here but we have made some arrangements to ensure that they will be appropriately recognized. We've got two nominations and awards, actually, for participation and very active involvement in association with the Farm Bill, and that is to Ray Evans and Al Farris. I visited with Jerry and he tells me that Ray is soon going to be retiring and Al, as you know, is not here. I thought I might pass this plaque around, we will get the names added on a brass plate that will accompany this, just to show you some idea. I would ask you to think about those people in your organizations. Interesting enough, these nominations came in from other States recognizing the efforts that your people have contributed. We had another award recipient is Keith Trego of North Dakota and we will make that presentation in Bismarck at the Flyway Council. Most of you know Keith has left the North Dakota Department and will be working with the Wetlands Trust up there. I might point out that Jeff is a member of the Awards Committee and Dean Hildebrand from North Dakota as well. We had quite an interesting situation develop in the course of these nominations. I will tell you a little bit about that in a second. It was brought to our attention that in the course of this Association's history we have only had three Secretary-Treasurers in that entire time and one of them is still with us. Joe has been around eight years as our Association Secretary-Treasurer, has done an outstanding job, many people have recognized that so this is one of those occasions where we were trying to keep this secret from him. What was the activity that took place, the letters were dumped in a trash can, Sheila do you want to help us with that?

Sheila Kemmis - Kansas:

I put the letters in my trash in my office and one of our CO's came in the office and asked if I had a piece of paper, well he grabbed my trash can and took it, and I had no idea what he was going to do with these papers, and he goes in Joe's office and dumps them on his desk and Joe says, well I saw those papers. I thought I had gotten rid of them but not good enough.

John Mumma - Colorado:

So our secret was exposed. Joe told me when I got here that he already knew that he was a recipient, so there went the big hurrah and the surprise. A well deserving award. Joe, on behalf of the Association let me congratulate you for an outstanding job. Be thinking of those people for next year. Skip?

Skip Ladd, USFWS - Colorado:

I just wanted to throw in as the Fish and Wildlife region that works with Joe and the Kansas Department, we have a super good working relationship and we really appreciate the help, support and camaraderie that we get from Joe and the whole Department.

John Mumma - Colorado:

That is great acknowledgment, we appreciate that very much. I might, as I leave, just maybe ask, now that Kentucky is going to be taking over, that they pay particular attention to the fact that

we've got a lot of money in bank and we are going to be a big target for the IRS. We need to get our business house in order and I think you are going to find, as Steve mentioned, we are not in the business of store-housing a lot of money. If we do, we are really going to be the focus of the IRS and that may call into question the tax exempt status, whether it is a 4 or whatever. It is just something that we need to be aware of because it would be ridiculous to lose a \$5,000 penalty because we didn't pay attention. If you have some business expert on your staff you might want to get some advice. I know when the Western went through some of this we were looked at, we had too much money in the bank and we spent that down, and part of that was this contribution to Teaming, and very specifically we could not use that for lobbying activities. So, we found some creative ways, with Paul's help, to make sure that in the transfer of that we were staying legal with the IRS. With that Mr. Chairman, that is our report. My compliments to you as well for a nice meeting here.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

I will just add some comments on Joe. He was not only Secretary-Treasurer at one point, but at the same time he was chairing the Central Flyway, not to mention managing 12 direct supervisors. Joe is always fun, we never really know exactly what Joe is saying, and meaning, when he says it, I'm kidding about that. He does a tremendous job for the Department and does a tremendous job for the Association. One of those things that he does is come up with another set of awards, not quite as formal as what you presented John but, at this point I will turn it over to Joe for the Kramer awards.

Joe Kramer - Kansas:

We have quite a bit of history going on here with the Association and John Munma and all of the Nominating Committees we spent days trying to come up with some light-hearted awards for some deserving individuals who are today. With that I would like to recognize four of our individuals. I take that back there is one who is not here who didn't have the minutes for this particular meeting but, when I got on the phone to talk to Al Farris, don't get me wrong, Al has been very active with this Association and what has happened here with the minutes is no big deal. He has contributed most of his administrative life with the Association, but, next time we get a chance to see Al we have an award for him. This award it reminded me when we were on the phone and I said, Al - we need the minutes and you didn't send us a check from the proceedings of the last meeting and Al said, (Gave doll that says - HELP ME, HELP ME - OH NO). So we are going to send Al a - help me help me, oh no award. A couple of years ago we all had an experience, we were so impressed with Indiana with their water training that we went through and some of us picked up some dysentery, three of us, Wes Sheets, Steve Miller and I. One of the first things they told us was when we were going down this water course, learning how to save ourselves, before we could save somebody else, and then they throw you a rope and it was really neat to see everybody with helmets on and shorts in the water. I don't think anybody will ever top that water experience that we had there. There was one individual that just did everything wrong. We have an award for him, just to remind everybody how good of job he did when he was going down that training water course and of course, we all know it is Steve Miller. Steve, we have an award for you, (Gave doll that says - AHH, NO NO NO). I forgot to mention

that he had a strawberry from his hip down to his knee and he was staggering around and there was so many people there you know deep down inside and everyone that came up to him said, Steve are you Ok and he says, Yea, I'm Ok it is just a flesh wound. We have another individual who always seems to, he is so serious when you talk to him one-on-one even in a group, you have this individual and he will cock that head if you are lost and he is trying to explain work or something to you, he will cock that head and he will give you that real serious look, like you don't know what the hell you are talking about. We all know that is Gary Doxtater and you know when you get on those conversations with Gary and you get that focus, and he will cock that head, and he does that to me a lot, like you really don't know what the hell you're doing, do you. So we have an award for Gary, (Gave doll that says - YOU'RE BOTHERING ME, HELLO). You can get those at Wal-Mart, they are pretty cheap. The last award, we may even have time Steve, because this individual has made more of us laugh in the last five or six years, with just one story and it is a pig hunting story and I don't know what he has to do in Minnesota to entertain himself but, he has a pig hunting story that is just unbelievable. I mentioned to him last night that he might be asked to mention a little bit about his pig hunting experience in Minnesota but, I will kind of leave it up to him how he wants to do it. Every time I see Roger and I listen to him talk at the International or at other meetings I cannot help but think of that pig hunting story that he told us a couple of meetings ago. And then we got him to do it over a couple of beers, so I just have to recognize you one more time Roger, (Gave a big pink piggy bank).

Roger Holmes - Minnesota:

This will probably go down on my tombstone, this incident. Well I will tell it. It was several years ago but I've got a little hunting camp out in west central Minnesota and I was out there one weekend. I had my son-in-law and two his buddies with me and we are going through the CRP hunting pheasants and all of a sudden my son-in-law starts yelling. He kept saying, there is something over here and I was right next to him and I said, what is it, and he said, I don't know I think it is a big pig. He then approached it and it attacked him and he was pretty scared so I went over and looked and sure enough there was a pretty good size hog there. So every time we went out into the field someone in the group would manage to go close to that hog, it was pretty pugnacious. I had a group out a couple of weeks after that, in fact it was for our Planning Committee on the North American and Red Hunt was there. I warned him about this hog and we are going along through there and all of a sudden he lets out a yell. Well the hog had attacked Red and about scared him to death. I checked around there in town and talked to the adjacent farmer and asked him about that hog. He said that it wasn't his and we don't know where it came from but I wish you would shoot it, nobody wants it because they are afraid of pseudo-rabies. I thought about it for a week and I went out there the next week with my son-in-law and also one of the other guys, so I said, we are going to round up that hog and get her into the barn. We started out across this field, there were four of us, and the hog was pretty cooperative. She was going along ahead of us and gets within about 50 yards of the barn and she figured it out and charged back and one guy tried to tackle her and she knocked him into the weeds. I said, watch out you are going to get hurt. We kept on for about an hour trying to get this hog and she wasn't being cooperative at all. She could count, because when the four of us were herding her she

would then turn and go back towards the barn and then she would charge one person, I guess she figured she could handle us one-on-one. That went on for a while and I decided I was going to catch that hog so I go back to the barn and I find a rope there, a half inch manila rope about 50 feet long. When I got back my son-in-law says, what are you going to do now, and I said, I was going to lasso that hog. I tried it a couple of times but she was in the tall switch grass and the noose wouldn't settle around her neck. I tried that about 6 or 8 times and they all watched this and finally said, this is not going to work, we are going pheasant hunting. By then I was getting a little determined so I kept after the hog so I chased her out into the open and tried again. The noose dropped around her neck and I tightened it up and she did a somersault and squealed. She was squawking and yelling and I started yelling and then she takes off. Like I said I had a 50-foot rope and I had it wrapped around my hands so that I could stop her. She takes off, jerks me over on my face and drags me about 20 yards, and I wouldn't let go, so she drags me through the weeds until I plowed up a pretty good windrow of weeds and grass and got a little leverage and then I got her stopped again. Another somersault, and she started up the racket again. By then the guys were about a quarter mile away but they hear all of this and they come a running. I'm yelling for them to get over there. We started dragging her towards the barn kicking and squealing. I put her in a pen in the barn and gave her some food and water so I told my son-in-law, who is a manager of the Schroeder Milk Company there, I said I need some old milk and cottage cheese and stuff to feed this hog. When he came over he had four big cardboard boxes of all this old cottage cheese and milk and stuff and sour cream. In the meantime I talked to the farmer who lived there and I told him, I want to take care of this hog and I want you to come over and feed her and give her water and I will give you half the hog. I got out there the next weekend and went to feed her, she was getting fed three times a day with the cottage cheese and stuff mixed with shell corn, looked pretty good. Man you talk about pigging out, she loved that. Anyway, this hog and I built up a pretty good relationship. I get out there a couple of weeks later and I have a hunting buddy with me and of course I had told him about the hog so he went out to the barn to see her and he comes back and says, I don't see any hog in there. I told him she was down in the last pen and said she wasn't there. So, I went out to the barn and the gate was open and she was gone. This was the first weekend in November and we had just had about 6 or 8 inches of snow and it was cold and I was feeling bad because I thought the hog was out there somewhere in the snow and she was going to freeze to death. He was bow hunting and I was hunting pheasants and at the end of the day we hadn't seen her and I was in my truck going back to camp and I look up in the road and there was Louise, I had named her Louise. I drove down in the ditch so I wouldn't spook her and up on the road and back to camp. I look in the rearview mirror and she was running behind the truck. When I got down in the camp she came right up to the truck, well I know what she wants, she is looking for cottage cheese. I had a box of it in the truck so I fed her that. Then my friend and I were going to try and get her back in the barn, he used to work on a farm and knew all about hogs. He said that we should get a couple of boards and form a "V" and ease her into the barn. We got these two 4x4 hunks of plywood and we were herding her and get her within about 10 yards of the barn and she turns around and came running right at us and right through the crack in the board. I told my friend that we were not going to get her in the barn and I decided to just leave her there and head for home. The next weekend I go back out there and there was no sign of the hog. I pulled into the yard and didn't see her so I got

out of the truck and slammed the door and here she came out of the cornfield. I was out there alone that weekend and she hung around me. I had a flat tire on my camping trailer and I am fixing the tire and all of a sudden something gave me a push and knocked me into the trailer and there was Louise standing there. She reached down and grabbed a couple of the lug nuts and started chewing on those so I grabbed the wrench handle and whopped her on the nose and she drops the lug nuts and I set down the wrench handle and she picked that up. I was sitting in the camp that night, I had my two Brittany's out there and all of a sudden they started to bark like crazy and I look out and there was Louise standing at the sliding glass door with her nose pressed against the glass. She wanted something to eat of course so I went out to feed her. I took the Brittany's out with me and I let the young dog go and he chased her and she went after him and scared the hell out of him. He ran back in the cabin and he wouldn't come out. The next morning we went off pheasant hunting and the hog followed us. I couldn't make her quit following us. I finally got her back to the camp but to go hunting we had to go through the barn and out the back barn door and she wouldn't follow us through the barn. To top it all off, I was telling this story at Christmas, at the family gathering and my brother-in-laws mom was listening and she asked if I still had her and I said, yea, and she said where do you keep her? I said, in the freezer. I thought she was going to kill me. By the way, that was some of the best pork chops and bacon I ever ate. So, that is the hog story.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

Part of that story reminded me of when I was in college going out on a date, but I won't get into that. We have covered the Committee reports and I would just like to, before I turn the gavel over to Tom, just say that it has been an honor to serve as the President of this Association and I would say one other thing, I am kind of the new guy here I think and I don't know that I have ever come into a group and felt that folks were more friendly or willing to help you out, work with you, talk with you. I have really enjoyed this Association. I sound like I am dieing, I am not dieing. I do just want to thank you for your friendship and how willingly I was accepted into the Midwest. Now I understand that is the way it is in the Midwest, but coming from back east it is a little different, the hospitality is a little different. I have enjoyed it very much. I don't know of any other new business. Is there any new business that we need to deal with? If not, I don't know what the formality is but it says I need to pass the gavel to Kentucky so Tom, if you would come up. I never even used the gavel. At this time, I would introduce Tom Young from Kentucky, the next President of the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

Steve Miller, our Resolution Chairman, forgot to mention that he had one last resolution that he said he would like for me to deliver. It goes like this: "Whereas the great State of Kansas has provided excellent meeting accommodations at the unique Eldridge Hotel and, Whereas the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has provided a stimulating and entertaining program and, Whereas Steve Williams and his staff have been gracious and generous hosts, Now therefore be it resolved that the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies assembled this 14th day of July, 1998 in Lawrence, Kansas thanks and acknowledges the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for hosting the 65th Annual meeting of the Association in such an exemplary

manner." Steve, I think I can speak for all of the folks in this room to ditto the resolution and we would like to honor you with a plaque and thank you for the great job you did in your State.

Steve Williams - Kansas:

In reality I am accepting this on behalf of Joe and Sheila and Heather and the folks that really did all of the work and Rob Manes, I don't want to be remiss. But, Joe and Sheila really were the brains and the muscle behind this, so thank you Joe.

Tom Young - Kentucky:

A few little clean-up things and I've got to get out of here real shortly, in about 10 minutes. As you know the President always serves on the Executive Meeting at the International, well, Tom Bennett already serves on that from Kentucky and Max tells me that we have a situation where both of us cannot serve on the Executive Committee at the same time. So, Tom Bennett and myself will probably, in relations to this Committee or the Midwest, will probably share the responsibility but on the International, I have asked Steve to stay on, on the Executive Committee of the International which Max says would be fine and I am hoping that all of you would be in agreement that Steve would serve in that capacity for you and us for the next year. That is one thing out of the way. We will not take a vote on this we will do this. He is going to serve your needs on the International and Tom Bennett, who actually will probably be the President on paper for Kentucky next year. I had a few people say, or Mike say, that if we slide this one week or the other next year in July we may get Colorado and a few States that may already have a conflict on this date and if it is alright with everybody we may swing this thing a week earlier or a week later. I hope that won't bother anybody. It will probably be later because of the 4th of July weekend. The location we are looking at, by the way Kentucky is the other Midwest if you all don't know that, on the other side of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. So a lot of you will be going back home because that is where a lot of your roots came from anyway. As the country was settled it was settled from east to west. Anyway, we plan to probably go to Lexington, Kentucky and may hang out with a few blue blood horse people. We don't have it set up yet but I would like to take you to a real horse farm that puts horses at the Kentucky Derby and show you the operation, I haven't seen it myself, but I think it would be interesting. Or possibly Louisville. There are a lot of other good sites in Kentucky but air travel is not very good at some of those sites. We plan to put on a, hopefully good, entertaining conference for you and as my mother used to say to all eight of us, you all come. Now, I am going to get into the Committees. I have already asked some of the folks to serve and I will just announce those right now. By the by-laws the Auditing Committee Chairman has got to be from the preceding State and that would be Michigan. Michigan will follow Kentucky on hosting the Midwest and I think that would be George up there and I am not sure who would represent Michigan on the Audit Committee. Jeff VerSteege or Kirby would serve on there with him and also Steve Miller. On the Resolutions Committee, Mike Budzik of Ohio has graciously accepted to Chair the Resolutions Committee and I am going to put John Mumma and Roger Holmes on that Committee. Nominating Awards Committee Chairman, Gary Duxtater has said he will serve as Chairman on that Committee along with Doug Hansen and Kirk Nelson from Nebraska. Now the Committee that we keep talking about setting up guidelines for on our earnings on our savings account and/or the monies

we have received now as to how we would distribute the earnings and for specific projects. I would like to set a Committee to do that. I don't know what the minutes say in Iowa but I would like for Doug Hansen, Steve Miller and Jeff VerSteeg, if you would, serve on that Committee and to start thinking about what sort of guidelines we may put in place to distribute our earnings and how we would do that. As you know a couple of years ago, I believe it was North Dakota, made a proposal that we fund something (missed remainder of minutes - ran out of tape).

Committees for 1999:

Executive Committee

President Tom Bennett/Tom Young (KY)
Past President Steve Williams (KS)
First Vice President George Burgoyne (MI)
Secretary/Treasurer Joe Kramer (KS)
At-Large Jerry Conley (MO)
At-Large Dean Hildebrand (ND)

Auditing Committee

Chairman George Burgoyne (MI)
Jeff Ver Steeg (IL)
Steve Miller (WI)

Resolutions Committee

Chairman Mike Budzik (OH)
John Mumma (CO)
Roger Holmes (MN)

Nominating/Awards Committee

Chairman Gary Doxtater (IN)
Doug Hansen (SD)
Kirk Nelson (NE)

Annual Interest Disbursement Committee (AID Committee) - NEW

Steve Miller (WI)
Doug Hansen (SD)
Jeff Ver Steeg (IL)
Al Farris (IA)



Passing the gavel. ⇐



Good job, Joe!!

Somebody must have decided...



... that turn about was fair play.



How many questions were on that survey?

Attachments



Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies



TREASURER'S REPORT

1997 Transactions

Total Assets beginning January 1, 1997 \$228,744.90

Receipts 1997

Annual Dues.....\$1,600.00
Inheritance - Jaschek income tax refund....564.26
Pils reimburse for overpayment.....1,096.00
Interest-Checking/Savings/Money Market.. 9,465.59

Total Receipts \$12,725.85

Total Available Assets

\$241,470.75

Disbursements 1997

Iowa Conference Charges.....\$1,802.92
Indiana proceedings cost.....633.15
IAFWA.....600.00
Chuck Pils (Cites Conference).....6,000.00
Purchased placques, etc..... 7.75

Total Disbursements \$9,043.82

NET ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1997

\$232,426.93

Accounting of Assets, December 31, 1997

Cash in checking account.....\$3,191.21
Cash in savings account.....219,779.33
Money Market account #1212990-4750..... 9,456.39

Total Assets \$232,426.93

ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1997

\$232,426.93

RESOLUTION

Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Program Audit Issues

WHEREAS, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs have existed for over 50 years as a partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state fish and wildlife agencies and provide over \$400 million annually to support sport fish and wildlife, hunter education and recreational boating activities;

WHEREAS, the intent of these programs and activities is to meet individual state needs for sport fish and wildlife restoration;

WHEREAS, the ongoing state audits have identified several issues nationwide that are critical to federal aid program implementation in the states;

WHEREAS, these issues, in some cases have been interpreted differently between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regions and state fish and wildlife agencies;

WHEREAS, the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies strongly supports the intent and purposes of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs and seeks to maintain their integrity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies requests that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, through appropriate Committee involvement, and otherwise, develop and implement an orderly, efficient process to review, evaluate and prepare mutually acceptable solutions to common audit issues, including those involved in the "policy clarification process" commencing with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in Savannah, GA, in September, 1998; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies requests that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and request that its process for receiving comments on and reviewing issues and proposed clarifications of policy respecting the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs include consultation with and consideration of comments from the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, or its Committees, as defined by the Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

RESOLUTION

Thank You Kansas

WHEREAS, the great State of Kansas has provided excellent meeting accommodations at the unique Eldridge Hotel; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has provided a stimulating and entertaining program; and

WHEREAS, Steve Williams and his staff have been gracious and generous hosts;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies assembled this 14th day of July, 1998 in Lawrence, Kansas thanks and acknowledges the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for hosting the 65th Annual meeting of the Association in such an exemplary manner.

For three whole days ...



Kansas wasn't windy.



Thanks Guys.



They say there are two sides to every story!

CONTRIBUTIONS

- 5 - Hats (Wildlife Federation - Kansas Chapter)
- 14 - Buckles (Wildlife Federation - Kansas Chapter)
- 5 - Junior Memberships & Videos (NRA)
- 1 - Bowhunting Records Book (Pope & Young)
- 3 - Prairie Chicken Belt Buckle (KDWP)
- 3 - Eagle Belt Buckle (KDWP)
- 1 - Elk Beer Stein (Cabelas)
- 2 - Deer T-Shirts (KDWP)
- 2 - Kansas State Parks T-Shirts (KDWP)
- 2 - Kansas Thermal Mugs (KDWP)
- 1 - Lion Poster (Safari International)
- 2 - Pheasant Prints, one matted one not (Pheasants Forever)
- 3 - Buffalo Prints (Ducks Unlimited)
- 1 - Executive Pin, Belt Buckle, Keychain & Button Set (Ducks Unlimited)
- 1 - Set of 6, 125th Anniversary Golf Ball Set (Ducks Unlimited)
- 7 - Hats (Ducks Unlimited)
- 1 - Pintail Decoy (Ducks Unlimited)
- 5 - Busch Fishing T-Shirts (Pheasants Forever)
- 10 - Hats (Pheasants Forever)
- 6 - Hat Pins (Pheasants Forever)

====

75

GRAND PRIZES

- 125th Anniversary Hunting Knife (NRA)
- Limited Edition - Print, Duck Stamp, Postcard from Denmark, matted & framed (Ducks Unlimited)
- Ducks Unlimited sponsored the President's Reception (\$250)
- Pheasants Forever sponsored the Perry State Park Excursion (\$250)
- Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society sponsored refreshments (\$100)
- Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Federation sponsored awards (\$50)



Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies



July 14, 1998

The Honorable Dan Glickman, Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Glickman:

The Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies is very supportive of the 1996 Farm Bill and USDA's efforts to address wildlife resource concerns through various ongoing Farm Bill programs. Our member agencies are working diligently with your staff in our states to develop and implement new Farm Bill programs and modify existing Farm Bill programs so they incorporate wildlife as a resource concern equal to water quality protection and soil erosion prevention.

The following recommendations are provided for your consideration. We feel their implementation will further improve the positive impacts Farm Bill programs are having on wildlife populations. Some of these are aimed at revising USDA policies at the national, state, and local levels; others are program specific.

USDA National Direction:

- There is a need for clearer direction from the Washington USDA office to state and to county level USDA offices, that wildlife is to be considered an equal resource to soil and water in all conservation programs of the Farm Bill. There is a prevailing attitude among state and local USDA employees that the WHIP is for wildlife and other programs such as EQIP are for soil and water. It is imperative that all programs address all three major resource issues equally, if wildlife is to receive the benefits intended in the FAIRA.
- A change to utilize Continuous Sign-Ups for all USDA Farm Bill Programs, with monthly or quarterly ranking and funding of applicants should be implemented. The currently used limited time sign-ups are always too rushed.
- The Field Operations Technical Guides (FOTG) used by NRCS are in great need of revision. State wildlife personnel should be involved in rewriting these guidance documents.
- Fescue, caucasian bluestem, crested wheat grass, and other invasive exotic species need to be removed as options for use in USDA practices. These species are detrimental to wildlife. There are many other grasses and legumes which will perform adequately to protect water quality and prevent soil erosion while also providing good wildlife habitat. However, as long as these species remain eligible for use, many NRCS field staff will continue to use them, simply because they are what they have been using for years.

- There is a need for USDA to provide technical assistance dollars to the state fish and wildlife agencies so they can provide staff necessary to adequately assist NRCS. The precedent has been set, since USDA via the USFS, provides funds annually to state forestry agencies for the implementation of the Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) and the Forest Stewardship and Stewardship Incentives Program (FS/SIP).
- The idea of encouraging wildlife friendly plantings by offering higher cost-share rates for them than for poorer mixtures should be utilized.
- There is a need for cross-training of personnel from state wildlife agencies and NRCS.

Program Specific Recommendations:

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- There needs to be clearer direction from the Washington USDA office to state and to the county level USDA offices that wildlife is to be considered an equal resource to soil and water. Even when the practices are primarily designed for water quality and soil erosion, they should also benefit wildlife. There seems to be a bigger problem incorporating wildlife concerns into the EQIP than any of the other Farm Bill programs.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Environmental Benefits Index (EBI)

- The EBI is much too complicated. We need to work to simplify the EBI. The complexity of the current EBI is preventing some landowners from signing up for CRP. We need to move toward simpler qualifications where the landowner knows whether they are accepted into the program or not at sign-up, much as in the Continuous CRP.
- The EBI needs to include management and maintenance practices to insure long-term wildlife benefits.
- Wildlife benefits need more weight to compete with the costs factor in the EBI.
- Acceptance of high rental rate land is being discouraged by the current cost factor weighting of the EBI.
- There needs to be clearer direction from the USDA national office to insure equitable EBI's are implemented across state and county lines.
- There is a need to allow removal of heavy fescue residue by haying, grazing, or simply raking to the side during establishment years on old CRP acres being re-entered and converted to better cover.
- CRP General Sign-up: Eliminate the 51% rule for wildlife covers and apply a weighted average to partial field plantings, thereby awarding points for the actual wildlife benefits provided. This change would reaffirm USDA's goal of maximizing environmental benefits per dollar expended.
- CRP Continuous Sign-up: Enhance wildlife benefits by making field borders and center-pivot irrigation corners eligible practices for the continuous CRP. NRCS has implemented a national campaign to promote the use of buffer strips through continuous CRP. The focus of this initiative is to draw attention to small, high-priority practices providing maximum soil, water, and wildlife benefits per dollar, rather than requiring producers to enroll whole fields.

National Buffer Initiative

- The National Buffer Initiative has tremendous potential for improving wildlife habitat on a landscape level. This project should have great appeal to landowners in intensively row-cropped areas because of the small acreage involved for the financial and environmental benefits received. However, it is our opinion that program overload is keeping USDA personnel from really promoting the continuous CRP/Buffer Initiative. Efforts should be made to streamline and coordinate program sign-up periods so that USDA personnel are not constantly fighting quick turn around sign-up deadlines. Utilization of "continuous sign-ups", with monthly or quarterly ranking of applications for all programs is encouraged.

- State wildlife personnel should be invited to state and local meetings involving the development of the buffer initiative.

- The minimum and maximum widths for buffers and riparian zones should be established by the State Technical Committee (STC) and be flexible.

- There is a need to address the required zone of trees in all riparian buffer plantings. It is suggested that the riparian zone specifications be changed to not require trees in areas where trees would not normally be a part of the natural riparian vegetation.

Mr. Secretary, I appreciate your commitment to conservation and hope you will incorporate these issues into your decisions regarding current and future farm bills.

Sincerely,

Steve Williams, Chairman
Assn. of Midwest Fish & Wildlife Agencies

cc: Pearlle S. Reed, Chief NRCS
Parks Shackleford, Administrator FSA
R. Max Peterson, IAFWA
Allen Elser, NE Assn. of Fish & Wildlife Resources Agencies
Tom Bennett, SE Assn. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
John Baughman, Western Assn. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Bob Miles, IAFWA

IOWA 1997 MINUTES

Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Minutes - Business Meeting July 15, 1997

President Farris called the meeting to order.

Roll call of states:

Colorado*
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Michigan*
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio*
South Dakota
Wisconsin

* Absent

REPORTS:

A. Midwest Private Lands Wildlife Management Group

The report was presented by Todd Bogenschutz, Iowa D.N.R.

Four recommendations were made:

1. Encourage the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to support, through financial assistance or in-kind services, the Farm Bill Policy Coordinator position (Don McKenzie) of the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) in Washington D.C.
2. Strongly encourage the Association to recommend that member states have one staff position dedicated to work primarily on USDA farm policy issues. Each state agricultural liaison should work closely with the Farm Bill Policy Coordinator (WMI) and local farm program officials.
3. Strongly encourage, through letter to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and Congress, recommendations repealing the emergency use (haying/grazing) clause of CRP and providing compatible use alternatives that would minimize wildlife impacts.
4. Suggest the Association provide the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture a letter with recommendations to enhance the wildlife benefits of the 1996 Farm Bill.

Action:

1. Recommendation 1 was disapproved and a substitute recommendation approved:
The Association recommends that the new president and the executive committee meet with the Wildlife Management Institute and Max Peterson in September at the IAFWA meeting in Arizona and work out a cooperative position.
 2. Recommendation 2 was amended and approved as follows:
Strongly encourage the Association to recommend that member states have one staff position designated to work on USDA farm policy issues. Each state agricultural liaison should work closely with the Farm Bill Policy Coordinator (WMI) and local farm program officials.
 3. Recommendation 3 was approved.
 4. Recommendation 4 was approved.
- B. Legal Committee
Report was presented by Amelia McIntyre of Kansas Wildlife and Parks.
No action items.
- C. Council on Environmental Education
Update was presented by Jim Wilson, Missouri Department of Conservation.
No action items.
- D. Wildlife Diversity Technical Working Committee
Report was presented by Dennis Figg, Missouri Department of Conservation.
No action items.
- E. Midwest Pheasant Study Group
Presented a written report that was provided to all member states.
- F. Awards Committee
No Report.
- G. Treasurer
Presented by Joe Kramer
Attached.
- H. Audit Committee
Tom Young presented the report for the Committee of Dean Hildebrand, Doug Hansen and himself.
Found treasurer's report to be true and accurate as corrected. Moved and accepted.
- I. Executive Committee
Presented by Al Farris.
The Executive Committee met to discuss bequest from Mr. Anton W. Jaschek. The Executive Committee recommends that the Association establish an Anton W. Jaschek endowment with the \$208,907.18 and enter into a legal instrument to establish an



Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies



TREASURER'S REPORT

1996 Transactions

Total Assets beginning January 1, 1996 \$13,223.73

Receipts 1996

Annual Dues.....\$100.00
Conference Registrations..... 2,146.00
Conference Donation..... 2,000.00
Inheritance - Anton Jaschek.....208,970.18
14 U.S. states TWW Support (2,143 ea)...30,002.00
Interest-Checking/Savings/Money Market..6,743.22

Total Receipts \$249,961.40

Total Available Assets \$263,185.13

Disbursements 1996

Teaming with Wildlife Donation.....\$30,000.00
Illinois Conference Charges..... 4,389.63
Indiana Purchased placques, etc.....50.06 \$0.60

Total Disbursements \$34,440.23

NET ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1996 \$228,744.90

Accounting of Assets, December 31, 1996

Cash in checking account.....\$4,548.87
Cash in savings account.....215,182.55
Money Market account #1212990-4750.....9,013.48

Total Assets \$228,744.90

ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1996 \$228,744.90

endowment that would protect this base amount and only the interest from this endowment would be spent by the Association. Further, the Executive Committee recommends the new president be directed to establish a committee to develop criteria for the disbursement of the annual interest.

Motion to accept by Al Farris, second by Dennis Figg. After discussion, the motion passed.

- J. President Farris informed the membership that he had received a letter from Roger Holmes asking each regional association to appoint a representative to the Migratory Wildlife Committee. Since Al Farris was serving as a Midwest Association representative on the Partners-in-Flight subcommittee of the Migratory Wildlife Committee, he appointed himself as the Midwest Association representative to the Migratory Wildlife Committee also.
President Farris asked if there was an objection. None was heard.
- K. Al Farris turned the meeting over to Joe Kramer representing the incoming President Steve Williams of Kansas.
- L. Meeting adjourned.

Did you know...

... Joe Kramer left Roger Holmes out at the Cajun Queen River Ferry (what's a head count?). Thanks Steve, for saving the day.

... Roger Wolfe forgot to pick up John Mumma at the airport, thank goodness the shuttle picked him up. Of course they had "New York Taxi Cab Driver" qualities, but it sure beats walking.

... Steve Williams allowed the secretaries to take his private vehicle to the store. There was mention of calling him from the State line.

... Tom Young followed all jet ski rules. Just how fast does one of those things accelerate anyway?

... Everyone had a good time.



The second string.

