



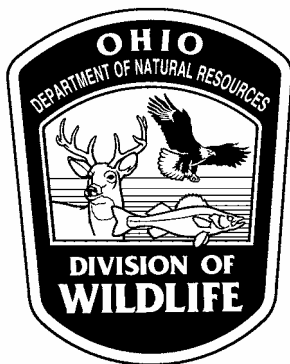
**Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**



# **72nd Annual Directors Meeting Proceedings**

**July 10-13, 2005  
Sandusky, Ohio**

**Hosted by:**



**Ohio  
Department of  
Natural Resources**

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**Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
Annual Meeting, July 10 - 13, 2005, Sandusky, Ohio**

**ACTION ITEMS**

- ▶ Held Strategic Thinking Session with Directors or their Designee (Completed 7/11/04)
- ▶ Agreed to Support SWIG 50/50 Match (Completed 7/11/04)
- ▶ Accepted Minutes from last year's annual meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to accept Treasurer's Report, balance as of June 30, 2005 - \$2??,???.?? (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to accept the Audit Committee Report. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to accept the Investment Committee's Report. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Three resolutions presented - (Completed 7/13/05)
  - Voted to approve Resolution 1 (Thanking Ohio for Conference)
  - Voted to send letters connected with Resolution 2 (Emergency Wetlands Loan Act)
  - Voted to send letter connected with Resolution 3 (State Disputes)
  - Voted to send letter connected with Resolution 4 (Feral Swine)
  - Voted to send letter connected with Resolution 5 (Cormorant Control)
- ▶ Voted to accept proposed changes to the By-laws of Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, except dues increase, and create a Standing Bylaws Committee. (Completed 7/13/05) Jeff VerSteeg agreed to rewrite.
- ▶ Voted to approve Affiliate Membership Applications (National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Federation). (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to Support Action Items from Private Lands Working Group (Farm Bill Coordinator and Ray Evans Positions). (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to Support Action Items from Furbearer Committee (To write white paper on fox and coyote running enclosures). (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to Incorporate Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to Apply for 501(c)(3) Status for Conservation Enhancement Fund. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Voted to Incorporate Conservation Enhancement Fund. (Completed 7/13/05)

- ▶ Agreed to have Mike McKenna, North Dakota represent MAFWA on National Acceptance Team. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Agreed to have Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator represent MAFWA on IAFWA Federal Budget Committee. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Saw New Logo Presentations and Agreed on Symbol in Patch and Logo Form with Variations. (Completed 7/12/05)

**Items discussed, but not voted on:**

- ▶ Discussed Strategic Thinking Topics. (7/11/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard IAFWA Reports from Terry Crawforth, President and John Baughman, Executive Director. (Completed 7/11/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Chronic Wasting Disease Update. (Completed 7/11/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard report from USFWS Acting Director Matt Hogan. (7/11/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard MAFWA Coordinator Report from Ollie Torgerson (no action)
- ▶ Heard USFWS Reports from Robyn Thorson, Region 3 Director, and Mike Stempel, Region 6 Acting Deputy Director. (Completed 7/11/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard USDA-APHIS Report from Charlie Brown. (no action)
- ▶ Recognized People Present from USFWS, WMI and National Park Service. (no action)
- ▶ Heard Affiliate Member Reports. (Completed 7/11/05) (no action)  
United States Sportsmen Alliance, Rob Sexton  
American Sportfishing Association, Gordon Robertson  
MICRA, Michael Armstrong
- ▶ Recognized Affiliate Members. (Completed 7/11/05) (no action)  
Pheasants Forever, Rick Young  
Ducks Unlimited, Bob Hoffman, Gildo Tori and Scott Yaich  
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Jodi Valenta  
Bowhunter Preservation Alliance/Archery Trade Association, Pat Ruble (Michelle Doerr went to pick up Jay McAninch)  
National Wild Turkey Federation, James Earl Kennamer and Tammy Sapp  
The Nature Conservancy, Gary Moore  
National Audubon Society (no one present)  
National Wildlife Federation, Kobi Platt  
Izaak Walton League of America (no one present)  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (no one present)



- ▶ Heard Other Reports. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
  - Current Issues in the Midwest, Dave Risley, OH Division of Wildlife
  - Managing Shared Fisheries Resources, Chris Goddard, GLFC & Gary Isbell, ODOW
  - Conservation Effect Assessment Project, Ray Evans, ECO Associates & IAFWA
  - Farm Bill Issues, Jen Mock, IAFWA
  - Current Sportfishing Issues, Gordon Robertson, American Sportfishing Association
  - Building Coalitions with Farm Commodity Organizations in Preparation for the 2007 Farm Bill, Ron Helinski, Wildlife Management Institute
  - Barriers to Hunting Access in Ohio: A survey of agricultural and forested landowners, Dave Scott, OH Division of Wildlife
- ▶ Heard Private Lands Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Law Enforcement Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Public Lands Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard NCN Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Legal Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Furbearer Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Deer and Turkey Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Prairie Grouse Technical Council Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Fish and Wildlife Health Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Pheasant Study Group Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard MICRA Committee Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard CITES Report. (Completed 7/12/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Jaschek Fund Report. (Completed 7/13/05) (no action)
- ▶ Heard Awards Committee Report. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Passed the gavel from Ohio to South Dakota (symbolic) (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ New President Doug Hansen, South Dakota set meeting for July 2006 in Spearfish, South Dakota. (Completed 7/13/05)
- ▶ Adjourned at 11:42 a.m. (Completed 7/13/05)

## **Midwest Association of 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 out citizenry in the protection, preservation, restoration and management of our fish and wildlife resources.*

**Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
Meeting Locations and Dates**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Des Moines, Iowa - Savery Hotel<br>October 28, 1934                        | 21. St. Louis, Missouri - Statler Hotel<br>July 8 - 10, 1954                            |
| 2. St. Paul, Minnesota - Hotel Lowry<br>June 29, 30, 1935                     | 22. Estes Park, Colorado - Stanley Hotel<br>July 18 - 20, 1955                          |
| 3. Madison Wisconsin - State Capitol<br>June 16, 17, 1936                     | 23. Springfield, Illinois - Hotel St.<br>Nicholas<br>July 9 - 11, 1956                  |
| 4. Sioux Falls, South Dakota -<br>Carpenter Hotel<br>June 11 - 13, 1937       | 24. Park Rapids, Minnesota - Itasca State<br>Park<br>July 10 - 12, 1957                 |
| 5. Omaha, Nebraska - Paxton Hotel<br>June 8, 9, 1938                          | 25. Bismarck, North Dakota - Grand<br>Pacific Hotel<br>July 10, 11, 1958                |
| 6. Madison, Wisconsin - State Capitol<br>June 12, 13, 1939                    | 26. West Lafayette, Indiana - Memorial<br>Center, Purdue University<br>July 9, 10, 1959 |
| 7. Mason City, Iowa - Hotel Hanford<br>June 17, 18, 1940                      | 27. Rapid City, South Dakota - Sheraton<br>Johnson Hotel<br>July 17 - 20, 1960          |
| 8. St. Louis, Missouri - Statler Hotel<br>June 4, 5, 1941                     | 28. Higgins Lake, Michigan - Grand<br>Hotel<br>July 10 - 12, 1961                       |
| 9. Duluth, Minnesota - Hotel Duluth<br>June 25, 26, 1942                      | 29. Omaha, Nebraska - Paxton Hotel<br>July 28 - 30, 1962                                |
| 10. Fox Lake, Illinois - ??<br>September 21, 1943                             | 30. Columbus, Ohio - Neil House Hotel<br>July 8, 9, 1963                                |
| 11. Bismarck, North Dakota - ??<br>??, 1944                                   | 31. Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Milwaukee<br>Inn<br>July 12 - 15, 1964                       |
| 12. Indianapolis, Indiana - ??<br>??, 1945                                    | 32. Toronto, Ontario - Westbury Hotel<br>July 27 - 29, 1965                             |
| 13. Rapid City, South Dakota - ??<br>??, 1946                                 | 33. Wichita, Kansas - Hotel Lassen<br>July 12 - 14, 1966                                |
| 14. Roscommon, Michigan -<br>Conservation Training School<br>July 14-16, 1947 | 34. Des Moines, Iowa - Hotel Savery<br>July 25 - 27, 1967                               |
| 15. Put-in-Bay, Ohio - ??<br>July 16, 17, 1948                                | 35. Chicago, Illinois - Conrad Hilton<br>Hotel<br>July 28 - 31, 1968                    |
| 16. Lincoln, Nebraska - ??<br>October 3, 4, 1949                              | 36. St. Louis, Missouri - Sheraton<br>Jefferson Hotel<br>July 27 - 30, 1969             |
| 17. Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Hotel<br>Wisconsin<br>July 24 - 26, 1950           | 37. Winnipeg, Manitoba - International<br>Inn<br>July 29 - August 1, 1970               |
| 18. Wichita, Kansas - Broadview Hotel<br>August 18, 19, 1951                  |   |
| 19. Des Moines, Iowa - Hotel Fort Des<br>Moines<br>August 15, 16, 1952        |   |
| 20. Dorset, Ontario - Ontario Forest<br>Ranger School<br>August 14, 15, 1953  |   |

38. Aspen, Colorado - Stonebridge Inn  
July 19 - 23, 1971
39. Wichita, Kansas - Holiday Inn  
Plaza  
July 25 - 27, 1972
40. Bismarck, North Dakota - Holiday  
Inn July 16 - 19, 1973
41. Duluth, Minnesota - Radisson Hotel  
July 16 - 18, 1974
42. Traverse City, Michigan - Holiday  
Inn  
July 21 - 24, 1975
43. Rapid City, South Dakota - Howard  
Johnson Motor Inn  
July 19 - 22, 1976
44. Lincoln, Nebraska - Villager Motel  
Convention Center  
July 18 - 21, 1977
45. Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Marc Plaza  
July 16 - 19, 1978
46. Nashville, Indiana - Brown County  
Inn  
July 16 - 19, 1979
47. Columbus, Ohio - Hilton Inn East  
July 14 - 17, 1980
48. Des Moines, Iowa - Hotel Fort Des  
Moines  
July 13 - 15, 1981
49. Springfield, Illinois - Hilton Hotel  
July 12 - 15, 1982
50. Lexington, Kentucky - Radisson  
Plaza  
July 18 - 21, 1983
51. Hannibal, Missouri - Holiday Inn  
July 16 - 19, 1984
52. Wichita, Kansas - Hilton Inn East  
July 15 - 18, 1985
53. Vail, Colorado - Manor Vail  
July 7 - 10, 1986
54. Winnipeg, Manitoba - Holiday Inn  
Downtown  
July 13 - 16, 1987
55. Bismarck, North Dakota - Sheraton  
Bismarck Galleria  
July 11 - 14, 1988
56. Duluth, Minnesota - Radisson Hotel  
July 10 - 13, 1989
57. Grand Rapids, Michigan - Amway  
Grand Plaza Hotel  
July 16 - 19, 1990
58. Rapid City, South Dakota - Hotel  
Alex Johnson  
July 8 - 10, 1991
59. Green Bay, Wisconsin - Embassy  
Suites  
June 28 - 30, 1992
60. Ashland, Nebraska - Eugene T.  
Mahoney State Park  
July 11 - 13, 1993
61. Estes Park, Colorado - Aspen Lodge  
July 10 - 12, 1994
62. Galena, Illinois - DeSoto House  
July 9 - 11, 1995
63. South Bend, Indiana - The Works  
Hotel  
July 14 - 16, 1996
64. Des Moines, Iowa - Embassy Suites  
Hotel  
July 13 - 15, 1997
65. Lawrence, Kansas - Eldridge Hotel  
July 12 - 14, 1998
66. Louisville, Kentucky - Embassy  
Suites  
July 18 - 20, 1999
67. Petoskey, Michigan - Stafford's  
Perry Hotel  
July 16 - 18, 2000
68. St. Paul, Minnesota - Radisson City  
Center Hotel  
July 15 - 17, 2001
69. Springfield, Missouri - Marriott  
Residence Inn  
July 13 - 16, 2002
70. Omaha, Nebraska - Double Tree  
Hotel  
July 12 - 15, 2003
71. Bismarck, North Dakota - Radisson  
Hotel  
July 11 - 13, 2004
72. Sandusky, Ohio - Sawmill Creek  
Resort  
July 10 - 13, 2005

**COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS OF THE  
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES**

Effective July, 2004 - July, 2005

**Standing Committees (identified in bylaws)**

**Executive Committee**

President Steve Gray (OH)  
Past President Dean Hildebrand (ND)  
First Vice President Doug Hansen (SD)  
Secretary/Treasurer Joe Kramer (KS)  
Director At-Large Rebecca Humphries (MI)  
Director At-Large Jeff Ver Steeg (CO)

**Auditing Committee**

Chairman Doug Hansen (SD)  
Jeff Vonk, (IA)  
Randy Kreil (ND)

**Resolutions Committee**

Chairman Larry Nelson (MN)  
John Hoskins (MO)  
Joel Brunsvold (IN)  
Rex Amack (NE)

**Nominating/Awards Committee**

Chairman Glen Salmon (IN)  
Kirk Nelson (NE)  
Keith Sexson (KS)

**Bylaws Committee**

Chairman Jeff Ver Steeg (CO)  
Dave Risley (OH)

**Ad Hoc Committees**

**Jaschek Guideline Rewrite Committee**

Chairman Randy Kreil (ND)  
Joe Kramer (KS)

**Investments Committee**

Chairman Doug Hansen (SD)  
Jeff Vonk (IA)  
Joe Kramer (KS)

***Technical Working Groups and Committees (should include representatives from each state)***

Midwest Private Lands Technical Group  
Public Lands Management Working Committee (PLMWC)  
Midwest Legal Committee  
Midwest Pheasant Study Group  
Midwest Turkey and Deer Working Group  
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Working Group

***From 1995 list (Galena, IL) Groups not listed***

Wildlife Diversity Technical Working Group  
Mid-Continent Warmwater Fish Culture Workshop  
Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers  
Prairie Grouse Technical Committee  
Western Sage/Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Workshop

# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS



**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES**

**JULY, 2004**

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES**

**PREAMBLE**

The name of this organization shall be the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The Association shall be organized and operated as a non-profit professional association as described in 501(c)(6) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code with the purpose of promoting the protection, preservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources.

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to protect the right of jurisdiction of the Midwestern states over their wildlife resources on public and private lands;
- (b) 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;
- (c) 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;
- (d) 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.

The Association met for the first time on October 28, 1934 in Des Moines, Iowa. At that time the group was known as the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners. The Association first received its non-profit status in 1968. The Association's name was changed to the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Commissioners in 1972, to the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 1977, and to the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 2001.

**A R T I C L E I**

**OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The President and Vice-President shall be nominated from the members of the states and provinces on an alphabetical rotation basis, with the Vice-President being from the state or province next in order of rotation. The term of office shall commence thirty (30) days following adjournment of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (IAFWA) fall meeting and conclude thirty (30) days following adjournment of the succeeding fall IAFWA meeting. The 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.

## **A R T I C L E   I I**

### **OTHER ASSOCIATION POSITIONS**

Section 1. The Association shall also establish the position of “Coordinator.” An Association member agency may provide an individual to serve in this capacity or the Association may contract with a member agency or an individual to fill the position. This is a nonvoting position.

Section 2. The Association may establish the position of “Recording Secretary.” This is a nonvoting position.

## **A R T I C L E   I I I**

### **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 \$75.00 per year; however, this fee may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum.

## **A R T I C L E   I V**

### **DUTIES OF OFFICERS and OTHER POSITIONS**

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. Copies of the annual proceedings shall be forwarded to each member in good standing, with the cost of preparation and handling to be paid out of Association funds. All other copies are for distribution at the discretion of the host state or province.

Section 2. The 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 other duties as are naturally incumbent upon the office. 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 \$2,500.00, 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.

Section 6. The Coordinator shall perform the following services:

- (1) Function as the official "Coordinator" for the Association carrying out liaison services by keeping in communication via e-mail, mailings, phone contact and personal visits with member Directors, or their designated representatives, to enhance the viability of the Association.
- (2) Work to obtain direct involvement and commitment of member Directors and affiliate leaders to build strength in the Association as a leading force in the Midwest on behalf of fish and wildlife issues.

- (3) Assist the Executive Vice-President of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in coordinating actions and communications relevant to the Midwest Association.
- (4) Respond to inquiries for information regarding the Association and to routine correspondence.
- (5) Develop and maintain a web site for the Association.
- (6) Carry out directives of the President and/or Executive Committee of the Association.
- (7) Provide such other services as may be mutually agreed upon by both parties.

Section 7. The Recording Secretary shall perform the following services:

- (1) Publish the annual proceedings of the Association.
- (2) Assist with the scheduling of meetings and conference calls and to record minutes as appropriate.
- (3) Assist other officers with correspondence, recording keeping and tax reporting.
- (4) Other duties as assigned by the President or the Secretary/Treasurer

## **A R T I C L E   V**

### **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 VI**

### **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.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **DUES**

Annual Dues shall be \$300.00 per member state and \$100 per 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 VIII**

### **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Association shall be July 1 through June 30.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **QUORUM**

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

## **ARTICLE X**

### **AMENDMENT**

The Constitution and Bylaws (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 the Secretary/Treasurer and sent to members at least thirty days before the regular annual meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. Proposed Bylaws amendments should be presented to, or generated by, the Bylaws Committee and reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to submitting to voting members of the Association for their consideration. With approval of the Vice-President, the President may call for voting by mail (including electronic 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, 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 XI**

### **TYPES OF COMMITTEES**

Section 1. There shall be three kinds of committees: Standing, President'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, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, immediate Past President, and two other members to be appointed by the President with specific consideration for geographical balance. Any state or province represented on the Executive Committee by more than one individual shall be restricted to a single vote on this committee.
- 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.
- E. The Bylaws Committee shall be composed of at least one member, designated by the President. The Bylaws Committee shall recommend Bylaws changes to the Executive Committee for consideration.

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 electronically to the President and the Recording Secretary 30 days in advance of the annual meeting of the Association 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.

## **A R T I C L E   X I I**

### **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Adopted 1936  
Amended 1942  
Amended 1944  
Amended 1949  
Amended 1954  
Amended 1960  
Amended 1964  
Amended 1969  
Amended 1971  
Amended 1972  
Amended 1975  
Amended 1976  
Amended 1977  
Amended 1978  
Amended 1980  
Amended 1987  
Amended 1993  
Amended 1995  
Amended 1996  
Amended 2000  
Amended 2001  
Amended July 16, 2003  
Amended July 13, 2004

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**MAFWA  
Executive Committee Meeting  
June 7, 2005  
Teleconference Call**

**Call to Order**

President Steve Gray, Ohio, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. CDT.

**Quorum**

Steve Gray, Luke Miller, and Dave Risley Ohio; Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota; Joe Kramer, Kansas; Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado; and Rebecca Humphries, Michigan were present. Also, Coordinator Ollie Torgerson and Recording Secretary Sheila Kemmis were present. Doug Hansen, South Dakota, was absent.

**Agenda Review**

President Steve Gray, Ohio, reviewed the items to be discussed. Joe Kramer, Kansas asked to purchase a file cabinet for Sheila Kemmis and to move money from savings to checking. President Gray stated that would be discussed during new business.

**Approval of March 16, 2005 Executive Committee Minutes**

Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, moved, Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, second to approve minutes as presented. *Approved.*

**Incorporation of MAFWA - Ollie**

**Establishing the Conservation Enhancement Fund as a 501(c)(3) - Ollie**

Ollie Torgerson combined the above two items. The Executive Committee has already adopted motions recommending that the Association move forward with both. Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, has offered the services of their attorney, Carol Bambery, who began work today on loan to IAFWA. She will prepare all of the papers necessary to go through with the incorporation and setting up the Conservation Enhancement Fund as a 501 (c)(3). Thanks to Michigan there will be no charge for her service, all MAFWA will pay will be the appropriate filing fees for incorporation. *No action required.*

**Investment Committee Recommendations – Doug Hansen**

Doug Hansen was not present. Ollie Torgerson stated that Doug did not have the final recommendations done yet, but would try to send them out next week.

**By-laws Committee Recommendations – Jeff Ver Steeg**

Sent out draft memo and by-laws for review. Went over draft memo. Discussed creating two Technical Working Committees: the National Conservation Need (NCN) Committee and the Midwest Pheasant Study Group, as well as adding the new Investments Committee to the Standing Committees and listing all of them in the by-laws. Also, clarified the process and timeline for proposing resolutions. Ollie Torgerson – Under resolutions on page 6, need to change “written” to include “electronic mail”. Dave Risley, Ohio, stated that it already says that under the Executive Committee section. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, stated that a generic statement probably needed to be added, striking the word “written” to just read “copies of ...” Ollie Torgerson – On page 7, we have four other committees that are not listed that we have liaisons to. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – We actually have two lists, those officially approved and those just affiliated. Ollie Torgerson – We can handle all of this during the strategic thinking session in

July. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, stated that maybe there should not be an actual list, but a statement that says something about “official committees approved by the President” and “affiliated committees”. Ollie Torgerson - Discussed the difference between sanctioned and unsanctioned groups and the fact that sanctioned groups in WAFWA means that their travel approval is guaranteed. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, stated that in the past some groups did not want to be sanctioned.

#### **WAFWA PIF Data Base Funding Request – Steve Gray**

WAFWA is asking the other Associations to donate \$5,000 to support the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory PIF database. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – This is no longer necessary as Colorado covered the \$20,000 they were short. President Gray asked if they still needed the donation and Ver Steeg said no.

#### **MAFWA Logo – Ollie Torgerson and Steve Gray**

President Gray stated that at the meeting at the North American some possible logos were displayed. Ohio is working on those and will present three logos for vote at the July meeting, two from ideas seen before and one new one using suggestions made. Ollie Torgerson asked if the logo used on the registration form was one of the options and President Gray stated that was one of Ohio’s that they used quite often. Ollie Torgerson encouraged everyone to look at our website and see the Northeastern logo. WAFWA currently does not have a logo, but is working on one.

#### **Approval of Nominees to Farm Bill Working Group – Steve Gray**

Six names have been presented for our consideration: Steve Riley, Nebraska; Bill Smith, South Dakota; Bill White, Missouri; Todd Bogenschutz, Iowa; Troy Schroeder, Kansas; and Luke Miller, Ohio. We need two representatives from this list to be on this IAFWA working group. Kirk Nelson called from Nebraska to highly recommend Steve Riley. *All approved Steve Riley’s appointment.* President Gray offered Luke Miller as the other representative. *All agreed.* Ollie Torgerson stated that if IAFWA received the Farm Bill grant they applied for that travel to meetings would be paid for by IAFWA.

#### **Annual Meeting Update – Steve Gray**

Sponsors are rolling in and a new mailing just went out to possible registrants. The fishing outing has all but four Directors, or their representatives, attending so far. Scott Hassett from Wisconsin can not come because of conflicts with another meeting. Also, have not heard from Iowa. President Gray asked Ollie to contact Hassett and tell him that his representative could attend in his place. Ollie Torgerson asked if fishing licenses would be available at the Lodge and President Gray said they would, or you could buy the permit online before the event. Luke Miller, Ohio, stated that the Sawmill Creek Resort room reservation deadline would end on June 10. Sheila Kemmis agreed to send out an email to let the voting members know of the deadline.

#### **Other Business –**

Discussed buying new file cabinet for Sheila Kemmis. *All approved.* Also, discussed moving \$10,000 from savings account to checking account. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, moved, Joe Kramer, Kansas, second to move the money. *All approved.*

Ollie Torgerson stated that he hoped to hear about the grant request from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation soon. Sheila Kemmis stated that Joe Kramer just received the letter of approval for \$96,600. Ollie Torgerson said that the money would be used by all 14 states for comprehensive projects and that \$3,000 was built into the grant for his salary. President Gray stated that Ollie needed to add a new coding line to his salary worksheet to show using that. Ollie Torgerson stated that there are two new affiliate applications: the National Audubon who has



already sent in their check and the National Wildlife Federation who had not sent in their money yet. Both groups would need to be approved at the July meeting.

### **Set Next Meeting Date**

No meeting is needed before the July meeting. Ollie Torgerson stated that the Executive Committee meeting was left off the final agenda. President Gray said that it was still at 7:00 am on July 11 but would be in the same room with the rest of the group, just off to the side, because the meal was being sponsored and he did not want them separated. So the meeting will be at 7:00 am, July 11 in the Pontiac Room.

President Gray thanked Ollie for all of his hard work, even through the tough times with his daughter's illness.

### **Adjourn**

Joe Kramer, Kansas, moved, Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, second to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

**MAFWA  
Executive Committee Meeting  
July 11, 2005, 6:30 a.m. EDT  
Pontiac Room  
Sawmill Creek Resort  
Huron, Ohio**

**Call to order**

President Steve Gray, Ohio, called the meeting to order at 6:30 a.m. EDT.

**Quorum**

Steve Gray and Luke Miller, Ohio; Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota; Doug Hansen, South Dakota; Joe Kramer, Kansas; Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado; and Rebecca Humphries, Michigan were all present. Also, Coordinator Ollie Torgerson and Recording Secretary Sheila Kemmis were also present.

**Agenda Review**

President Steve Gray, Ohio went over the items to be discussed.

**Approval of June 7, 2005 Executive Committee Minutes**

*Dean Hildebrand moved, Joe Kramer second to approve minutes as presented. Approved.*

**Investment Committee Recommendations--Doug Hansen**

Hansen sent out three proposals and got two responses for taking over the investments of the Midwest Association. One from Brad Reinke of Reinke-Baker Investment Group, Inc, Pierre, South Dakota who manages South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation funds and is active in wildlife issues; and Shane Hessman of Hampton Consulting Corporation of Pratt, Kansas who manages endowment funds for several non-profit organizations. Both seem equally capable of handling the account. Both are basing their proposals on the same investment of assets. It is a good time to do this. Hessman had two hypothetical ideas on how our portfolio would have looked if we had invested these 10 years ago. The Investment Committee is recommending the Kansas firm (Hessman) simply because of the location and Kansas is where we will be incorporated. Also, the fact that Sheila Kemmis is located there and we hope will be involved in MAFWA affairs for some time offers continuity for the account. Hampton will help us form an investment statement and the Investment Committee will work directly with Shane to get that started. Reinke did have one illustration called the "bucket system" to show our current system. Sheila asked about the interest from the CDs that rolls into the checking account at this time and Doug stated the new investment set up would be very similar to how it is now. ***The Executive Committee is comfortable with endorsing this company.*** Joe asked about the new conservation fund. Doug said the RFP stated that money would also be managed by this firm.

### **Resolutions--Larry Nelson**

Larry Nelson stated we have three suggested resolutions, one is kudos for Ohio and the committee considered a couple more. One on invasive species, but no draft. Two others that have merit are to pass a 2006 emergency fund for \$400 million nationwide for an advance on the duck stamp. USFWS can't lobby for this. Get that money up front, as was done in the early 60s. Hildebrand stated there was some talk of increasing the duck stamp cost and maybe that would be a way to get advancement of this resolution. Can talk about that when we get it to the floor. The third one deals with the process for the IAFWA entering into disputes between states, try to avoid this and deal with each state individually. We are asking to get a majority vote of membership of IAFWA (majority) before a grievance can be filed. Humphries has difficulties with this because legal matters have to move fast sometimes. Gray stated that would only be twice a year when that could happen because that is the only time the entire membership is together. ***The Executive Committee felt this should go to the full membership on Wednesday for discussion.*** Humphries asked if that was written "just between states". Nelson said yes. Torgerson said that the worry would be fractionalizing the International and having states pulling out. Basis of this resolution is the negotiation before it gets to be a legal matter. Gray stated the need to watch the political structure of each state too and who votes for a certain issue. Hildebrand agreed with him, but said they were right in the middle of a political can of worms. Let process unfold naturally (MN – ND issue). Heart of this resolution is that IAFWA goes into this with eyes wide open. Consensus to take it to the floor on Wednesday.

### **By-laws Committee Recommendations--Jeff Ver Steeg**

Ver Steeg referred to the letter sent out June 6 outlining changes to the by-laws and the fact that we have discussed this before. ***Torgerson stated these items require action, so this can be reported tomorrow and voted on Wednesday.*** Both resolutions and by-laws committees will not present until Wednesday, no report required tomorrow, but will hand out copies for review.

### **MAFWA Logo**

President Steve Gray showed three example ideas for a new logo for the Midwest. ***Have copies for the membership and will take this to the business meeting on Wednesday.*** Sheila commented that we were looking at simplification of the logo so that you can identify the Association by just seeing the logo.

### **Other Business**

Torgerson stated the 501(c)(3) papers are ready to go for the Conservation Fund, but needs signatures. Incorporation of both the Fund and Association will provide officers and staff protection from liability as suggested by Carol Bambery. ***This will be discussed at the general meeting.***

### **Set Next Meeting Date**

Tentative teleconference date for August 9 at 2:00 p.m. CDT.

### **Adjourn**

7:15.

**72ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
JULY 10-13, 2005**

**SAWMILL CREEK RESORT  
HURON, OHIO**

**MONDAY JULY 11<sup>th</sup>**

Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 a.m. (*see separate minutes*)

Breakfast sponsored by National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) at 7:00 a.m. Jodi Valenta spoke about the handout "Youth Hunting Report" done in cooperation with United States Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA) and National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf). NSSF donated \$422,000 to this program and the plans are to continue it as long as their Board approves. The plan will be rolled out at the North American in March, with grants due March or April. Introduced Rob Sexton, USSA.

Rob Sexton, USSA, went over the joint project, "Families Afield Youth Hunting Initiative". **(Complete Youth Hunting Report in Exhibits section of proceedings.)** The three organizations plan to educate the general public, elected officials and sportsmen about the need to lower barriers to youth hunting so they launched this campaign. Had measured success first but feel there is an urgent need for recruitment. Only 5 percent of hunters are in the 16- to 17-year-old range, with the most hunters being between the ages of 35-54. The first hunting experience happens between ages 6 to 15 (nearly 80 percent). Hunter numbers have fallen over past 15 years with the largest declines in the younger age groups. We feel we are not recruiting effectively. The average national hunter replacement ratio for 2000 is .69. In surveys done state by state there are only seven states above 1 percent hunter replacement ratio and four others above .90 percent. The remainder fall below, with Michigan being the lowest at .26 percent. Classified all 50 states into three classes based on level of restrictions to youth hunters. The first class, very restrictive, had hard age restrictions on youth hunts, 20 states fell into this group. The second class, somewhat restrictive, are the states that did not have unrestricted big game hunting, with 13 states falling in that category. The final category, least restrictive, introduced kids to hunting before age 12 and 17 states fell in this category. We need to have a TBYPB "Try Before You Buy" mentality toward youth hunting. Many factors contribute to recruitment, but there are mainly eight barriers, and we need to attack those one at a time with urban areas being the number one barrier. The percent of Americans hunting is dropping and is projected to be only 3.78 percent of the population by 2025. The reason hunting accidents are big news is because they are so rare. In 2002, 1.7 million youth hunters spent 15.3 million days in the field, and there were only 77 hunting-related shooting incidents reported. NSSF, USSA and NWTf have launched the Families Afield project and are looking for new partners. The project has been launched in three states already, Wisconsin, Ohio and Pennsylvania. So far Wisconsin has introduced a bill, and the other two plan to introduce bills this fall to allow youth to hunt before receiving their hunter education certificate with parents deciding whether the youth are ready to hunt or not. You have to hook the fish before you can land it.

**Opening Session and Welcome to Ohio**

Steve Gray, Ohio, gave welcome address. **(The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** He said there were 13 of 14 states present. Recognized Ollie Torgerson for all of his hard work and attributed

the Association success to him in part. Gave brief agenda review on PowerPoint presentation showing pictures of Lake Erie (walleye capital of the world): Joe Kramer picture with smallmouth bass; George Vandel picture with Round Gobi; Ollie Torgerson picture with Freshwater Drum 22" long; Rebecca Humphries with walleye; Pirate Clipper trolling boat passengers; and Jeff Ver Steeg and his longest walleye. Fishing outing yesterday was sponsored by U.S. Sportsmen Alliance (USSA) and Lake Erie Charter Alliance in a small part. Presentation also showed a photo taken in Ohio State Capitol showing the "orange hat brigade" people helping to support bills.

Thanked National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) for breakfast. Stated that each state would have 3 minutes to discuss hot topics today; would hear from John Baughman and Terry Crawford, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA); Bruce Morrison on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD); Matt Hogan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); awards program at lunch sponsored by American Electric Power (Glen Salmon instrumental in getting the new awards program up and running); the afternoon meeting will have reports from our Coordinator Ollie Torgerson; a continuation of the morning session and reports from USFWS Regional personnel; and supper tonight at Old Woman Creek estuary (coastal wetland on Lake Erie).

On Tuesday the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) breakfast, Tammy Sapp and James Earl Kennamar; then current issues – hunting, fishing, federal aid, farm bill, etc.; luncheon sponsored by Archery Trade Association (ATA) also tomorrow evening they are sponsoring a shooting event; after lunch tomorrow will be a continuation of current issues and committee reports. Then we will load the buses for Magee Marsh tomorrow night for a fish fry. We also have a wildlife art exhibit set up for tomorrow with three local artists.

Thank you all for coming. We will conclude Wednesday with the business meeting where we hope to give more time to Committee reports than in the past, but need to keep on time.

### **State of the States – Hot Topics and Strategic Issues Session**

*Dan Zekor, Missouri*, facilitator for strategic session portion of the meeting. I will pick a couple of states at random to make their presentation, each will have 3 minutes and Ollie will be the time keeper. **(Complete State of the State reports can be found on our website at [www.mafwa.iafwa.org](http://www.mafwa.iafwa.org) or as an Exhibit attached to the written proceedings.)**

1) Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, Assistant Director – Legislature passed a bill that allows for a license fee increase, first time since 1990s; the first habitat stamp which will be required for anyone between 19-64; and a 75-cent surcharge on licenses to fund the Public Education Advisory Council (PEAC) which is expected to raise \$900,000 to \$1 million to promote hunting and fishing. The Wolf Working Group Committee just ended, came to 100 percent agreement on recommendations (had first gray wolf killed on highway just before that). Big game allocation process going on; a lot of endangered species work going on. Report on website.

2) Keith Sexson, Kansas, Assistant Secretary for Operations – Introduced Joe Kramer. I have passed out coasters and lapel pins, celebrating 100 years for Fish and Game, 50 years for Parks. Legislative issues – battle buying public land; ALS automating system for licenses – deer permits issued by August 1; Community Lakes Assistance Program – can fish without extra permits, only state fishing license required, funded through DJB; walk-in hunting and spring walk-in hunting program is big, 1 million plus acres, some open as early as September 1 through all of deer seasons. Now part of wildlife compact passed by the Legislature; approved Aquatic Nuisance Species plan, continue to plan for problems.

3) Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, Director – Alan Marble Chief of Law Enforcement here also; report on website. Funding is big topic, long-term strategies to replace state general fund (SGF), \$250 - \$260 million, only 10 percent now SGF looking for guaranteed funding, comprehensive strategy, and Legislature not high on increases. Working on many ideas for the Hunter and

Angler Recruitment and Retention programs. Comprehensive land review 4 ½ million acres of state owned lands, hasn't been reviewed in years, looking at buying inholdings. Large turnover of staff and we need to prepare our new leaders.

4) Doug Hansen, South Dakota, Director Division of Wildlife – George Vandel and Larry Giolotti are here with me. Wildlife resources continue to prosper. Mountain lion management plan complete, Commission proposed hunting season, generally accepted, opinions on how to have that hunt undecided. Assaults on two doctrines, private property rights zealots – open field's doctrines, compliance checks on private property – two attempts to stop our officers, think that assault will continue. The other is the public trust doctrine, private control on public water, private landowners trying to stop public use on those waters. Deferred to legislature that they can decide how public waters are used when on private land. Raised some fees last year, Commission snubbed Legislature last year when we got that passed, problems with Commission authority now. Come to South Dakota next year for the meeting.

5) Kyle Hupfer, Indiana, Director – Internet point of sales up, 700 outlets; 8,000-acre Goose Pond acquisition complete; two new places to hunt for fall turkey season; Heritage Trust Fund got \$1 from license plate program for land acquisition; first CREP agreement signed; and three species came off T&E species list. Challenges – future of hunting, behind fence hunter and angler recruitment, ripple effect on budget, public land and access and studying ways to make private lands available. Proposal to charge for senior fishing to match federal funding, defeated but will try again.

6) Rex Amack, Nebraska, Director – (Kentucky waived their time to me as well – not here). Kirk Nelson, Director of Fish and Wildlife here. Youth commitment, concept pursuing to provide 50 percent off lifetime youth hunting and fishing permits, sold 185 in 50 minutes, sold 450 total - \$56,000 cost, one of our Commissioners has already raised \$65,000 for next year. This takes away one barrier, change access, training will help. One of the barometers for decline, started Junior Trap Shooting event in 1985 with 900 people, last year had 1,600, a 50 percent growth. Archery in Schools extremely successful and well received. Mostly we have the same problems as the rest of you. Have to put Comprehensive Wildlife Plan in place which will help us all. Look forward to going to South Dakota next year.

7) Joel Brunsvold, Illinois, Director – Mike Conlin, Chief of Resources here with me. Big issue is deer hunting permits, had call-in list last year and had 15,000 out of state permits sold in 7 hours. Went up to 20,000 for this year in a lottery system, have 10,000 sold so far, which caused an issue between us and Farm Bureau. We also increased the cost of the permit to \$300. On Asian carp, we want to thank the states for helping us with getting that new barrier in place. New program trying to get ahead of the curve by issuing ID numbers to all of our hunters. Liked Hurricane Dennis and the fact that we are getting water, had a Drought Task Force meeting, farm crops in danger in half of the state. CREP \$10 million, sign up 15,000 acres. Shooting SPARTA in production, report later, building large area. Cougars: have a few, seeing a lot, no tracks, but seeing a lot. Canned hunts, Governor trying to make up his mind on that, know where I stand. Celebrating 10 years as DNR.

8) Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, Director – Pleased to see so many people here, pushed last year in North Dakota to get more involvement with this group. Appreciate Ollie helping us get involvement back. Private land is open to sportsmen, 10 programs to open 1 million acres of land to hunting by end of this year. I will be leaving at end of this year (retiring). I would like to mention that this is our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a handbook with historical information is available. Strategic vision (plan) hope to have out soon. Larger version will be a living document. Held landowner appreciation suppers in each district, 42,000 invitations sent, received 10 percent back. Held it in the winter, but people were very excited about that. This year, plan to do that in the summer. Wet this year, wettest ever, flooding in north, but good for waterfowl.

9) Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin, Federal Policy Advisor – Scott Hassett is hosting the CWD conference and couldn't be here. He wanted me to invite you all to the 2007 IAFWA meeting. We have 2,800 full time employees, but Legislature is going to drop that by 100-150 people. We have a \$14 billion in budget, asked for \$17 billion. Have a new \$34 fee for ice shanties to be placed on lake in winter, more for nonresidents. On the budget we created a line function for Law Enforcement. Nature is our business, Laurie working with tourism to link nature and tourism. Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail, the biggest effort so far. On CNN for a brief period, "Land Legacy" ecosystem approach to land management. A number of partners contributed. Brought Bill VanderZouwen and Todd Peterson with me. On CWD, we have a report at the back of the room.

10) John Guenther, Minnesota, Director – Government is no longer shut down, highway restrooms are now open. We got virtually everything we asked for this year except for the cost of living increase. \$10 million received for wildlife acquisition, \$2 million received for aquatic acquisition. Looking at lands owned by power companies, etc. that are being privatized and then no hunting and no trespassing signs are going up. Share CWD concerns. Need to stem loss of major wetland areas, native populations of waterfowl and trends of duck populations. Working with non-government units to combine our funds with theirs and develop major wetland complexes. ATV use and management is a big problem. They want us to provide trails, also for snowmobiles. Over 2,000 people last year tried to tell us what we weren't going to do on one of our areas – this is a problem area.

11) Ken Herring, Iowa, Conservation and Recreation Division Director – Jeff Vonk was confirmed again this year as Director. KAIZEN events include reviewing programs, we lock everyone who is a key player in a room and a week later they have to come out with an agreed upon program. Dale Garner and Marion Conover are here today. 2004 was our safest hunting season, 17 accidents, no fatalities. We were one of least restrictive states on hunting, as seen this morning. We have an ATV trails program. Legislature increased boat registration fees by nearly \$1 million a year and passed mandatory boater education for persons 12-17 for boats over 10 horsepower. On anglers, 40 percent are non-consistent buyers. Ran a media campaign to capture past anglers ages 30-54, the net result was an increase of license sales in the target areas, about \$450,000. Partnered with the Iowa Lottery Commission and offered a \$1 discount on resident annual fishing licenses purchased on our website on non-winning scratch tickets which increased our website license sales five-fold. Started an urban trout fishing program in South Banner Lake which was a big success. Since 2003, we have had 48 wild hogs killed by vehicles, hunters and captured by wildlife staff (Missouri's fault). Funding for the Honey Creek Resort Park, the first destination resort park, was allotted by the Legislature after a \$28 million revenue bonding authority and it is scheduled to open in 2008. The park will have a 100-room motel, restaurant, golf course, indoor water park and 37 furnished cabins. Iowa will be celebrating their centennial in 2020 and plans are underway.

12) Steve Gray, Ohio, Division of Wildlife Director – Making progress on hunter and angler retention and recruitment, but working on several programs like Families Afield. Notable increase of 12-16 percent in kids hunting. We are self-funded and also have problems with money, but fund in good shape for now. We have an over-abundance of cormorants causing problems, killing trees on islands and moving inland, also killing fish. Getting good deer hunting, trophy deer, new record last year in top 10, two years ago number 1 nontypical taken here. Turkey hunting also notable. We have held several bald eagle events where we showcase them. This is good PR. Had tribal issues for the first time on Lake Erie, with Ottawa and Shawnee tribes, think gaming behind this.

13) Dan Zekor, Missouri, Federal Aid Coordinator – John Hoskins could not be here, he is busy dealing with our four-member Commission, waiting for a new appointment which is supposed to happen today. Legislative funding (which is dedicated funding, locked in with no sunset – now

for 30 years) is challenged yearly and the department has to justify ourselves. We had 98 new Legislators two years ago and several more new ones last year. Spent a lot of time working with them, they have tried to pass several bills to change that funding. Trying to figure out how to communicate who we are to legislators and constituents. We are often confused with DNR and who has parks. We need to work to reconnect with citizens. In 1970s put together document for the 1/8 percent sales tax, working on revising that document. Working on pilot project on telechecking, check stations gone this year. No positive CWD cases. Working on Comprehensive Wildlife Strategies which are right on target. Had a new nature center open in southeast Missouri, Cape Girardeau.

14) Kentucky is not here, but their report is on the website.

15) Saskatchewan also has a report online.

Steve Gray stated we would follow up after lunch with more discussion. Asked for applause for Dan Zekor for facilitating this morning. Introduced Terry Crawford, Nevada Department of Wildlife and IAFWA President. He is part of the reason the Western Association is so successful, but think we are on the right path.

**State of the International Association – Terry Crawford, President, IAFWA, and Director of Nevada Department of Wildlife – (Information included in IAFWA Staff Report on the**

**IAFWA website - [www.iafwa.org](http://www.iafwa.org) or as an Exhibit attached to the proceedings.)** Thanks for the opportunity to speak and Nevada will help the guys with the lions. Thanked Ohio for their hospitality. IAFWA is very strong, proactive, and pretty well funded right now. We have a strong dedicated staff in Washington. Would like to give a special thank you to Rebecca Humphries for providing legal services to IAFWA in the form of Carol Bamberg for a couple of years. Also, would like to ask the Midwest for continued support and participation in IAFWA. Ask for support on these issues: completion of Comprehensive Wildlife Plan strategies in a timely fashion, congratulate Michigan for being one of the first five states submitted; National grants program involvement NCN submission of projects important - present projects to lay the ground work in the future; Endangered Species Act Enhancement this year in Congress hope all will participate at state and local levels – testimony day after tomorrow concerning that; new Farm Bill, generated a new secret weapon -- Jennifer Mock, moving ahead with that; on the transportation bill, pay close attention to that because of the significant fund dedicated for us in that bill; bird issues, especially in Flyway Councils look at Adaptive Harvest Task Force report, need to finish that, flyways grew out of IAFWA several years ago because of the number of bird issues; exploring fish habitat initiative, need input on how best to proceed; initiate new TWW seeking consistent funding; conservation education summit last year in Shepherdstown – discussed conservation strategy, feel better about that at this time and hope you will implement those within your states; many changes of personnel in this business, directed MAT Team to work on getting leadership institute to help us succeed in this; Federal Assistance Task Force good work going on and they have broadened their interests; divisive and uncomfortable issue surfaced this year on public recreation, need to look at giving authority to the states and help states get issues worked out between states, hunters fighting with hunters and us refereeing is bad for business, each state needs to look at their allocation of opportunity and see that it is fair and appropriate in this day and age to keep this problem a temporary situation, Congress was not pleased that they had to bail us out on this issue, need to go on with wildlife resources and recreation, not get involved in state battles. All of you need to get registered for IAFWA when you get back, 50 percent of the rooms already booked. Making gradual changes at annual meetings, on committees and assignments, need to get moving on those issues and send that stuff in. One of the goals is to work very hard to see that all of the Directors are very involved, but hope you will participate in the committees, get involved with one you know a lot about, and one you know nothing about. Structure meeting so that committee reports are given at business



meeting, want you to feel that you are a solid part of IAFWA. Plan for the future, take serious look, adapt or perish. Looking at name change again, marketing decision, we all say “the International” which means something to about 1,000 people, but hard to get our word out, hate to see change, but we are at the adapt or die phase. Looking at who we are, if we want to be involved internationally, who our partners are and in what fashion, etc. Trying to get Mexico and Canada more involved - what are those partnerships and how broad are they going to be? Canada and Mexico seem more interested in being involved with each other than with us right now. Think about that and what we call ourselves. Tried to reorganize our committees, but we have 134 meetings that are going to occur at the North American. Have a little work to do on getting those committees pared down. Need to look at finances and staffing. Outgrown new space we have in Washington already and need to take a better look at funding, not looking at dues increases, other than those on consumer price index. Working on future issues and hope you will get involved in that. There will be a lot of changes because most of us will be retiring in the near future. Went through an unstable time a few years ago because of the change-over of directors, in the next 18 months there will be another change-over, as much as 50 percent, need to be aware of that and be prepared. Next IAFWA President will be John Cooper from South Dakota.

Steve Gray, OH – Just as a reminder, we would like written copies of your reports or speeches, please give them to Sheila Kemmis for the proceedings.

**IAFWA Staff Report** – *John Baughman, Executive Vice President, IAFWA, Washington D.C.* (The complete Staff Report on the IAFWA website - [www.iafwa.org](http://www.iafwa.org) or is an Exhibit attached to the proceedings.) Add my thanks to Rebecca for Carol Bambery’s services. We are planning a Directors’ retreat with spouses or significant others the first night of the IAFWA conference. Need to discuss handling regional and local issues, not very well positioned right now to hit those things. Introduced staff present - Dave Walker, Jen Mock, Ray Evans and Len Ugarenko. On the Automated Wildlife Data Systems, I encourage states to pay a subscription to get involved in that program. If you need any of those consulting services it is well within your interest to be involved. Landowner Incentive program in near future, need feedback information on that survey. Recruitment Retention survey also coming out, asking each state to report their best practices on hunting, shooting and angling. Don will be working on that and put that in a formal report. Not only looking at name change, but logo change. Awards deadline is July 15, so get those nominations in to Wayne MacCallum. June 17 was deadline for \$2 million available from National Grants Committee to allocate this year, feedback due by August 15. Doug Hansen’s Fisheries and Water Resources Committee draft action plan will be in process by IAFWA meeting. There is a lot of interest and support from groups on this national fish habitat plan. We have a new committee, Oceans Policy Committee. The Great Lakes States need to take a look at that. In March, 128 Representatives and 55 Senators asked for at \$85 million from State Wildlife Grants for TWW. President Bush’s budget request was for only \$74 million and the House voted on \$65 million. The Senate reaffirmed the need by voting for \$72 million. While less than the President’s request it is still \$3 million over last year’s appropriation. You need to revitalize your coalition and send letters by July 18 to your Congress members. There has been a large change in leadership, MAT Team is working on this by: 1) helping states work out their own leadership development program; and 2) national conservation leadership institute, 35 students a year, have them come in for training, 10 days at institute for fall/winter, consulting firm and Kennedy School at Harvard combined with recognized leaders from our community, keep cost down to room and board, limited enough that you will only be able to get there every other year. Started fund raising efforts to get \$200,000 a year, not from states but from corporate sponsors.

Ollie Torgerson – On State Wildlife Grant Program, are you planning to launch new initiative to get full \$350 million for that program? John Baughman – Still working on that, has to be a new source of money. We will discuss this at the Nashville meeting, work nationally with states to develop state based dedicated funding, also continue to work with appropriations.

Dave Walker, IAFWA – **(Report can be found in the proceedings as a Report.)** Acting as Refuge Policies Liaison with USFWS and working out of their Washington DC office. I would like to thank state directors for developing a point of contact to get state perspective to the table. Also, appreciate comments on replacing Director's order and draft plan (remain a draft through this fall as USFWS gets comments). Habitat goals process for refuge system seeks to integrate national, regional and state plans to help refuges see how they fit in the process. The process is to use conservation plans to identify conservation targets which include both species and community types. This is also a good opportunity to work together with migratory bird plans. Initial strategy is being set up. Eco-regional teams will be set up for each of the seven USFWS regions. Get involved and help USFWS put together their conservation priority standards. Thank MAFWA for support when I was Farm Bill Coordinator and let you know you will be pleased with Jen Mock.

Steve Gray, OH – Housekeeping, inside front of program is a complete list of the planning committee who worked to put together this meeting. Luke Miller, OH – I want to also thank Sheila Kemmis for all of her help. On your name tags there is a number which we will use for the drawing prizes, but you have to be back in your seat to win a prize. We will start at 10:30.

*Break for 15 minutes*

**Chronic Wasting Disease Update - Bruce Morrison, Nebraska – (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** In the past few weeks things have been happening. Midwestern states do have Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), new locations include New York, New Mexico, Saskatchewan, Nebraska, Colorado and Alberta. In New York, on March 27, positive captive deer announced; on April 8, four additional positive captive deer announced; on April 30, completed wild deer sampling, 217 collected; and on May 4, two wild deer tested positive. In Oneida County the wild deer were on a captive farm, the rehabilitator/taxidermist admitted that the rehabilitated deer wandered his property. They were not concerned because they had a chili feed with the meat from the deer. No human cases have been reported yet, but this might be our first test case. There has also been a spread of CWD in New Mexico and a new location in Saskatchewan. In the Midwest, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Minnesota Wisconsin, Illinois and Saskatchewan have had positive animals in either captive, wild or both. Research indicates CWD prion must adhere to cell membrane to be infective. Recently, a Montana judge ruled that they couldn't ban game farms because it was unconstitutional. The 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. BSE case in a cow in Texas was found and this strain is closer to French strain than the British strain. Colorado Division of Wildlife and National Park Service are conducting modeling to determine impacts of wolf depredation on CWD. Colorado Division of Wildlife and the City of Boulder are also discussing a project to follow known CWD deer for their lifetime to determine impacts on deer and populations. In 2005, funding from APHIS was made available for CWD work: in Tier 1 - \$280,000 (CWD states); Tier 2 - \$74,000 (bordering states); and Tier 3 - \$53,000 (not bordering). A total \$5 million pot is to be divided among the states and this means less money per state next year because of the outbreak in New York and the bordering states that will qualify for funding. Website [www.aoproducts.com/dvdinfo.html](http://www.aoproducts.com/dvdinfo.html) has a video "Shedding Light on Chronic Wasting Disease" available and a link to the CWD site [www.cwd-](http://www.cwd-)

[info.org](http://info.org) Working on CWD Alliance, which could possibly become the Wildlife and Health Alliance. Many organizations are involved, including: Boone and Crockett, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, Pope and Young, Quality Deer Management Association, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Wildlife Management Institute, Campfire Conservation Fund, Bowhunting Preservation Alliance, Isaak Walton League of America, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Dallas Safari Club, Whitetails Unlimited, American Wildlife Conservation Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Cabelas. I saw a sign in a bar in Cairns, Australia, when I was there. The bar was called the Mad Cow Tavern, established 1997. I found that interesting. I will be going to Madison, Wisconsin from here for the CWD Summit. Last year at the North American meeting, John Baughman was discussing having a National Wildlife Disease Study, Canada has one, Mexico has one and we want to have a North American wildlife disease study in place. Becky Humphries, Michigan, is the Chair of the Wildlife Health Committee, but we need to have a movement come out of a private entity, not the states. Love to see it come out of IAFWA with support from the Regional Associations. We need to keep our eyes on what is happening.

Ollie Torgerson – Will there be anyone present to give Wildlife and Fish Health Committee report tomorrow? Bruce Morrison - Becky will give that.

Keith Sexson, KS – Are all states monitoring CWD? Bruce Morrison – Yes, as of last year, but Minnesota is reducing the amount of testing they are doing, but are still doing some.

Steve Gray, OH - Thanked Ollie for putting together good speakers.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Update – Matt Hogan, Acting Director, Washington, D.C.**

**(Report can be found in the proceedings as an Exhibit.)** The Service is making progress on finding a new director, talking to several folks. In fact we have three department positions open and waiting for confirmation. I would like to thank Glen Salmon for taking over co-chair position on the Joint Federal Assistance Policy Task Force. You will hear more from Mitch King tomorrow on the federal assistance program. Comprehensive Statewide Conservation Strategies are due in October, five states have sent in their plans so far. Mike McKenna and Dean Hildebrand represented the MAFWA on this committee. IAFWA Trust Funds Committee, chaired by Glen Salmon, is working with Mitch and the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB), formerly the ATF, and IRS to assure that the states are getting all of the funding they should. Have rejuvenated the Trust Funds Collections Working Group of this committee with strong representation from industry and collections agencies. We are also working with IRS on clarifying terms and closing loopholes on the archery and fishing side and in the future plan to work on the guns and ammo side. The Service is planning an Industry, State and USFWS summit to discuss issues of mutual concern. It is important for all of us to work with our industry partners. On National Wildlife Refuges, Dave Walker is working with our folks on policies to improve hunting and fishing access in six states, including Glacial Ridge in Minnesota and seven other refuges in California, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York and Washington. With the help of Minnesota and The Nature Conservancy, the 35,000 acre Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge is a success story and will be showcased at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation next month. Have a new fishing on refuges guide coming out and are working on the hunting guide. Hope to have live documents on the website. Analyzing comments on CCP. Looking at habitat conditions on the prairies, but the numbers are not good for migratory birds. Could be on the bubble between a liberal and moderate season for waterfowl hunting. Flyways are getting ready to meet. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of waterfowl surveys. The duck stamps went on sale June 30. The winner this year was from South Dakota. The first day of the sale the contest was moved from the post offices to Capitol Hill, but we found out we could not sell anything there, so we had to set up a mobile post office outside and had runners

bringing stamps back and forth. Would like to thank Ducks Unlimited (DU) for the story they placed in their magazine. DU has assumed the management of the licensing program for Federal Duck Stamp branded products and will co-host this fall's Duck Stamp Contest in Memphis, Tennessee. This is first time in history that the Federal Duck Stamp art contest will be held outside of Washington, DC. This will be a test for us. The North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) declaration of intent was signed by Mexico and Canada to help conserve North American birds throughout their range and habitat. Bruce McCloskey is the new chair of that committee and supported by Debbie Hahn at the IAFWA. Recently hosted federal working group of all agency partners to draft a national fish habitat plan, thought most wouldn't come to this, 16 or 17 in all showed up and stayed throughout the meeting. Had four-hour meeting and it was encouraging, interested in how they can play a part. Working on a management plan for Asian carp and the final review on black carp is over at the Capitol. Silver and bighead carp starting economic analysis, hope proposal in six months on silver with bighead to follow. Affects import of species. On T&E front, court's ruling in Portland, Oregon on gray wolf issue was a big setback. They went against our rule to delist the gray wolf, no final decision on appeal. Working on getting that appeal moved ahead and likely to hold up to the legal strategy.

George Vandel, SD – What is the distribution of duck stamp money to breeding grounds? Matt Hogan – When Steve Williams was still Director, was 50 percent to prairies, following that for now. Working with refuges and looking at importance of breeding grounds versus nesting grounds, would have been 75 percent, states outside of the breeding ground areas were upset. Still working with Migratory Bird Commission on this.

Glen Salmon, IN – On hatchery system privatization, is O&B still trying to get that done? Matt Hogan – Going through competitive outsourcing. Mitch is working on that with committee members. Our first run at it we were naïve about potential impact, even more concerned with which way this could go. Trying to learn the impacts and working on what positions we will put out for competitive bids. Trying to think in the short and long term. Don't want to negatively harm our mission, but hope to save money. Haven't decided what direction we are going to go on that.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – Talked to Robyn last year, in Bismarck, on markets created for Asian and silver carp. Matt Hogan – Need to do an economic impact. Problems could arise if you create a market for them. Charles Wooley, USFWS – Don't want to create a market, but are looking at economics. Joel Brunsvold – Any silver bullet to get rid of the fish in the lakes right now? They are taking up 90 percent of the bio-mass in our rivers, so netting them and grinding them up for fertilizer is better than nothing else. They are coming up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

Charles Brown, USDA APHIS – Is the Migratory Bird permitting process moving to Denver or staying in Washington? What is your plan for consistency on that process? Matt Hogan – Did analysis on this and not sure whether it was cost effective, looking at giving better guidance to our regions.

Tom Niebauer, WI – Federal Assistance Policy member, and would like to express gratitude to you and your predecessor, in two-plus years, our issues have been supported. In Wisconsin we have been involved in federal aid since 1970s. Thank you for signing the Director's orders. A new one is working its way to your office on the approach of USFWS inconsistency on compliance issues of certain acts. Not the Act itself, but the inconsistency. Need to do good things with the funds, not just the mundane projects because they can get through the compliance standards. Matt Hogan – Thanks for the plug. Continue to take any recommendation out of the Task Force seriously. Sounds like a good idea. Thanks to people who work on the Task Force.

**MAFWA Coordinator Report** – *Ollie Torgerson, Rhinelander, Wisconsin* (Report can be found in the proceedings as a Report.) I would like to thank to Matt Hogan for coming here and appreciate Terry Crawford's effort to get here also. On a personal note, want to thank

everyone for support for my family as we went through Heather's brain tumor surgery. Our conservation family is a special one. Successful surgery, she walked out of Phoenix Hospital three days after surgery and the only affect so far is losing some of her eyesight in the lower part of her eyes. Her tumor was benign, but there is a great chance of it returning. Dave Walker's wife also had a brain tumor in Phoenix, same hospital, same doctor, and she is doing fine and since then they have had two children. Also, Bob McDowell sent a note that said he had one of those once and he was fine.

MAFWA received a Doris Duke grant for \$96,000 to help states determine cross-state opportunities for conservation action to help species in greatest conservation need. Dave Case will be facilitating the work on that. He will be holding workshops and the grant will pay your staff to go to this training to work on future conservation across state projects. With the help of IAFWA and the Missouri Department of Conservation, we have launched our first website. Landed two new affiliate members, National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Federation. Executive Committee met six times this year and important action items are on the agenda. The National Conservation Needs (NCN) Committee was successful in gaining approval of the fish therapeutics project. The By-laws and Resolutions Committees have also been busy and you will see the successful work of the Awards Committee at lunch. Of 10 other committees, some are well connected, some are at arms length. We will go over that this afternoon. Several committees are very active. We have established a solid relationship with the Pheasant and Furbearer Groups. A new logo should be chosen at the business meeting. Also, MAFWA will be incorporated and we will set up the Conservation Trust Fund as a 501(c)(3) at the business meeting. According to my contract I can work 1,000 hours a year and I have worked 895 hours. I have been to several states and have successfully relocated my office to Wisconsin. I would like to thank Tom Niebauer and his coworkers in Wisconsin for all of their support and I still use the office manager services of Kathie Hubbard in Missouri. Also, thank Joe Kramer and Sheila Kemmis of Kansas for all of their help. It has been a joy to work with Steve Gray and the Ohio staff on this conference.

Steve Gray, OH – Thanks for your work especially during the problems with Heather. Thanks also for mentioning Joe and Sheila. This is our first ever Awards Luncheon and we would like to thank the American Electric Power company for funding the luncheon.

#### ***Lunch sponsored by American Electric Power***

**(During Lunch) Awards Presentations** – *Glen Salmon, Awards Committee Chairman, Indiana DNR* (NWTF news release can be found at [www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org) website (local information – Ohio – “Ohio Resident Receives NWTF Communicator Award” as an Exhibit and the Award nominations can be found in the proceedings as a Report.) Tammy Sapp, NWTF, presented the Communicator Award to a member of the Association of Conservation Information (ACI). The award is given to Vicki Mountz, I&E Chief, Ohio Division of Wildlife, for all of her work with the programs she has presented from the time she started as a Watercraft Officer over 20 years ago on up to her present position, which she has held since 2002. She wrote freelance articles for hunting and fishing magazines which led to becoming managing editor for *Ohio* and *Great Lakes Fisherman* magazines before she became the Information Officer in 1992. Mountz worked with NWTF on three national convention and sport shows to promote a ceremonial wild turkey release through agency resources and local contacts and has supported NWTF through television programs. Vicki Mountz, OH - Thanked NWTF for the award.

Glen Salmon, IN – The Awards Committee took their charge very serious. With the addition of Ollie to the staff we decided to expand our awards and came up with a list. The Committee,



consisting of myself; Kirk Nelson, Nebraska; and Keith Sexson, Kansas; received nominations and are presenting five awards.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year goes to Kim Rhodes, Illinois, who was nominated by Captain Mark Ottis. Officer Rhodes is a 24-year veteran of this Department yet he approaches his job with the enthusiasm of a rookie. His up-beat attitude and positive outlook is contagious. He is a role model for other district officers and leads by example in his daily work. Only those closest to Officer Rhodes know how difficult some of those days were as he recovered from a serious health issue. Joel Brunsvold accepted award on behalf of Kim and said that he will get the staff together and present the award to him.

Wildlife Biologist of the Year goes to Bruce Morrison, Nebraska. Bruce Morrison has demonstrated incredible dedication to the wildlife profession. He has worked for two state fish and wildlife agencies, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Nebraska would like to take credit for giving Bruce a “second chance” and hiring a worn out New Mexico employee and turning him into an International CWD Fireball. Bruce thanked MAFWA for the award and stated that no one person wins alone. Also, thanked Kirk Nelson, Rex Amack, his supervisor Jim Douglas, and the MAFWA.

Fisheries Biologist of the Year goes to Rick Peterson, Indiana. Rick Peterson served the cause of conservation in Indiana for the past 37 years. Most of that time has been spent shaping efforts to develop, refine and sustain effective fish culture programs with warm and cool water species. Many of Indiana’s current hatchery facilities, operations, procedures and successes can be attributed in large part to this one man’s extraordinary, but quiet, behind the scenes work. When he began his fisheries career nearly four decades ago, Indiana was a “blue and bluegill” state in terms of both management policy and fish hatchery production. As a broader management policy began to emerge, so did the demand for new, more, and better fish hatchery products to support the expanding sport fish management program. Rick was at the front end of this development that required new (at least for Indiana) capabilities for producing muskellunge. Kyle Hupfer accepted the award on behalf of Rick.

Spirit of the Shack award goes to Jim Mick, Fisheries Division, Illinois. Jim has been with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the past 27 plus years, initially in the Planning Division for two years, then with the Forestry and Heritage Division for a year and then making his ultimate move to the Fisheries Division. He has been a driving force of innovation to the development and direction of current fisheries and watershed management for the State of Illinois. Joel Brunsvold and Mike Conlin accepted the award on behalf of Jim.

President’s Award was given to Rob Sexton, U.S. Sportsman Alliance. Steve Gray stated that they were fortunate to have USSA in Ohio and that they have been great partners. Rob stated he travels around the country, but there are 16 people on the staff and he is not alone either and that they have great partners to work with, like the state organizations and MAFWA. Glen Salmon, IN - All of the nominations were well written. Thank you for your submissions. Steve Gray, OH - Thanked Wisconsin and Missouri for the help they give our Coordinator Ollie Torgerson.

Steve Gray made an agenda change by moving up the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Reports.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Reports** - *Robyn Thorson, Region III Director, Ft. Snelling, MN* (Report can be found in proceedings as an Exhibit.) On April 14, 2003 as I was driving to my new post at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, I stopped at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in Ohio and Steve Gray drove up to meet me. I appreciated that. I have prepared packets for you that include a fact sheet on real estate appraisals. In 2003, the real estate appraisal functions of the USFWS, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS) and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) were combined into one, the Office of Appraisal Services Directorate (OASD) by the

Department of Interior. It has been a rough transition. The Region 3 appraisals are all performed by the Midwest Region of the OASD which is located in the USFWS office at Fort Snelling. My region includes: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin and we look to you in the Midwest for guidance on projects. Joel Brunsvold and I celebrated Lawrence Days. Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration is a process used to restore natural resources injured by hazardous substances. Recovery comes in the form of money or in-kind services and compensation is recovered from companies responsible for the contamination. Tribal grants are awarded to Native American tribes to help conserve and recover endangered, threatened and at-risk species and other wildlife on tribal lands. In 2003-2004 nearly \$22 million was awarded to 80 projects. They are doing a great job working on conservation issues in the Midwest. Salute Law Enforcement on the excellence of relationships, especially would like to compliment my eight states. Matt Hogan mentioned the White House conference. Quite an accomplishment for the Midwest to have two proposals on the first day of President's conference (two new refuges). Working on fisheries and wildlife grants. We hosted a meeting in June and I want to thank the Great Lakes states who participated. Working on an action plan for how USFWS can best work with you in the Great Lakes basin. I would like listening to be the hallmark of our work with you. Several states asked to talk to the USFWS on the Coordinator position. Larry Nelson, MN – We have set up a meeting at 4:45, but are looking for a room. Robyn Thorson - Under the President's Management agenda we were asked if biologist positions could be subject to contracting out. The question really is to look at the entire array of biological functions to see if all of those could be commercially contracted out.

Mike Stempel – USFWS, Chief of Fisheries, Region VI, Denver, CO (Report can be found in proceedings as a Report.) Ralph could not be here and each of us are taking a turn as his deputy and it is my turn. I should mention wolves, bears and stuff like that, and now that I have done that, I can continue on. We are working to get grassland and wetland easements on 75,000 acres in the Dakotas and Montana. The system does not require an appraisal and uses a simple formula to obtain value and we can make purchase offers within 24 hours. \$10.5 million per year was dedicated to direct land costs in the prairies and we can help states to set land aside in perpetuity. Working on implementing flow changes on the Platte River. Working with South Dakota on prairie dog control while trying to protect ferrets in the Conata basin. Pallid sturgeon recovery continues in Montana and South Dakota with propagation efforts. No recruitment right now but we hope to bring in wild fish to do their magic in a hatchery environment and put them back in the wild. Ready to participate in western native trout issues, need some consolidated effort and some funding. Looking for projects with cost sharing or in-kind contributions. May be a way to pay for travel next year. There are a lot of opportunities out there. Zebra mussels have been found in El Dorado Reservoir in Kansas, and found above Gavins Point Dam in South Dakota one year, but negative the next, but now we have to treat it like they are there. We had foresight years ago to ask the Corps for reservoirs and dams so we are protected right now from Asian carp, but that could change. Also New Zealand mud snails are another problem. Thousands of pelicans have abandoned nests at Chase Lake in North Dakota this year, 20,000 adults and 9,000 nests were counted during the peak of the nesting season, but on July 6 there were only 2,000 adults and 300 to 500 chicks that were left to die. This has happened two years in a row and we are trying to investigate potential causes.

Tom Niebauer, WI – Robyn you mentioned working on categories for inclusions. Is this just in Region 3 or USFWS-wide? Robyn Thorson – Right now just Region 3, but we could open that up. You will be getting a letter.

Ollie Torgerson – On the professional biologist positions, are they asking you to get a commercial agency to hire your biologists? Robyn Thorson – No. There are several items the

government is doing right now and one of those is outsourcing where possible. For years USFWS has been exempt from studies in the past. Under A76 we were asked to look at our biologist positions and decide if they were inherently governmental, but could be outsourced. Bill Andrews, Project Wild – On the Environmental Education summit, any echoes of that in June listening session? Robyn Thorson – Heard about outreach, the eight priorities, so no, we did not focus on education.

Glen Salmon, IN – The 24-hour turn-around that Region 6 mentioned, is that different than we deal with? Robyn Thorson – Small wetland acquisitions were put on a fast track and Matt Hogan was the key factor on that. Thanked Doug Hansen for serving on Council.

Doug Hansen, SD – What is happening with the Missouri River Basin Association negotiation efforts? Robyn Thorson – In June we met to see if it was timely to merge these two efforts. USFWS has no opinion on this. The meeting was to look at the possibility of merging. It is up to how ever the states want to work together.

Marion Conover, IA – What about the vacant position at MNRC? Robyn Thorson – We are in payroll stress, the incumbent got new position and it was a surprise. Trying to figure out how to get it done. Thanks for the opportunity to be partners with you.

Steve Gray, OH – Thanks to both regions for being here.

### **Strategic Issues (continued)**

Steve Gray, OH – We are going to start out with four big topics and spend 20 minutes on each topic. The topics are:

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of MAFWA to discuss issues
2. Relationship with affiliated groups
3. Hunter/Angler Retention and Recruitment
4. Stable funding

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of MAFWA to discuss issues

Ollie Torgerson – Should we have a second meeting? What would you do, when and where would you have it? Everyone thinks that we sponsor the Midwest Conference and we don't. When the Midwest Conference met in Indianapolis last December I asked them what they thought about us meeting in conjunction with their group. Told them that we were not going to take over, but meet in conjunction and listen to their papers. This meeting for us would be for just one day. Concerns were that the biologists would lose their chance to travel and that biologists wouldn't speak up in front of their Directors.

IAFWA has asked us to help in the past on the federal budget and we have never helped. We need to figure out what is important to the MAFWA in the federal budget and research-wise what is important. Are you willing to commit to a second meeting each year and when and where?

Dan Zekor, Missouri – People in the audience are also free to make comments, but need to stand to make them.

Keith Sexson, KS – Do the other Associations hold second meetings?

Ollie Torgerson – Yes.

John Baughman, IAFWA – It is just a business meeting.

Doug Hansen, SD – I would say that we meet in conjunction with the WAFWA instead of with the Midwest Conference.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – In my budget we need to tag it a little different so I can attend, not call it MAFWA meeting.

Ollie Torgerson – Priorities would need to be set.



Rex Amack, NE – Did you say Executive Committee met six times this year?

Ollie Torgerson – Yes, here, at the North American (NA), at the IAFWA meeting and three teleconference calls.

Rex Amack, NE – Doesn't the Executive Committee have the authority to make the decisions between meetings!

Keith Sexson, KS – What are the issues that need to be taken care of and what are we losing out on? What are the other Associations taking care of in the winter meeting that we are missing out on? During the WAFWA winter meeting they bring commissioners and have interaction, also endangered species issues, joint meeting and business meeting.

Doug Hansen, SD – Their winter meeting also has support of the federal agencies and the chairs present committee work reports, reports on ongoing work and a business meeting.

Dean Hildebrand, ND – What's hot and what's not is discussed. If we have an interim committee working on something we bring them in to talk about those issues and it is a relaxed atmosphere. We also invite organizations that we need reports from. It is a pretty good forum.

Dan Zekor, MO – Anyone else?

John Guenther, MN – Minnesota would have a problem attending and we would be concerned about continuity.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – Holds merit to have discussions on research, but it is tough budget wise. I would support it for this year because the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference is in Michigan.

Doug Hansen, SD – Interim meetings would be good. Also, looking at the future because we are looking at a more active Association. If you are not having the same people as the summer meeting you lose some of the value.

Dean Hildebrand, ND – Like South Dakota we belong to both Associations also. We started last year to push for the awards ceremony and Glen did a superb job and we need cooperation to make these things happen, and they do by leaning on our people. We make sure things happen. I think it would be worth a shot to try that. But maybe we are growing too fast and we need to take a year to get this going.

Kyle Hupfer, IN – Expand at the IAFWA or NA rather than have a new winter meeting.

Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Colorado also is in both regional Associations and travel has been cut back also. I think it would be helpful, but I think I would have to pick and choose also.

Steve Gray, OH – Need a show hands how many participate in Midwest Conference? Most states participate, but the meeting is only held in 10 different states.

#### Relationship to affiliated working groups

Ollie Torgerson – Came up from previous meetings. Do we want new committees and what do we do with those that don't meet? It gets down to how many meetings can we send folks to? We have 10 groups, some, like the pheasant and furbearer groups, evolved on their own. Do we want to stay at arms length or create new ones?

Todd Peterson, WI - The Private Lands committee started 12 or 13 years ago, met in Wisconsin after this meeting and now we meet before this meeting and it works out great.

Ollie Torgerson – The 10 groups and their liaisons are: Legal Committee, John Hoskins, MO; Midwest Pheasant Study Group, Joel Brunsvold, IL; Midwest Private Lands Technical Working Committee, Keith Sexson, KS; Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health Committee, Becky Humphries, MI; Public Lands Management Group, Larry Nelson, MN; Association of Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers, Steve Gray, OH; MICRA, Mike Conlin, IL; Midwest Deer and Turkey Group, Dale Garner, IA; Prairie Grouse Technical Council, Jeff Vonk, IA; and Midwest Furbearer Group, Randy Kreil, ND.

Dan Zekor, MO – Do we want to leave it as is?

Ollie Torgerson – Some groups have been responsive, but some have not. Law Enforcement group not sure whether they are interested or not, but they are very active.

Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Go back through minutes and look at the ones we have endorsed. A couple of groups are not very active, like Wildlife Diversity and Public Lands.

Ken Herring, IA – I think Iowa has members on at least six of those committees and we have interest in all of those meetings. I think good work goes on at all of those meetings, but maybe not all are needed.

Joe Kramer, KS – Private Lands and Public Lands met together this year and that helped because in some cases the same person attended both meetings or were able to share rides.

Keith Sexson, KS – We need people at the grass roots level to bring issues forth.

Doug Hansen, SD – I agree, at this stage of development, quality is more important than quantity. Look at consolidation of some of the committees.

Glen Salmon, IN – As a reminder, it was only a year ago that we talked about trying to get these groups back connected and putting our liaisons on the ground with these groups so that needs time to work. If we can combine meetings that is also a great idea. We need to be driven by not the number of committees we have, but the issues we need covered. Invasive species needs to be covered.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – Being the liaison for The Wildlife and Fish Health Committee, we need to coordinate these issues. It would be nice to have a handle of what all is going on.

Kyle Hupfer, IN – I think it is also important for us because there are so many organizations out there doing work, that this might be handled better somewhere else and we might coordinate our efforts.

Steve Gray, OH – What would be the thought of combining? Glen had a good thought that we need to give liaisons time to work. Combine public and private lands? **(no hands)** Meet at same time? **(several hands raised)**. Put to bed Wildlife Diversity? **(several hands raised)**.

Keith Sexson, KS – I see reason to keep it because of Comprehensive Wildlife plans.

Steve Gray, OH – Work is getting done, just not under MAFWA umbrella.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – Is there an opportunity to work with that and restructure it.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – If there is a need we can put this back in later.

Doug Hansen, SD – I agree with Becky.

Ken Herring, IA – Directors should revisit charge of committees, there is no clear charge for some of these committees.

Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Deal with this during business meeting, need to think about what the motion would be so this can get changed in by-laws. I was a proponent of this committee, so we need to make a clear concise choice on Wednesday.

Kyle Hupfer, IN – Discuss the grant and bringing together the group to discuss implementing the State Comprehensive Plan.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – Has the sunset issue ever been brought up? Has that ever been done, like every five years review the need for those committees?

Ollie Torgerson – Do we want an Invasive Species Committee?

Keith Sexson, KS – MICRA is involved in all of that stuff, too, and they are a group.

Steve Gray, OH – Does MICRA cover all of our Association? Do we have time to do one more?

Jeff, how many are sanctioned?

Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Legal, Public Lands, Private Lands, Pheasant, Wildlife and Fish Health and Wildlife Diversity.

Dan Zekor, MO – Two or three people need to get together and discuss this before Wednesday and bring something back.

Steve Gray, OH – I am OK with that. Any volunteers? Dan Zekor, Ken Herring and Joel Brunsvold and if you can drag Jeff Ver Steeg in there that would be ok.

Break and come back at 3:00 p.m.

Ollie Torgerson – We will finish the last two issues when we come back.

### *Break*

Steve Gray, OH – The Upper Mississippi River Meeting is at 4:45 or 5:00.

### Hunter/Angler Retention and Recruitment

Ollie Torgerson, MO – Data mining, how do you retain those you already have? How do you get them in? What do we want to do as an Association?

Dan Zekor, MO – What should we do?

Glen Salmon, IN – What are we currently doing to share ideas? What forum do we currently have?

Ollie Torgerson – We have state of the state reports and we could also create a page on the website on just this issue.

Steve Gray, OH – Any of our states have an increase in hunters?

Kyle Hupfer, IN – Kentucky does.

Steve Gray, OH – Kentucky does have.

Ken Herring, IA – We had a one-year increase.

Ollie Torgerson – Why does Kentucky, do you know Kyle?

Kyle Hupfer, IN – They have a phenomenal program that we are trying to emulate. They have camps, etc.

Keith Sexson, KS – Some other organizations are out there that are working on this, maybe we just need to coordinate our efforts.

Dan Zekor, MO – Is there a need to have this as a topic in a future conference?

Ken Herring, IA – Part of our success was the marketing efforts. Worked with Iowa Lottery where losing lottery tickets got one dollar off a fishing license.

Dan Zekor, MO – Sharing of ideas.

Alan Marble, MI – Have there been studies done on dedicated youth hunts, pros and cons? Are we setting ourselves up for failure because we are telling them that this is their day and we are not interested in them hunting the rest of the year?

George Vandel, SD – CRP is an issue, if the game is not there, then we won't have hunters.

Steve Gray, OH – Missouri is number one in the field. Kansas is just going to point of sale so mining those hunters is possible there. In Ohio a lot of you went out fishing the other day and it is to our benefit that you came here and fished. We have had some recent successes and sustain that over time.

Glen Salmon, IN – The effort being done by the Education Diversity Committee, one of the things that we are very aware of is that we need to bring in more anglers and hunters.

Steve Gray, OH – Do any states have over a million hunters?

Gary Isbell, OH – Ohio and Michigan have been involved in angler participation. Need to have states report next year.

Alan Marble, MI – Simplify regulations to make things easier for the hunter or angler.

Doug Hansen, SD – We have done some human dimensions research and I don't think that detracts from participation either. There are other reasons when you ask people.

Dean Hildebrand, ND – If you go outside the room there is a display out there on Project Wild and we discussed this morning how you get kids involved around other sports. Maybe we need something in the Head Start programs because maybe we are starting at the wrong age level. I just don't know what an appropriate level would be.

Dan Zekor, MO – Need to make an effort to make sure this remains on our schedule and we work with other groups. Maybe future meeting topic at next year's conference.

### Stable funding or increased funding

Ollie Torgerson – Nobody ever has enough money, but with the down-turn in economy and decreases in hunters and anglers, it is especially bad for a lot of states right now. What can we do to aid member states in increasing funding from alternative sources?

Dan Zekor, MO – John Baughman, you alluded to this in your speech this morning.

John Baughman, IAFWA – Somehow in the next 100 years, private, government and federal organizations need to be brought together. There is a lot of private money out there. There is a report out there, that I have a copy of, if anyone wants to see it. We need to keep looking at building the federal funding, if not offshore oil like CARA, look at other ways. MAFWA can work on this at the state level.

Dan Zekor, MO – Has anyone seen the report John was talking about?

John Baughman, IAFWA – It is on our website [www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com) or send me an email and I will send it to you.

Glen Salmon, IN – Still struggling with 50/50 match on SWIG, maybe increased to 75/25. If we could draft a letter to our delegates that could help.

Steve Gray, OH – I think that will be hard to match and they need to make that more attractive or people will be putting their money in PR/DJ. What percent of SGF is for fish and wildlife work?

Illinois – 50 percent, Indiana – 10-15 percent, Michigan – 5 percent, Wisconsin – 5 percent Ohio – 5 percent, the rest - 0 percent.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – We get \$90 million, but \$50 million goes to Parks, general administration is about \$200 million.

Keith Sexson, KS – If we act as a facilitator to build grassroots support for supplemental funding. How do you build that support?

Dan Zekor, MO – A lot of the pieces to that model are highlighted in that report.

John Guenther, MN – We have commitments for a percent of the sales tax for next year.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – How does it work in Missouri, does the general assembly appropriate it?

Dan Zekor, MO – They still have to appropriate it, there was an individual who wanted to hold out \$25 million this year and even if they would have gotten that passed, they wouldn't have been able to spend the money.

Ken Herring, IA – Most states rank how much money is spent on state conservation and we need to get that information out nationally, like in the New York Times, where people could see it.

Kyle Hupfer, IN – Something that would be helpful to me is I would like to see a study done with relationships between the dollars brought in equal "x" amount of economic impact. We need statistical information. We need something to hit the legislature over the head with.

Joel Brunsvold, IL – We are 1 percent of the budget, yet we touch 6 million, or half of the people in Illinois in a year and we need to try to sell it that way.

Steve Gray, OH – That was recently important in Minnesota when the rest of the government was shut down, the parks weren't.

John Guenther, MN – Something we did was a document that showed what we are going to do for the next 20 years and circulated it through the Legislature. We got everything passed this year.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – In Michigan we will have constitutional protection of all of our administrative funds and our Commission decided this is important and we brought this forward.

Ollie Torgerson – Doing something constitutionally has lasting effects. I personally feel this was a good strategic issue session. I would like to know if we want to repeat it again next year. There is an evaluation form in your folder, like you to fill that out and turn that in. I think we narrowed this down to key issues.

Dan Zekor, MO – This is the fourth time we have done this, each year a little different way. Please fill out the evaluation to help us decide if we want to continue this and in what format.

**Action item is to have MAFWA go to bat to change 50/50 SWIG.**

Ollie Torgerson – Thanked Dan Zekor for his help as facilitator. Fill out evaluation form at the end of the meeting. Also check your address at the registration desk to see if we have all of the information correct.

**Recognition of MAFWA Partners and Introduction of Federal and Non-Governmental Organization Partners** - *Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator* – **(Report can be found in the proceedings as an Report.)** The next section is the partner's session and is the place to introduce our partners. Those we had last year I am not going to give a chance to speak, but the new ones I will. This way you can put a face to a name.

USFWS - Charles Wooley, Mitch King, Bob Bryant.

Steve Williams sends greetings and said he is going to fill WMI Midwest position as soon as possible.

WMI – Ron Helinski. Ron is on the program tomorrow.

USDA-APHIS – Charlie Brown needs to introduce his workmates.

Charlie Brown – I have eastern 31 states, nine of your states, Minnesota down to Missouri and back to the east. Mike Worthen was the western representative but has moved on so that position is open. Tom Hoffman is the Acting western representative. We have worked with you for years, part of Animal Plant Health. Working on raccoon strain of rabies vaccine here in Ohio; CWD monitoring and surveillance; monkey pox; Canada Goose animal damage; Double-breasted cormorants; environmental study we worked with USFWS on; invasive species; giant Gambian rats and monkey pox in Florida Keys; T&E species; Feral swine on the radar screen in a lot of states because of damage and disease; and Ft. Collins, Colorado facility, to name a few. Bill Hawes says “working together works”. Andy Montoney and Jon Cepek are here from Ohio.

National Park Service – Lisa Petit is here.

Ollie Torgerson – There is some frustration at getting other federal partners here at these meetings. NRCS should be totally embarrassed that they don't send anybody to our meeting, and I have asked Jen Mock to work on them. Also, we don't get representatives from USGS, U.S. Forest Service or Corps of Engineers.

Groups from last year include:

- 1) *Pheasants Forever* - *Rick Young (not here may be out setting up for tonight)*
- 2) *Ducks Unlimited* - *Bob Hoffman, Scott Yaich and Gildo Tori*
- 3) *National Shooting Sports Foundation* - *Jodi Valenta (not here right now)*
- 4) *Bowhunter Preservation Alliance/Archery Trade Association* - Pat Ruble (BPA), Michelle Doerr went to get Jay McAninch (Archery Trade Association) because he got caught by Hurricane Dennis, will be here later.
- 5) *American Sportfishing Association* - *Gordon Robertson*

Gordon Robertson – On program tomorrow and have to leave as soon as I am done. Brings back old times to be here. ASA has been around in one form or another for many years. It is a trade association and we have resource agency. We have 35 state members and would encourage you to get involved if you are not. Many private organizations and stores, large and small, are involved. We have 26 people on staff, mostly near Long Beach, California. Most of what we deal

with is resource issues, also, some trade and tax issues. I have spent 30 plus years in this field. When John Baughman spoke today he mentioned Wallop-Breaux. When Congress comes back and looks at the transportation bill, Wallop-Breaux is in that and we could gain \$110 million each year. If you have a House or Senate member fax them a letter and ask them to pass this and capture all of the fuel tax, each state would gain at least \$1.5 million each, coastal areas even more.

6) MICRA – *Michael Armstrong, Arkansas*

Ollie Torgerson - Last year you heard from Doug Nygren and we have Michael Armstrong, Arkansas, who is President for the next two years.

Michael Armstrong - Brief issues before us. We grew out of effort in mid-80s, no model to do inter-jurisdictional river management. Paddlefish was in danger of being listed. Signed off by 28 states in 1990. Paddlefish, cooperative work on the species, stocking, tagging and sharing data. Aquatic nuisance species, we petitioned to list black carp and five years later we still do not know how that issue has been settled. Doug Nygren is going to Washington DC to represent MICRA on that, have Invasive Species panel in place and we host and provide administrative support. Reauthorization of National Invasive Species Act (NISA) and would like a clean list policy on species being brought into the United States, trying to work on that. Big River habitat, tried to set up a symposium, got derailed, but still interested. An issue of critical importance, USFWS has completely funded our people, Jerry Rasmussen and other groups, three in Robyn's area alone. Need to engage in dialog so that the USFWS share the cost of those coordinators instead of one region paying for the biggest share of them.

Ollie Torgerson – They are sponsoring our breakfast tomorrow so they will be speaking then.

7) National Wild Turkey Federation – *James Earl Kennamar and Tammy Sapp*

8) The Nature Conservancy – *Gary Moore, Ag Policy Specialist*

*Claudia Emken was here last year but could not be here, but Gary Moore is and also Rob Manes is on board at TNC*

Ollie Torgerson – Also, Bill Andrews, Project Wild National Coordinator is also here. We have two new affiliates to be approved this year:

9) National Audubon Society – *(no one present)*

10) National Wildlife Federation – *Kobi Platt*

Ollie Torgerson – Two other groups that are affiliated, but have no representation here are:

11) Izaak Walton League of America *(no one present).*

12) Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation *(no one present).*

**Old Woman Creek Freshwater Estuary Presentation – *Frank Lopez, Manager* (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** Got name from an old Indian legend in 1905, a French trapper fell in love with an Indian maiden who was engaged to a brave who was in love with her. The Indian brave came across the Frenchman while out hunting and tried to shoot him with an arrow, but the Frenchman had a gun and shot the brave. The tribe freed him, but the Indian family pledged to get revenge. Two brothers of the brave tied the Frenchman to a tree and were going to shoot him with an arrow, and the maiden jumped in front of him, and both of them were killed. The maiden's mother was so upset that she jumped into the creek. For many years it was named after the mother, but few people could pronounce her name, so it became Old Woman Creek. One partner, NOAA is a member, dedicated to estuaries, and this is the only one in the Great Lakes. There is talk that the University of Wisconsin is interested in one and we would be glad to have a partner. We are dedicated to conserving and improving fish and wildlife in our state. We get 70 percent of our funds from NOAA. Example of state employees operating a federal

program. This is a fresh water estuary, semi-enclosed coastal wetland with a drowned stream mouth due to glacial rebound. It is a mixing area for lake and stream. At some times of the year it takes on a different aspect because the water does not come in. It is 27 square miles, primarily agricultural lands, soybean and corn in rotation, channelized in upper stream. Not popular entity when the preserve moved there, but we have changed some hearts and minds. These are critical habitat areas, 40 percent of the fish in Lake Erie are spawned here also the food fish are also born there and it takes pollutants out of the water. The estuary is very important for recreation, hunting and fishing. Estuaries have a high economic value \$22,832 per hectare per year in ecosystems. Three tied programs: educational; training – applied research; and stewardship. Visitor Center has 15,000 to 20,000 visitors per year. A lot of people use the preserve to walk, paint and just be outside. Have two dorms on site to lure researchers, one dorm holds 16 people, the other 4. Tremendous natural resources, 11 years had bald eagles, nesting pair this year has 2 eaglets ready to fledge. Some research being done on brown bullheads for 20 years on contaminated sites. Raccoon studies also being done. Lake levels have a tremendous effect, in deep-water years you have tremendous submerged vegetation and see more emergent vegetation and aquatic nuisance species of vegetation in lower water years. Constantly monitoring area and have four data zones which are downloadable for research and lets us look at status and trends. One of these is a chart of nitrate events. Have classroom facilities and right now have teachers and researchers bringing student groups in. Have school groups of all ages and try to get them involved in wetland ecology. Bring scientists in also and the public seems to enjoy meeting them. Have an active involvement in the community and work with college students to work on chemical maps to work with local farmers. We also use many recycled products on site. Steve Gray, OH – Look around tonight, will be on beach side tonight. Buses will leave at 5:30 by shops area and will bring people back in two shifts. Would rather have you ride in the bus or vans because of limited parking. The Upper Mississippi meeting is in the Bobcat Room immediately following this meeting.

***BBQ Dinner sponsored by Pheasants Forever***

## **TUESDAY JULY 12<sup>th</sup>**

***Breakfast sponsored by National Wild Turkey Federation***

**Current Issues in Midwest** – *Dave Risley, Executive Administrator Wildlife Management and Research, Ohio Division of Wildlife*

Thanked Luke Miller for all of his work on this conference.

**Federal Assistance Policy Joint Task Force** – *Mitch King, Assistant Director Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

Glen Salmon, IN – One year ago I was asked to be co-chair of the Joint Policy Task Force with Mitch King. This involves IAFWA, USFWS and the states. Mitch has a lot of his staff involved in this and to be able to address problems at the national level has been great.

Mitch King - Joint Policy Task Force “Working Together for America’s Fish and Wildlife Resources” **(The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** There are six members from the states and three are in the MAFWA region. They are Keith Sexson, Kansas, Glen Salmon, Indiana, and Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin and the Solicitor is Carol Bamberg, Michigan. Background: 1) Established in 2002 by charter with USFWS Director (Steve Williams) and IAFWA President

(Terry Crawford) to ensure consistency in application of federal aid (FA) policy; 2) co-chaired by State (Glen Salmon) and FWS member (Mitch King); 3) solicits input from State F&W agencies and USFWS to identify and rank issues in WR/SFR; 4) analyzes national issues and identifies options in a collaborative process; and 5) submits formal recommendations to USFWS Director and IAFWA President. Accomplishments: 1) recommendations have resulted in eight Director Orders and two memos to clarify existing policy; 2) two additional recommendations will soon be director orders/manual chapters; 3) review has resulted in clarification of policy for three issues of national concern; and 4) determined that new policy actions were not needed for several other issues. Director's Orders (DO): DO 152 - Allowable Recreational Activities and Related Facilities (allowable if did not interfere with grant): allows recreational activities that do not interfere with grant's purpose; state fish and wildlife agency determines if recreational activity/facility interferes with grant's purpose; USFWS maintains oversight authority, but does not have to approve the action of the State's decision ahead of time. DO 156 - Budget changes in FA grants (complaints were heard were not being able to transfer money from one part of a grant to another): allows states to transfer funds among direct-cost categories to meet grant objectives in non-construction grants without prior approval of USFWS; provides necessary language for grant agreement; provided "grandfathering" guidance for existing grants. DO 167 - Allowable commercial activities and related facilities (states call): commercial activities/facilities are allowable as long as they don't interfere with grant's fish and wildlife objectives; state determines if commercial activity/facility interferes with grant's purpose; USFWS maintains oversight authority but doesn't have to approve an action of a state's decision ahead of time. DO 168 - Program income from FA grants: defines program income received by the grantee during the grant period; income producing activities are allowable if they are incidental to the accomplishment of a grant purpose; provides guidance on using "gross" vs. "net" income; provides guidance on how the states may use program income; income generated outside of grant period – treated as license revenue and used to support administration of state fish and wildlife agency unless state prefers to restrict this income to purposes consistent with the grant or program generated the income and so stipulates in the grant agreement. DO 175 - Useful life of capital improvements funded by FA grants: useful life is the time during which a federally funded capital improvement is capable of fulfilling its intended purpose with adequate routine maintenance; catastrophic events and future FA funded rehabilitation may alter useful life; state responsible for accountability and control of FA funded capital improvements throughout the useful life; state determines useful life based on an acceptable method and puts it in the grant agreement. DO 178 - Establishment and use of land value as a match: excess match value of land may be used to match subsequent grants if 1) purpose and scope of the new grants do not conflict, and 2) records substantiate remaining value; the rules of WR and SFR programs are applicable to the entire parcel of land when some of its value is first used as match; requires state to place a covenant on deed that ensures land is used in perpetuity for grant's purpose. Each state has received a notebook with each of these DO in it and a transmittal memo that clarifies each one. DO 179 - Determining approval and effective dates for FA grants: ensures that state's requested starting date for project becomes effective date of grant as long as USFWS receives a completed grant package before that date. DO 182 - Loss of control and disposal of real property: provides guidance on requirements to correct a "loss of control" of real property; provides guidance on requirements to "disposing" of real property; RD approval of corrective actions to restore loss of control is not a "federal action"; RD approval of proposal to dispose of real property is a "federal action". We are getting a lot of feedback on this one. Manual Chapters – Cost accounting and financial reporting (coming out shortly in the form of a manual chapter – decided to bypass Director's Order); pre-agreement costs (don't want to talk much about his one until the Director signs it). Director's Guidance – Guidance for conducting endangered species act Section 7 consultations on FA grants to states, memo sent out August 23, 2004. Deputy



Director's memo – Eligible for boating access funding sent out June 10, 2004. Other Guidance: Pest/Weed Control on federal assistance lands is basically not a prohibited activity; In-kind match of paid hunter education instructors can be used regardless if they are paid or not, but payment must come from federal source; Excess allowable costs (overmatch) can be use of excess non-federal funds to offset questioned costs, but should be reported during grants period on Financial Status Report and needs to be audited and comply with standards of Financial Management Systems. As of December 2004 the Task Force has been authorized to review issues and recommend solutions for additional Federal Assistance programs. We have sent out a questionnaire to state and USFWS folks to get comments on Statewide Wildlife Grants (SWG) and Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). Next we plan to implement Director's orders and update existing USFWS manual for Federal Assistance programs.

Tom Niebauer, WI – Look at DO 178, number of discussions last few days on our ability to match, originated in Region 3, to use land value as match. Region 3 had broad application, but Region 3 buys more land than anywhere else, can that be used 20 years or 50 years later as a match? Mitch King - Some costs associated with doing that, there is a federal lien on it, so you might want to look at the DO to match your SWG grant. Land has to be purchased with non-federal funds. Bob Bryant is here from Region 3, Robyn is gone, but we owe them a debt of gratitude.

Dan Zekor, MO – I would like to thank the committee for great job, most of these things would have taken us years to get done. Mitch King – Attending these meetings so that you know these DO are out there for you to use.

**Managing Shared Fisheries Resources – *Chris Goddard, Executive Director, Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC) and Gary Isbell, Executive Administration, Ohio Division of Wildlife (ODOW)* (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)**

Chris Goddard, GLFC – I will provide an overview of the process, share key issues and talk about the shared international resource. Then Gary Isbell will come up and talk about the state's perspective. The Great Lakes fishery management consists of: sustaining fish stocks; protecting diversity; maintaining predator/prey balance; managing based on best information; and balancing the stakeholder interests and needs. The bulk of the management is in eight Great Lake states, Ontario, and the Chippewa and Ottawa tribal entities. The states, the tribes and Ontario came up with their own Joint Strategic Plan (the plan) to establish lake committees. Using the best information available and cooperative management, an agreement was signed with Canada and the USFWS. GLFC is not a signatory to this plan, but performs the secretarial function. Strategies for management under the plan were to have consensus; accountability; information sharing; and ecosystem management. If all entities don't agree the plan does not go forward. Lake committees were formed with management being made up of biologists from province, states and native people. The committees hold public meetings; develop and report on shared objectives; make science-based decisions on stocking, harvest, law enforcement and environmental management; and provides support. The plan does not bind an agency; doesn't violate agency jurisdiction; and doesn't commit federal governments to anything. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) problems consist of: sea lamprey control, the GLFC started 50 years ago to control these fish, collapsed numbers in 1960s and 1970s and have reduced the populations by 90 percent, but this is an on-going effort. By 2005, we will have spent \$15 million on control. Another AIS concern is the goby and zebra mussel problem. We see the mix between these two species having huge impacts because the zebra mussels carry anoxia botulism and if you mix that with the toxic gobies, you have dead fish and wildlife. Asian carp are also causing problems. They are swimming up the Mississippi River. So far Illinois has formed a second block to stop them from coming up the river. We are trying to get legislation passed to ban trading of live fish

and hydrological separation would be the next logical step. Prevention of problem species is being worked on through the U.S. National Aquatic Invasive Species Act (NAISA). This is a reauthorization of two former plans – NANCPA and NISA. A strategy team was developed through President’s Executive Order. The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) plan has five directives: aquaculture; maritime commerce; canals and waterways; organisms in trade; and recreational activities. The main goal of the AIS plan is prevention; but provides support to NAISA; does research; outreach and education; and recommends actions. Cormorants are having an impact on forage base and habitat, and we are pleased that the USFWS has stated cormorant control can be done, but that it will be at state expense and there is no mechanism for coordination. Habitat continues to be a large concern. We have spent tremendous amount of money to classify wetlands, and near-shore habitat, and hope to be able to access loss and gain. The Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program (GLFER) is a cost-share program to restore damaged fishery habitat, \$100 million is authorized for this program and GLFC is a cost-share partner. The plan is coordinated through the Joint Strategic Plan in cooperation with the National Fisheries Habitat Initiative.

Gary Isbell, OH – I will give you the state perspective of this group. Much of the fishery out on the lake wouldn’t be possible without the help of GLFC. In 1993, we saw perch populations down to 40,000 pounds from 20 million pounds, now we have about 11 million pound catch because of restraints put in place by the Joint Strategic Plan and what goes on in Lake Committees. There could be mismanagement and overharvest of the fishery if this plan was not in place. We have cooperative fishery management now on the Great Lakes. As Chris discussed we do have aquatic invasive species, but with the passage of NAISA, we can make a difference. Significant changes need to be made and we need state agencies to take an active roll. Review and comment on the AIS action plan which was released on July 7 is needed. You can find the plan at [www.aisstrategyteam.org](http://www.aisstrategyteam.org) We need to build awareness with stakeholder groups and get governors and legislators involved. On the cormorant issue: This is a very serious, important local issue; but we need a regional solution because without that it will be very hard to control the population and to pay for this plan. We need an advisory solution. We will come to the IAFWA for work on cormorants this fall. Habitat is a big issue, but conduits have not been in place to get things done in the past. The \$100 million authorization ought to get our attention. GLFER has opportunities for federal matching dollars, state/tribal participation; is custom-made for local projects; and offers continued involvement of IAFWA in National Fish Habitat Initiative which is essential.

**Conservation Effect Assessment Project** – *Ray Evans, President, ECO Associates and IAFWA* (Report can be found in the proceedings as an Exhibit.) I am the Executive Vice President and I brought my Treasurer and CEO with me (wife Carole). Arranged the Association so I handle the important things and my co-owner decides how I need to spend the money. We played tag team as we worked on the 1995 Farm bill. It seems we measure our lives by Farm Bills; we are stuck in the Farm Bill mode. We have come up with a program to measure the economic impacts of the Farm Bill on states. Working on establishing assessment criteria on conservation practices other than CRP, many other practices need to be evaluated. One of the most important things about this process is the anticipated products that may not be funded in the future. Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) is only working with \$150,000 a year and it is a tough job to measure the biological impacts of erosion control. Last October we met with biologists in the SE region on how CEAP should work and have a list of people interested in working on this, have a half day meeting scheduled this year at the IAFWA. We are working with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and other organizations. NRCS has entered into a cooperative agreement with IAFWA to support the CEAP Wildlife component.

Beginning in 2005, IAFWA will provide leadership to regional groups in developing work plans. These plans will be assembled by NRCS and opportunities for funding monitoring and research needs will be identified. NRCS asked us to put together guidelines which were approved last October, but we started work long before that. Meeting with Technical Group at Northeast in September to see how we can work with them. This is not a grant or cooperative agreement, but a contributory agreement, NRCS is contributing \$90,000 and we are contributing the biologists. We will be calling on your staff to get information from your states, asking if there are conservation practices that need to be done; may ask staff to attend special meetings where we will pay travel, but try to meet in conjunction with other meetings. In fact, in two weeks we will meet at the Western Association meeting in Canada, and other meetings. Jen Mock and I will both be working on this project representing IAFWA and Paul Rothbart will represent NRCS. We are looking forward to participation of the MAFWA because most of the monies and projects fall within the Midwest. This is a big jump from a practice approved by NRCS and implemented at the state level. Our intent is to show measurable impacts and implement those.

Kirk Nelson, NE – How does this dovetail with the 2007 Farm Bill discussions? Will it be in time? Ray Evans – Hope to have some information in time, but started one to two years late. We are dealing with crumbs off the table as an afterthought. Kirk Nelson, NE – If you can't show benefits they are not even going to fund you. Ray Evans – The easiest thing to measure to date has been a CRP field, so we are going to find other data to show the other practices and we are fighting to catch up.

Todd Peterson, WI – We spend a lot of money on watersheds and it doesn't seem to do squat. Ray Evans – CSP delivered by an Iowa Senator, introducing watersheds slowly and has potential of spending all of the money from the Farm Bill. A farmer gets paid for the good things he has done on his land and farmers are reaping the highest benefit for not changing anything on their farms. We are looking at the wildlife standpoint of CSP. Also, commodity programs are going to be phased out. Transfer of payment made to farmers, CSP provides those payments, if assessed correctly (needs more leadership and direction) and implemented quickly could be good. We will look into this next year. This is high on Jen's and my list to look at.

Dave Risley, OH – Something that stuck in my mind is that it would have been nice to have someone from NRCS and FSA here, maybe Doug could get them for next year's meeting.

**Farm Bill Issues – Jen Mock, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Agricultural Policy Coordinator (Information included in IAFWA Staff Report on the**

**IAFWA website - [www.iafwa.org](http://www.iafwa.org) or as an Exhibit attached to the proceedings.)** Jeff Vonk and I sit on CEAP Committee, looking at NRCS programs and we were asked to back up and provide answers for 2007 Farm Bill information. A day late and a dollar short. If they had involved some of their partners we could have helped earlier on. The big purpose of the meeting was to work as a team, wanted to provide data, but not do anything with it. Congress has asked for answers to the billions of dollars going on the ground and if the money is being used wisely. Looking at critical issues, can we filter them into the next budget to get information for next Farm Bill? The 2007 Farm Bill Working Group asked each Regional Association to help develop Farm Bill. MAFWA has Luke Miller and Steve Riley representing them and we look forward to working with them. Missing one individual from Northeast. We meet at WAFWA next week and meet at Chicago if possible, if not at IAFWA in September. Discussions ongoing, the commodity groups have been talking since last summer, trying to talk to them and conservation groups to see where our differences lie and try to go into the next Farm Bill with items we can agree on. The conservation partnership is getting together to discuss where we all stand, discuss ideas, and over time, have a coalition to go to the next Farm Bill. The IAFWA in Nashville, Tennessee will be the first Farm Bill listening session; the next three will be in the Midwest. We need to be prepared to share our ideas to help them form their decisions. If you have a chance to attend

those listening sessions, please attend those. The dates are listed in my part of the IAFWA staff report. Appreciate you sending your people to the meeting. What do we do with expiring acres and reenrolling and what do we do for 2007? How do we make it work with all of the different interest groups? We are receptive and we want policy out next month, by the end of August.

### **Building Coalitions with Farm Commodity Organizations in Preparation for the 2007**

**Farm Bill** – *Ron Helinski, Conservation Policy Specialist, Wildlife Management Institute (WMI)*

**(Report can be found in the proceedings as a Report and Handouts can be found in the proceedings as an Exhibit.)** Compliment you on hiring Ray and Jen. Address Ollie and partner deal that you brought up yesterday, we will be here in the future, we have gone through some hard times, but with Steve Williams at the head of WMI, we will rebound. I am going to tell you things today that you already know and I am going to encourage you on what decisions to make. Had prior experience on these items. Instead of talking to you about how to do it, I want to talk to you about why you should do it. Why invest in this? Coalitions are a means to an end. We are looking to increase resources, money or manpower, and better resources across the U.S. What is the reality of farm policy and what does it mean to you and your future? From *FarmWeek* magazine, dated June 15, it says, "Amid fears that farmers could be boxed in by global reforms and shifting social priorities, the Illinois Farm bureau Farm Policy Task Force (FPTF) proposes greener 2007 farm bill." And "The FPTF proposes expanding funding for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, increasing enrollment of filter strips in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and basing judging criteria for CRP re-enrollment on the land's cropland erosion potential rather than its existing erosion status as CRP land. Members opposed incentives that encourage farmers to bring wetlands and "fragile" grasslands into production." Also, recently George Bush met at the G8 summit of world leaders in Scotland and he said, "We want to work with the EU to rid out respective countries of agricultural subsidies." The point I want to make is that the environment is drastically changing and we need to deal with it. Back in 2001, WMI had worked with 12 targeted states and attempted to target those Senators and Congressmen. Need to advocate getting additional fish and wildlife habitat and explain what good it does out there. I can lease for hunting, etc. Looked at all of your websites, IAFWA talks about coalition building and each state talks about team building. The issue is who takes the leadership? If you take up the next coalition effort it is going to be better than it was three years ago. The benefit is from the educational standpoint, to give them the truth about what wildlife management is about, and we want them to do it for us, we are making better decisions over all. When you involve them in a decision they work harder to help you get the issue resolved. Work with people to garner their respect. The reason why wildlife and commodities fought so much from 1985 to now is because we didn't trust each other. We need to prove our constituents want this. Where does Farm bill and wildlife management occur? It occurs locally, your relationship within your state and working with the farmers. Focus on the fact that this is what we want to do for the good of wildlife resources.

I brought a short video of a guest speaker – Steve Williams.

Steve Williams, Executive Director WMI (from video) – I want to talk a little bit about 2007 Farm Bill, my thoughts are that coalitions have always been a big part of resource management. The Farm Bill represents not just fish and wildlife, but farm issues, commodities issues and we need to move forward together. In Kansas, 97 percent of the land is in private hands and it is important to work with Farm Bureau and other farm organizations as well as the farmers. Why this is different than in the past is because there are some things that have changed, including members and staff of Congress, there has been a lot of turn over. In my career, I worked for three states, the USFWS and now a nongovernmental organization. The power of coalitions and going to the Legislature with a unified force is a good thing. To farmers, as Director of the USFWS "We have a lot more in common than what we don't have in common".

Dave Risley – Break, be back here and ready to start at 10:15.

*Break*

**Current Sportfishing Issues** – *Gordon Robertson, Vice President, American Sportfishing Association (ASA)* (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.) We at ASA think it is very important to work with state agencies. I should mention two foundations that we work with, the Future Fisherman Foundation that works on angler education; and the Future Angler Foundation, who works on fisheries habitat. Things are going on in Washington. You need to go in with facts about fishing, \$116 billion impact every year; creates over 1 million jobs each year; and there are 44.3 million anglers. We plan to redo these figures every five years so watch for *Sportfishing in America* report to come out. Issues include: reauthorization of Wallop-Breaux through 108<sup>th</sup> Congress (they have been working on Wallop-Breaux for three years now). It may finally pass within the next 20 days; Congress will start July 18 and end the end of July and are off the whole month of August. We hope they will pass this before they leave. The new act is called the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. This is the crown jewel of each state fishery program; is paid by manufacturers and anglers; makes sound management possible; gives access to fishable waters; is currently \$460 million a year; and the new value could be \$657 million a year. The purpose of Water Works Wonders promotion was to promote fishing, but RBFF is embarking on a slogan of their own “Take me fishing”. Aquatic Resource Trust Fund has boating safety as part of it, part in sport fish restoration and part in a section of its own in the past. The new act will have every act running on its own. Administration is \$8.2 million plus CPI increase, everything else is a percentage of the total dollars. The future of the Act is going to be a streamlined, fairer act, which is more valuable because of all of the fuel taxes attributable to motor boat and small engine taxes which adds \$110 million and captures unappropriated unused boat safety funds, up from \$460 million to \$657 million. You all need to fax your Congressmen, letters don’t reach them. This Act is part of the Transportation bill (HR3) which has passed the House and Senate and is in conference now. Ten of the Midwest states have members on the Joint Conference Committee. After you fax your letter, call them to be sure they got it and be sure you let them know who you represent and how many constituents you have. Implementation of the Forest Service Rise to the Future 2003 report, with 39 recommendations, needs a letter sent to the Chief of the Forest Service (Dale Bosworth) to urge implementation; emphasize the importance of establishing Sportfishing and Aquatic Resource Advisory Council. If we want forest service to have a strong fishery program we need to get on them. Open Fields legislation is seeking sponsors (HR 1351), Representative Earl Pomeroy, North Dakota and 15 additional House members are co-sponsors from the Midwest and (S 548), Senator Pat Roberts, Kansas and Kent Conrad, North Dakota and seven Senate members from the Midwest support this bill. If your Legislator is not a sponsor write them and ask them to be a sponsor. These states have passed legislation restricting use of lead fishing sinkers up to ½ ounce. Right now, Maine (bans sale and use), New Hampshire (bans use up to one ounce), Vermont (bans use), New York (bans sale), Minnesota (statutory education program) and Canada proposes to ban use of less than 1 percent lead or 2 cm in any direction. This is most common in states where common loons have a breeding ground. There is a position paper on our website, [www.asafishing.org](http://www.asafishing.org). We need to encourage angler education and understand that the issue is emotionally driven, not supported by sound science. Fish hatcheries support HR 537, sponsored by Deal from Georgia, called the National Fisheries Mitigation Coordination Act. This Act directs agencies to reimburse USFWS for hatcheries it operates. Don’t allow outsourcing of federal fish hatcheries; be alert to future news on this. We got the Department of Interior to back down for now, but this issue will be

back. Work with BASS, and look at their website. National Fish Habitat Initiative seeks to coordinate habitat efforts on state and federal fishery authority; will seek funding for joint habitat nationwide; modeled after the North American Waterfowl Plan. The Energy Bill is not as fish friendly as the current statute but does maintain provisions for fish passage during FERC licensing process, but leaves no room for appeal. You need to ask your Congressmen to maintain fish passage in HR 6. Invasive species legislation is in S 770 which prevents unintended introductions; has no eradication plans, except invasives; and does not impact economically and recreationally important sport fish. Companion bills are HR 1591 and HR 1592. Working through IAFWA Trust Funds Committee with IRS to get fair and equitable treatment of industry members on excise taxes. You need to understand the importance of this, anglers and states must understand changes in commerce over the years. Go out and meet fish equipment manufacturers in your State, learn to know them and let them know their dollars make a difference. Industry needs to understand investment of the resource. The 109<sup>th</sup> Congress is still very partisan, but will probably pass the highway bill; pass an energy bill without Arctic National Wildlife Refuge provisions; but budget will be very tight; and ocean policy bills will be huge issue, but will finally pass a pared-down reauthorization of Magnuson-Stevens.

Tom Niebauer, WI – Talked about going out to meet manufacturers in your state and we appreciate your help with Trust Funds Committee. Wisconsin has many manufacturers on both fishery and hunting side and I am less comfortable with going out there and saying “hi, I am...” I feel I need to understand more of the business so I can talk intelligently when I speak with them. I see a strong need to do it, but I am not sure if there is some way for us to learn more about the industries and who they are in my state. Gordon Robertson – There are a couple of different ways, *Fishing and Boating Week* or *Sport Fishing Summit* would be good places to get to know them. This is about relationships and you need to understand how each other work and this is not an overnight process. We would be happy to sit down with any and all states to help you understand. IRS collects 48 excise taxes, fishing is 47 and archery is 48. We are not at the top of their radar scene. As a result your agents don’t know how the model should be applied and how it should occur.

Doug Hansen, SD – What about off shore manufacturers? In 1950 all equipment made in this country was sold in this country, but once people found out they could get items manufactured cheaper in other countries and pay a smaller excise tax that began to happen.

Jay McAninch, ATA – This is good exchange, but these are two people that speak different languages. When we were in Minnesota, we thought we knew everybody, but did not know state manufacturers either. Once people met and got to know each other they started working closer together. It can do nothing but good, but most of these guys have been in the dark and need to be brought into the light.

### **Barriers to Hunting Access in Ohio: A Survey of Agricultural and Forested Landowners –**

**Dave Scott, Program Administrator Wildlife Management and Research, Ohio Division of Wildlife (ODOW) (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the**

**proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** Study done with Ohio State University, funding came from NSSF, Joe Arval, Dr. Bob Gates, and Kate Wiltz, of the University worked with me on this. Ohio has 11 million people; is agricultural landscape dominated; is less than 95 percent privately owned; ranks 47 out of 50 on public land per capita; and access is a priority issue of the ODOW strategic plan. Objectives are to determine barriers that limit access; and identify components in current program that need change. Focus groups helped identify and refine issues relating to access for wildlife-based recreation by meeting with landowners, Ag producers from north central and southeast Ohio in groups of 15-20 people and with wildlife interest groups of 6-8 people. Developed questionnaire to confirm results from groups, measure response, and partnered with National Ag Statistics Service to use their



database. Identified what types of recreation are allowed, how access is controlled, who is permitted access on land, what concerns they have about recreational access and what components would encourage greater access. A telephone survey was conducted: 3,975 attempted phone calls with 3,093 connects including voice mail, answering machines or hang ups, actually spoke to 798 people with 615 of those useable surveys. Our goal was 1,000 useable surveys. The results divided landowners into forested (6 or more acres forest) or non-forested (5 or less) acres for the survey. Access included hunting, trapping, fishing and bird watching and 66 percent allowed hunting, 24 percent allowed trapping, 18 percent allowed fishing, and 11 percent allowed bird watching. Asked if they would allow more access, 10 percent would allow more hunting access, but 52 percent would allow bird watching. Most thought the number of participants they had was about right already. Who is hunting in Ohio? Landowners, relatives or friends of landowners is all. Only about 30 percent of the general public has hunting access. By law, you need written permission for access. About 40 percent post signs, 15 percent use ODNR programs, 2 percent lease and 79 percent use verbal agreement. Negatives associated with allowing access, ranked 1-5: liability 3.85; personal injury 3.66; loss of control 3.21; and alcohol consumption 3.01. Loss of control occurred once or more than once, to 26 percent of the landowners. Positives associated with allowing access are the chance for wildlife population management; promoting conservation ethic; positive relationships with neighbors; and controlling wildlife damage. Wildlife population management benefit was realized by about 40 percent of landowners. What we discovered is that about 2/3 of landowners are already allowing access, there is more access on farms with forested habitat; and relationships = access. On control issues, 80 percent rely on verbal/written agreements, 40 percent post land, and currently there is limited use of leasing. Ohio's Recreational User law states that a Recreational User is "a person to whom permission has been granted, without the payment of a fee, to enter premises to hunt, fish, trap, camp, hike, swim, or for other recreational pursuits", but this causes liability concerns. Liability exemption for landowners, does not owe duty, no assurance of safe premises; not assume responsibility or liability for injury to person or property. Program recommendations include having a state-sponsored access program focus on people allowing some access; educating landowners about laws and benefits; partner with conservation groups for legal defense fund; and partner with conservation-friendly attorneys to consult with affected landowners.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – Is this the first survey done? Dave Scott, OH – Some done in the past, but they are fairly dated.

Doug Hansen, SD – What was Farm Bureau's reaction to this? Dave Scott, OH – We approached them about this and they told us we could state they were a partner on the telephone survey.

Ken Herring, IA – What is the percentage of leasing? Dave Scott, OH – Less than 5 percent, survey was too small to be sure.

Rick Young, PF – Is this a skewed survey? Dave Scott, OH – About ¾ of folks actually had contact with an individual, may be some bias here could work with Farm Bureau and test this.

Glen Salmon, IN – What was the cost? Dave Scott, OH – About \$25,000.

Dean Hildebrand, ND – Do the majority of landowners charge for hunting? Dave Scott, OH – No, lose liability protection if they charge a fee.

Rebecca Humphries, MI – Michigan surveyed access and control is the lowest priority.

Dave Risley, OH – This was also done back in 1978 and there was not much change.

Todd Peterson, WI – Landowner takes on liability if income exceeds \$500. Might want to consider changing that.

Doug Hansen, SD – In South Dakota it is \$100.

Rex Amack, NE – Our minimum is \$15,000.

**Great Lakes Restoration Initiatives** – *Gildo Tori, Ducks Unlimited Great Lakes Region*

**(The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)** “Great Lakes Restoration – The Future of the lakes is in Our Hands”. A strong conservation policy is needed and I want to talk to you about the new programs out there.

The Great Lakes are unique, they are one-fifth of the world's and 95 percent of the U.S. fresh water; have more shoreline than Atlantic and Pacific coasts; have 200,000 square miles of drainage, roughly the size of France; are 575 miles from north to south and 800 miles from east to west; and have a huge impact on economic, recreation and natural resources. The Great Lakes are critical to fish and wildlife resources, over \$50 billion with a huge impact on fishing, boating, and hunting. In May, 2004, President Bush signed an Executive Order, calling the Great Lakes a national treasure as the largest freshwater system in the world. Approximately 140 federal programs and numerous state, local and private programs are centered around the Great Lakes, but suffer lack of coordination so the Federal Interagency Task Force was established. Federal government partner with states, tribes, locals, businesses and non-government groups to form the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC), who are charged with restoration. There are eight teams working on drafting a restoration plan, which was released July 7, with a 60-day comment period. There is \$20 billion involved in the plan and goals include improving 1 million acres of wetlands and work on the native species act. The plan doesn't deal with controversial contamination issues, however. Healing Our Waters Great Lakes Coalition is the NWF and NPCA working through the Wege Foundation to assemble 58 NGOS from states/provinces to get together and provide support, input, and critical review to GLRC and Great Lakes Restoration plan. There is still room for more involvement. Annex 2001 is an update to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement with Canada and focuses on water diversions and withdrawals. There are two documents between eight states and two Canadian provinces. There is a 60-day comment period on Annex 2001, ending August 29, and then this agreement will have to go through Congressional comment and approval. Fish and Wildlife agencies need to become involved to ensure fish, wildlife and habitat; inform constituents from fisherman to hunters because Congress will listen to them; work with State regulatory authority (EPA) to provide consistency; ensure legislators know your position; and support restoration programs within your jurisdiction. Lead the charge. We need to look at where you overlap within the states to ensure the Great Lakes are protected far into the future and we need to get critical people involved and dollars utilized. This is bigger than just the eight Great Lakes states because the lakes provide benefits to all of you.

**Archery Industry Update and Issues** – Jay McAninch, CEO/President, Archery Trade

**Association (Report handouts can be found in the proceedings as an Exhibit.)** I want to talk about the Jobs Bill impact on potential federal excise tax (FET): arrows and shafts produced over \$16 million in income in 2004, broadhead was over \$23 million, bows under 30 pounds was over \$4 million. The net impact would be closer to \$2 million added back to the Wildlife Restoration fund because of imported items sold in the U.S. A U.S. company that was buying foreign manufacturing products hired a lobbyist and fought this bill. FET is not a popular tax. IRS has data that shows the estimated archery market segments. Even though 47 and 48 on excise tax list, these are equally as important as collecting the others. \$32 million would have been what was collected if applied across the board, but in reality only \$20 million was collected. IRS region compliance is a big problem; laws are applied different in different regions. When everything in your industry is at stake that is a big issue. You need to look at these numbers and aggressively work with IRS to get better compliance; we need to see these things fixed. It has been great to work with Mitch King, USFWS on this. In looking at the data, shortfalls for 1992 – 1994 was \$5.9 million from 1997 to 2001, \$6.7 million was lost in transfer and we need to find out where it went and how to look for it. Bean counters need to be able to track the funds and know where the money is. We need to fix the glitches in the system. There are reasons why shortfalls happen in



archery it is IRS rulings and lack of applying the law uniformly. Hope for understanding and concerned about a transition. Manufacturers sell through distributor, to retailer, then to consumer, now even more complicated because of internet and direct sales. If you sell the product, the manufacturer commissions a foreign company who ships direct to manufacturer in the U.S., but switch paperwork to a trading company and in many cases cut excise tax by 50 percent. There is work going on right now to bring people in the industry together. All companies remember comments were made in the past and are careful because of old promises. We need to get companies to work with our states and grow the sport. There are also a lot of things hidden in legislative bills that you need to be aware of, some in the transportation bill. Competitive balance in playing field is very important. We need to continue to build ranges and sponsor archery programs. Minnesota and Ohio sent people to our annual meeting and we discussed internet sales. We all want to recruit and retain hunters.

***Lunch sponsored by Archery Trade Association***

**State Contributions to NAWMP/NAWCA Projects in Canada** – Len Ugarenko, NAWMP Coordinator, IAFWA and resident Canadian. **(Report can be found in the proceedings as a Report.)** Scott Yaich is the IAFWA Task Force Chair and I provide the staff position to IAFWA in the U.S. and Canada. I want to give my thanks for your support and generosity over the years. I will also be presenting this draft report and draft recommendations to the Northeast and Southeast Associations, but Scott will be presenting the report here.

*Scott Yaich, Ducks Unlimited Memphis, Tennessee* - **(The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings as an Exhibit.)**

The Task Force reviews the status and future of the North American Wetland Management Plan (NAWMP) and North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) and reviews the \$10 million goal as passed in 1991 and individual state's goals. NAWMP was signed in 1986 and IAFWA turned their attention to its implementation and the need for funding. NAWCA passed in 1989 and was signed by the first President Bush and in 1990 IAFWA formed an Ad Hoc Implementation Committee. The 1989 NAWCA had two significant requirements: that less than 50 percent of federal funds had to be spent outside the U.S. and are only available if non-federal fund matched required funds to be spent outside U.S.; and all of those funds required a 1:1 match by U.S. non-federal funds and created collective obligation on all non-federal partners to provide funding for projects in Canada. In 1991, a resolution was passed – “the IAFWA shall strive to maximize state support in the range of \$10 million per year from the states as U.S. matching funds for NAWMP projects in Canada and that the NAWMP Imp. Comm. continue to explore...ways and means of achieving this goal.” \$10 million was apportioned among states, based on active adult waterfowl hunters and harvests of the 1980s and DU pledged to match all state contributions to habitat projects in Canada. Going back to 1981, state contributions to waterfowl habitat conservation in Canada hovered around \$1.5 million until 1991 then almost doubled to around \$2.5 million. There are 30 states participating in this program each year. In 2004, \$2.64 million was matched by DU plus \$5.28 million was matched by NAWCA equaling \$10.56 million plus \$3.52 million from Canadian funds equaling \$14.08 million on the ground for total waterfowl habitat conservation in Canada. Helps drive the program to areas important to the states. Through 2004 \$230 million was made possible to Canada, states covered 15 percent or \$34.3 million, DU 76.5 percent or \$175.1 million, and other sources 8.5 percent or \$19.7 million. The Task Force came up with five recommendations: 1) That IAFWA retain original \$10 million annual goal, and reaffirm its commitment to making progress toward that goal. This was hard to reach, but looked at significant wetland loss in Canada and also upland losses, landscape map shows tremendous habitat loss and loss of wetlands reducing the capabilities to produce waterfowl. In 2004, we were 3 million acres short of goals set by NAWMP: Prairie Habitat JV

goal was 6.67 million acres secured 4.6; Pacific Coast JV goal was 0.39 million acres, secured 0.11; and Eastern Habitat goal was 1.44 million acres, secured 0.85. The Coteau Legacy Plan is estimated to cost over \$100 million over the next 20 years. Risk assessment shows levels of habitat risk. Because we were short of the goals the objective was to lower the goals, but the Task Force recommends we stick with the original goal. 2) Use active adult waterfowl hunters and duck harvests from 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s as the foundation for an updated apportionment of the \$10 million goal. Use the average of the 30 years of information we have to smooth out some of the impacts. 3) The relationship between state funding provided for NAWCA projects in Canada and NAWCA funding received for in-state projects should be reviewed by each state. In the history of NAWCA every state is benefiting from the program. Everybody has a stake in it now and \$15 million has been contributed so far and states have received more than given out. 4) That each state should strive to establish a minimum annual contribution of at least \$25,000. This dollar figure was pulled out of the air. As administrators if we wanted to find the money, we could make it work. It might be less, or more, in some states, but we can find it. The draft shares ways that states can contribute the money. 5) That each state develop a five-year plan to progress toward their individual state's goal by 2010. What can we do over the next five years? 6) Each Regional Association should review the plan. We have an action item coming out as a resolution and we are looking for comments to the Task Force by August 1 with final report due out at the IAFWA business meeting in September.

Steve Gray, OH – For the recommendation, what form do you want comments? Scott Yaich – Don't need formal position by MAFWA.

Joe Kramer, KS – How much of state funds came from duck stamps? Scott Yaich – Didn't split it out that way, but about 20 percent used duck stamps or duck stamp prints. Quite a bit.

Bill VanderZouwen, WI – Has there been a thought made to requiring minimum contributions before being able to receive grant monies? Scott Yaich – Thought about it, but several reasons why that wouldn't work.

Ray Evans, ECO – Lack of contributions by Michigan is obvious. Rebecca Humphries, MI – That is due to legislative constraints. Scott Yaich – This is not just a DU program. The link is between the state grants.

Glen Salmon, IN – Thanks, this is the kind of tool we need to get the money available. Scott Yaich – We can help on an individual basis if we need to.

#### **Committee Reports** – *Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator*

Need help to keep an accurate mailing list and accurate email addresses, so I will pass the roster out and I need you to check your address to be sure it is correct. Also, don't forget to fill out the evaluation at the end of the meeting and turn it in. Larry Nelson, Minnesota, is our representative on the Doris Duke Grant and we have appointed Luke Miller and Steve Riley to the Farm Bill Working Group. We will hear all of the Committee reports and then go back and discuss them.

Private Lands Technical Group – Liaison: Keith Sexson, Kansas. (**Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.**) *Luke Miller, Ohio* - Met here at Sawmill Lodge in May in conjunction with the Public Land Group. States represented were Colorado, Nebraska, Ohio, North Dakota, South Dakota, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Kansas, and Iowa. We came up with three recommendations and three action items for your consideration.

Recommendation 1: Request full, non-federal funding of IAFWA Farm Bill Liaison, currently Jen Mock, at \$160,000 annually for three years (50 percent or \$5,714 per Midwest state per year from MAFWA and \$80,000 from the other three Associations combined). It is important in the Midwest, hired Dave Walker in the past. Pheasants Forever has added \$7,000 a year for next 3 years and South Dakota has come forward with another \$3,000, so we are talking funding \$150,000 or \$5,300 per each Midwest state. Jen is currently funded by a multi-state grant which

restricts her from lobbying, which is a big part of this. CRP is at 33 million acres and capped at 39 million acres. We need a voice as soon as possible. Back of the handout shows budget estimate for Farm Bill position and a graph from Kentucky showing federal habitat work. Recommendation 2: Request Wildlife Management Institute assign a representative to the Midwest. Ollie has assured me that this is being done. Recommendation 3: Submit two USFWS multi-state grant proposals to provide funding for Ray Evans' position to review and revise conservation practice standards on CRP and review wildlife benefits derived from Conservation Security Program (CSP). The Farm Bill is currently at \$31 million, but it could be a \$15 billion program. The three action items are: Action 1: Put letters together in the past and never received response. Need to determine if letters are being developed by committees and sent to directors and if response was received. Action 2: Successful in 2002, we would encourage each director to assign staff to coordinate a coalition of agribusiness, state agency and conservation organizations. Action 3: Support NRCS on Conservation Effects Assessment Program (CEAP) by assigning staff to help develop regional work plans. MAFWA has already assigned Luke Miller and Steve Riley.

Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers – Liaison: Steve Gray, Ohio. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Alan Marble, Michigan* - Trying to decipher all of the organizations that we belong to and what our roll is in each one. Dan Schneider and I spoke this morning with Steve Gray and Ollie Torgerson and we need to do a better job of coordinating our group with the Director's meeting or electronic mail. Met at North American in March with nine states present, four from MAFWA. Nineteen states are currently in the Wildlife Violator Compact, possibly change over to IAFWA. We need a new President; Dennis Stewart, Missouri, has served his three years. Working on Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Michigan on dual training for cross credentialing. There are legislative attempts in South Dakota to limit law enforcement on private land which could be a significant problem. Looking at law enforcement perspective on electronic sale of migratory waterfowl stamps. A subcommittee has been created to come up with lesson plan for training. We are meeting in conjunction with WAFWA in Alberta next week and we will make an effort to respond to the MAFWA better.

Public Lands Management Group – Liaison: Larry Nelson, Minnesota. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Jennifer Windus, Ohio* - Also, met here in May in conjunction with Private Lands Group. We met in North Dakota last year and they could plead ignorance that they had never done this before, and so can we, but we are very interested in getting this group revived. Seven states (11 people) came in May, so you can see we are struggling to get people involved. We need you to send your people to the meetings. One of the things that came out of the meeting was that we liked the idea that the groups met at the same place, at least concurrent or close enough together to share transportation. We met for a couple of days. Started meeting with each state giving a state report on what their issues were. The group talked about land uses, uses of different cooperators, prescribed fire, hunter retention and recruitment (R&R), and invasive species control issues. There are five items we want to pursue: 1) Prescribed fire – this is something we all do, but each state does it different. Our recommendation is to have a subcommittee formed to put together consistent guidelines for training and burn plans. 2) Hunter R&R - most of the states have been looking into this. It is good for us to coordinate and communicate what we are doing. 3) Invasive species (plants and animals) – are taking more time, money and energy to deal with and most of us don't have the resources to deal with them properly. There is very little money available at the terrestrial level. 4) Land management and acquisition - we discussed importance of evaluating this and all of us agreed that it is important to acquire, but need better processes, some states have a scoring process in place, some did not. In most cast we are buying more land, but not getting more staff.

5) Finally, our last action item was that we would like each state Director to get representatives to these meetings.

National Conservation Needs (NCN) Committee – Liaison: Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin* - Created in 2004 by Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, and our first proposal attempt failed miserably. We went back to work in 2005, and we submitted a NCN which was successful. We don't have any action items. There is a lot of money flying around the Midwest right now, around \$6 million and we need to better acquaint people with what the NCN process and Multi-State Conservation Grant funding can do. Looking at the public land report, I see some possibilities for grants, but each region can only submit one NCN a year.

Legal Committee – Liaison: John Hoskins, Missouri. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Ollie Torgerson* – The legal committee just met last week and we need to make sure you are sending your people to these meetings. This could save a considerable amount of money by not duplicating things already done and research available. State vs. state disputes was discussed, revolves around case Minnesota brought against North Dakota. IAFWA asked for Legal Committee analysis on legal issue, not a process issue. Process should be resolved by the states involved not the Legal Committee. Mediation might be helpful rather than litigation, but mediation is difficult after a lawsuit has been brought because of attorney/client position. Directors are difficult to reach in some states and in many states the legal representative is in the Attorney General's office. Should recognize potential for delay. Minnesota has filed an appeal in the North Dakota case. On Big Rivers, North Dakota filed because Corps of Engineers wants to transfer lands to tribes. Paul Lenzini, IAFWA, retired but prepared an index of files that are available to the Legal Committee. They have asked for copies of those and Carol Bambery is looking for a grant to do that. Trying to meet every year and trying to involve attorneys from other Associations as well.

Furbearer Group – Liaison: Randy Kreil, North Dakota. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Chris Dwyer, Ohio* - Held fourth Joint Furbearer Workshop along with the Midwest Furbearer Group holding a business meeting after the joint meeting in North Dakota in May 2005. A lot of technical, biological and social issues were presented. Four action items came out of this meeting: 1) Request Liaison for reporting to MAFWA Directors and that the Chair of Committee coincide with the host state to give reports. 2) Ask Directors to consider an agreement to promote information sharing among states and provinces on interstate movement of large carnivores. 3) Obtain guidance and direction from Directors to evaluate fox and coyote running enclosures and develop recommendation to regulate activity in collaboration with Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers. Our goal is to put this on the radar screen. 4) Develop formal presentation, in collaboration with Wildlife and Fish Health Committee, in promoting interagency cooperation between states and USDA Wildlife Service on ORV program. Raccoon-strain rabies is one issue and we want to protect human health and safety. 5) Ask Directors to support at least one furbearer biologist position (one FTE) for furbearer research in your state if you don't have one. We would like to thank you for the years of support, allowing us to travel and your continued support. Also, thank you for filling vacated positions. A lot of our programs fall within the Multi-State Conservation Grant program and we need help on outlining those and getting items to grant status. Group identified need for cooperative disease monitoring and the need to design surveys to monitor these throughout the Midwest. Would like to ask for approval to send your people to the one-week course in Wisconsin (Fur School). Discussions are underway on the next host for our meeting,

but no date or location is set yet. After 24 conferences this is our first attempt to inform Directors and we appreciate the opportunity.

Deer and Wild Turkey Group: Liaison: Dale Garner, Iowa. *Dale Garner, Iowa* – Our meeting is scheduled for August in Minnesota. **No report.** Ollie Torgerson – Please send in the report in a timely fashion after that meeting.

Prairie Grouse Technical Council - Liaison: Jeff Vonk, Iowa. Jim Mosher was unable to come at the last minute. Kirk Nelson handed out report on North American Grouse Partnership. Jim will be at Western Association meeting. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)**

Fish and Wildlife Health Committee – Liaison: Rebecca Humphries, Michigan. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Rebecca Humphries, Michigan* - Bruce Morrison is the Chair of this committee, but had to leave early for the CWD meeting. Held meeting in Michigan in May, 12 individuals were in attendance representing seven states. The minutes are posted on the Midwest Association website and a resolution that Larry handed out earlier is being presented. At that meeting a presentation was given by Tom Hutton, USDA-APHIS which deals with feral hogs/pigs. We had good discussion on that and an action item was developed – to develop a white paper on disease issues of concern related to feral swine. Need to discuss disease concerns of feral swine in the future. Discussion led by Dr. Julie Langenberg of Wisconsin was on disease database and the need to share regional databases. Nothing is available at this time. We want to be able to have a shared database, but privacy issue is a concern. State reports came from Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, Michigan and Nebraska and are included in the report. We also had a fish report from Michigan, not just wildlife health, but fish health also. Invite you to visit the Michigan State University diagnostic lab where the meeting was held. As a follow up of discussion Bruce brought up yesterday at the North American, John Baughman asked us if the timing was right for an IAFWA Health Committee report. There is considerable interest in this and we will put together a draft resolution next week to center on national initiative for wildlife health issues and whether we need a national strategic plan. As we battle these diseases they are not easy issues to work on. Will need help as partners to make that work. Look for resolution on feral swine, if it passes Wildlife and Health Committee at IAFWA business meeting. Ollie Torgerson – When we went to Michigan to meet Becky, when she was appointed, we toured that facility and it truly is amazing.

Pheasant Study Group – Liaison: Joel Brunsvold, Illinois. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Joel Brunsvold, Illinois* – We met last summer and the complete report is on the website.

Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) – Liaison: Mike Conlin, Illinois. **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** *Mike Conlin, Illinois* - We heard from Michael Armstrong, Arkansas, yesterday who is on the MICRA committee. We have no further reports at this time.

Ollie Torgerson - Draft resolutions are on your tables.

Luke Miller, OH – On Private Lands Working Group, refer to Recommendation 3, in reference to multi-state grants, two proposals are to be submitted through the Midwest, done at IAFWA level. Representatives again strongly endorse Jen Mock for Farm Bill Coordinator.  
Ollie Torgerson – Break, be back at 3:15.

***Break sponsored by Ohio Fish and Wildlife Management Association; Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society; and Ohio Chapter of The American Fisheries Society***

**CITES Report** – *Carolyn Caldwell, Ohio Division of Wildlife and MAFWA CITES*

***Representative (Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)***

Removal of bobcat from Appendix II list, submitted October 2004, met with opposition from European countries, met with about 20 different countries and rewrote the proposal which was sent to the Animals Committee asking for study on spotted cats with emphasis on bobcats. They were listed to begin with because of their similarity to the Lynx. We have a wonderful relationship with USFWS on these matters. USFWS is going to list alligator snapping turtles and all map turtle species (three of which we have in the Midwest). This will give us a better handle on importation. Work Group on CITES implementation extremely productive: have agreed to uniform date and format for state agency reports; clarification that CITES tags are only needed for specimens leaving U.S.; and state and tribal authorities have the option of using tags without the year on them. Working on formal final report to be provided at the International in September. If there are ways to streamline the system it is a good thing. Michigan came up with a better system for tagged sturgeon, Canada does not see it that way, but working with Canadian Customs on bringing in fish. Thank Ohio Division of Wildlife for allowing me to use work time to do CITES work. As a team we are there to recognize efforts.

Ollie Torgerson – Last year we did the committee reports during the business meeting, but this year we put them on the day before so that we can bring action items forward at tomorrow's business meeting. Joe Kramer, KS – Are these reports on the website? Ollie Torgerson – They will be.

George Vandel, SD – Are you getting adequate state help on this? Carolyn Caldwell, OH – Yes.

Ollie Torgerson – Discussion on action items from Private Lands?

Luke Miller, OH – Jen Mock's Farm Bill Coordinator position. Jen Mock, IAFWA – My advocacy money is out the end of December. Keith Sexson, KS – How is the MAFWA going to approach the other regions on getting the full \$160,000, or to get the other \$80,000? Luke Miller, OH – We are not sure. Steve Gray, OH – The last time we did this the other Associations did come through. Keith Sexson, KS – If the other Associations didn't come through, would the MAFWA have to cover that? Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Last time WAFWA committed first and made it contingent on the other Associations contributing. Keith Sexson, KS – Do we need to carry that to WAFWA? Dean Hildebrand, ND – Who do we send the money to? Mike Conlin, IL – Don't doubt that there is a need for this position, but all of us pay to the IAFWA and they have 27 staff members and we already pay \$27,000 a year, plus special assessments. Couldn't they already be an advocacy on this? Luke Miller, OH – I am not the person to answer that. Mike Conlin, IL – Dues have gone up consistently. Joel Brunsvold, IL – I would like to clarify liaison here, do we mean lobbyist? Jen Mock, IAFWA – Complete representative on 2007 Farm Bill. Joel Brunsvold, IL – Who from IAFWA is doing that now? Jen Mock, IAFWA – That is me, but it is not a full time position, because I do multi-state grants also. We are in this transition right now. Joel Brunsvold, IL – If Farm Bill is so important, why isn't IAFWA putting forth more effort on the Hill? Why do we only have one, why aren't they focusing on the billions of dollars that could come to the states? Ollie Torgerson – Jen is the only one working on the Farm Bill, but she currently is federally funded and can't do any lobbying unless she is state funded. Jen Mock, IAFWA – All of the folks on staff have other jobs they do. Dave Walker, IAFWA – When I started on the Farm Bill in 2001, Gary Taylor worked on Farm Bill and all other lobby

issues and was bringing in people from different states to work on this issue. When I came on there was a consistent presence. George Vandel, SD – It was your leadership that created that full time Farm Bill position. You came to the conclusion that if it was going to get done you would have to do it. Joel Brunsvold, IL – It is getting to be an issue of dollars. We cough up \$27,000 now and this will make this over \$32,000. Rex Amack, NE – These action items came from our Midwest Private Lands Group, but I also understood that IAFWA was going to move Jen Mock themselves as an International priority. Dean Hildebrand, ND – We had this exact same discussion last time, particularly from the Ag states. Kirk Nelson, NE – You are confusing two issues, what is the priority of the International and funding positions? Keith Sexson, KS – How many of the 27 people listed on staff at IAFWA are being funded by other people? Jen Mock, IAFWA – The general funds support key staff, but the rest are funded through outside funds. It has been controversial whether we should be using Multi-State Grants to fund IAFWA people. There are other funds that fund coordinators and myself. Keith Sexson, KS – I suspect our \$27,000 is paying for the office and upper echelon of folks. We have problems in our own states on how we should pay a coordinator. Jen represents the states. Jen Mock, IAFWA – The NGOs are looking to you for guidance in the coalition efforts. On my position it was taken before the funding committee to try and get funding to lessen the burden on the states. We have been beating the bushes and all we have gotten so far has been the Pheasants Forever and South Dakota donations. Many groups did not even respond. We focused on NGOs that did not have representatives in Washington. Dan Zekor, MO – Who is making this request to the Associations? Luke Miller, OH – The challenge letter will come from you to the other Associations. Dan Zekor, MO – Is that the best method or should John be sending the request on behalf of all of the Associations? Doug Hansen, SD – Important to South Dakota and I can remember Roger Holmes saying that you would get more than \$50,000 worth of benefit from the Farm Bill. Luke Miller, OH – We had three options for funding, this being the most favorable. Rex Amack, NE – Need to tie this to all four Associations because if you miss one part of the puzzle who is going to pick up the slack? Doug Hansen, SD – It is a leap of faith. Glen Salmon, IN – Short of looking at this group, over half of those staff are funded by other means and our dues pay for the office. I see two other states here that are harder up than us. Also, on Action Item 2 on Midwest and on Action Item 5, you need to cc: Ollie on letters.

Ollie Torgerson - Public Lands comments?

Ken Herring, IA – I am biased, but I think the group is just starting to address issues that are really important to all of the states, excellent decisions were made at this meeting. It is a benefit for the two groups to come together in a joint meeting and encourage them to do that again. I know we are going to have strong representation in the future. Ollie Torgerson – You have the prerogative to set up a subcommittee to set up the prescribed burning guidelines.

Ollie Torgerson – Other comments?

Glen Salmon, IN – On the NCN Committee report, I would like to see them be concise and to the point on proposals. Jen Mock, IAFWA – I am familiar with data standard that is to be distributed to all states to populate a database on USGS. Rebecca Humphries, MI – We are not happy with what has been put in so far. Jen Mock, IAFWA – If people didn't do what they were supposed to on a Multi-State grant I need to know about it. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – People were concerned about confidentiality.

George Vandel, SD – Comment on furbearers, we will let you know where animals with radios go, but they are hard to find sometimes, but we will let you know if we know.

*Dinner sponsored by Ducks Unlimited at Magee Marsh*

*Director's Archery Fun Shoot sponsored by Archery Trade Association at Magee Marsh*



## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Breakfast Sponsored by FDC Enterprises – Fred Circle (The PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website in the proceedings or in the hard copy proceedings under Committee Reports.)**

### **MAFWA BUSINESS MEETING**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call:**

*Steve Gray, Ohio Division of Wildlife* - Called the meeting to order, all states were present (Dean Hildebrand, ND; Doug Hansen, SD; Jeff Ver Steeg, CO; Rex Amack, NE; Ken Herring, IA; Joel Brunsvold, IL; Steve Gray, Ohio; Rebecca Humphries, MI; Glen Salmon, IN; John Guenther, MN; Keith Sexson, KS; Joe Kramer, Treasurer, KS; Tom Niebauer, WI; Dan Zekor, MO. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, MAFWA) except Kentucky. We have a quorum, 13 of 14 states. No Canadian provinces represented.

Steve Gray presented print to Sheila Kemmis for all of her help.

Dean Hildebrand, ND – In 2004, 30,000 pelicans were present on Lake Chase, came back this year. News Release from USFWS, Chase Lake near Medina, only 300-500 live chicks which should have been 9,000 chicks and 2,000 remained after May population of 18,500 chicks. The chick mortality was very high this year. We restricted disturbance by predators and human observers and there is no reason for abandonment that we know of. This year's high chick mortality is a complicated the issue of finding out why.

#### **Approval of 2004 Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Rex Amack, NE moved to approve 2004 annual meeting minutes, Rebecca Humphries, MI second. Minutes approved.**

**Treasurer's Report - Joe Kramer, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks - (Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** This has been a good year. Changed to fiscal year a few years ago. \$251,512.85 beginning assets, annual dues \$4,500 (\$300 states, \$100 Canada, Affiliate Dues \$75); special assessment (basically Ollie's salary) \$22,500; North Dakota Conference Income \$3,825.08; Ohio Public/Private Lands Income \$6,008.54; Ohio annual meeting \$19,245; Carolyn Caldwell \$541.46; and interest of \$6,480.48, with total receipts of \$63,650.81 and total assets \$315,163.41. Ohio reimbursed Carolyn Caldwell's CITES travel expenses. North Dakota donated twice on the special assessment, so they will not have to pay their special assessment this year. I was wrong about the special assessments, we do use that to pay Ollie's salary, but is just a special assessment. Disbursements include: North Dakota conference \$8,666.91; Ohio Public/Private Lands \$7,612.93; Ohio annual meeting \$5,825.38; Carolyn Caldwell \$541.46; Coordinator Salary \$22,737; Coordinator expenses \$4,642.88; file cabinet for Ollie \$115.88; website development \$70.50; Sheila's expenses \$833.40; file cabinet for Sheila \$217; and bank charges for new checking account \$17, with total expenses being \$51,280.34 for net total assets of \$263,883.07. The accounts include the general checking, the conference checking and the three accounts that are the Jaschek accounts: savings is working capital, the CDs and the Merrill Lynch account. Total assets are \$263,883.07.

Doug Hansen, SD – You have a different figure on Merrill Lynch on the back page. Sheila Kemmis, KS - Joe has the May figure still and the handout has the June figure of Merrill Lynch fund.

**Joel Brunsvold, IL moved to accept Treasurer's report, Keith Sexson, KS, second. Report approved.**

**Jaschek Fund Report** – *Joe Kramer, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks* - **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** I won't read this report, but I will give you a handout. We have voted to maintain the entire Jaschek fund at \$209,534.44 as a base figure.

**Audit Committee Report** - *Doug Hansen, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks* **(No Written Report.)** - Members of the committee are myself (Doug Hansen, SD); Dean Hildebrand, ND; and Ken Herring, IA (standing in for Jeff Vonk). We examined the reports of the MAFWA as provided by Joe Kramer and Sheila Kemmis, Recording Secretary. Accurate as presented by the Treasurers report. Adequate documentation was given to us. We do suggest we have a professional audit done in the next year or two to add extra confidence to this report. Thank Joe Kramer and Sheila Kemmis for accounting for the finances of the MAFWA.

**Doug Hansen, SD moved to accept Audit Committee report, Rex Amack, NE second to approve. Report approved.**

**Investments Committee** – *Doug Hansen, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks* - **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** This committee consists of myself (Doug Hansen, SD); Joe Kramer, KS; and Ken Herring, IA (who sat in for Jeff Vonk). Savings have increased, but investments have gone in the negative. The Investment Committee has asked to move the funds to a professional investment firm. The Committee sent our requests for investment proposals from companies in Pierre, SD; Pratt, KS; and Jefferson City, MO. The firm in Jefferson City did not present a proposal. Met with Pierre firm in person and Pratt firm by phone. Both gave similar proposals. Based on same recommendations, because Treasurer, Recording Secretary and checking account are located in Pratt, KS we feel we should put our money in that firm. The Investment Committee feels that the money should be transferred to the Hampton Consulting Firm, Shane Hessman, of Pratt. A few of the CDs mature in a month at which time we will get into a bond ladder with different maturity dates and a few investments.

**John Guenther, MN, moved to accept Investments Committee report, Rebecca Humphries, MI, second. Report approved.**

**Resolutions Committee** – *Larry Nelson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources* - **(Report can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)** I will read each resolution for the record.

Resolution 1 – “Whereas: The Ohio Division of Wildlife has so efficiently and enthusiastically organized and conducted the 2005 summer meeting of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; Whereas: Wildlife Chief Steve Gray, (left blank) and supporting staff have worked together with local and national conservation organization partners making all the state representatives welcome; Whereas: The members of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies wish to express their gratitude for all the collaborative efforts of the Ohio Division of Wildlife; Now, therefore be it resolved that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies acknowledges the hard work and hospitality of Chief Gray and his staff and hereby passes this resolution in a showing of great appreciation.” This resolution was sponsored by John Guenther, MN. After discussion added Luke Miller and Dave Risley in the blank. **Joel Brunsvold, IL moved to pass Resolution 1, second Doug Hansen, SD. Resolution passed.**

After discussion, decided to read the last part of the resolutions only.

Resolution 2 – 2006 Emergency Wetland Loan Act – Sponsor John Guenther, MN. “Therefore, be it resolved that legislation needs to be introduced/passed for a 2006 Emergency Wetland Loan Act to address wetland/grassland losses and to reverse the downward trend in continental waterfowl populations and, an appropriation of \$400 million is needed, over the next 10 years, to address this issue and offset ongoing habitat losses.” Keith Sexson, KS – Do we need to put who we need to address this to? Larry Nelson, MN – USFWS and Congressional delegation in respective states. Steve Gray, OH – Should we refer to Congressional delegation in the resolution? Keith Sexson, KS – I think we should refer to that right in the resolution. Bob Bryant, USFWS – Also, add the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, and USFWS Director or Regional Director. Rebecca Humphries, MI – Need to urge IAFWA to also adopt this. Larry Nelson, MN – Also would add Flyway Council. Steve Gray, OH – Should we add all of that to the text or add cc? John Guenther, MN – Put in actual text. Bob Bryant, USFWS – Congressman Dingel sits on that Migratory Bird Commission. Rebecca Humphries asked for an electronic copy, Guenther stated electronic copies would be sent to all members. **John Guenther moved to pass Resolution 2, Rebecca Humphries, MI second.** Dean Hildebrand, ND – Send courtesy copy to DU and Delta Waterfowl. Larry Nelson, MN – Would send to all NGOs as a courtesy. **Resolution passed with revisions. NOTE: The Minnesota Governor along with the Louisiana Governor announced they have written to all other Governors and Congress to bring this bill into being.**

Resolution 3 – State Disputes – Sponsor Dan Zekor, MO - “Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at its annual meeting in Huron, Ohio, on July 13, 2005, strongly urges the Association to: 1) avoid, to the extent possible, direct involvement in disputes between state governmental members, 2) enter into or invite discussions with the directly affected state governmental members before taking any formal positions or action if direct involvement by the Association seems prudent and necessary, and 3) request approval by a majority of the state governmental members before any formal or legal intervention or participation in litigation by the Association in any dispute between state governmental members.” Tom Niebauer, WI – The Wisconsin Director has asked us to look at this. I will abstain from this vote as not to tie my Director’s hands at the fall meeting. Dean Hildebrand, ND – I would like to wait until we get that report from the Legal Committee before we vote on this. John Guenther, MN – With full respect to the Legal Committee, if all states are not participating in that group, then it might not be a full participation of the states. Dean Hildebrand, ND – We don’t propose to bump it to Legal Committee, with all of the discussion, I just thought they would give an opinion on how we should deal with this in the future. Vote and look at report from Committee and work as a group at fall meeting as John has discussed. Steve Gray, OH – I feel this is just a view of the MAFWA. I sit on IAFWA committee and they are working on it. This doesn’t stop, or interfere, with that process, just a viewpoint of the MAFWA. Doug Hansen, SD – Action taken by Executive Committee of IAFWA was taken up by amicus example, not because they wanted to interfere. We have trusted them to make those judgments in the past. To suggest the whole membership vote on it is not right. Steve Gray, OH – Mistakes made have been made diplomatically. That is already in the forefront. This is just our opinion. Dan Zekor, MO – We exist because of IAFWA membership, we need to use caution and diplomacy, good dialog, not binding. John Guenther, MN – Pay attention to divisiveness, might lead to states leaving the IAFWA. I have to explain to my Board why we pay membership to the IAFWA. I think resolution at least puts it in their hands. Rex Amack, NE – Also on Executive Board, discussed in Atlanta and also at winter meeting. Difficult situation to work with, agree with concept totally and all the points that bring out the IAFWA doctrine, but neither state involved sat on the Committee. Nebraska has been in disputes with Kansas over water and we have been in disputes with Wyoming and Colorado. Something the organization really didn’t

have a background on. I have read this several times and I think it says that, as an organization, we should be an organization. If organization decides to take sides against a member and that state withdraws because of that and then another state withdraws because they don't agree with it that would be a big problem. This just says, let's have an opportunity to look at it. I think John is right, how far does that trust go, when it involves a few states who represent all 50 states. Steve Gray, OH – IAFWA Executive Committee have members from all Associations and Directors come and go and it rarely stays the same members for more than 6 or 8 months at a time. Rebecca Humphries, MI – This says, “request approval”, that is more than notification. That means voting electronically. If we can soften that I am in approval of this. Dan Zekor, MO – Maybe we need to reduce the numbers. Tom Niebauer, WI – Original draft said quorum, not majority. Dan Zekor, MO – If you look at following these steps word for word, step by step, majority is not appropriate. Keith Sexson, KS – We need to send a message that broader discussion is needed. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Put “poll the members” instead. Let everyone weigh into the issue. Discuss as an Association at the business meeting. Doug Hansen, SD – We are on the right track, if it is the message we want to send, instead of poll, put “consider the wishes of the membership”. I think this is a good message. I think we should soften it up a little. Joel Brunsvold, IL – IAFWA would have to change their by-laws, we feel we want to list this as our opinion. Steve Gray, OH – Is there a consensus to change or amend the resolution? Rebecca Humphries, MI – Poll or consider either one. Dan Zekor, MO – 3) “seek the opinion of”. Ken Herring, IA – Or strike all of number 3. **Rebecca Humphries moved to approve Resolution 3 as amended by Dan Zekor.** Dan Zekor, MO “Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at its annual meeting in Huron, Ohio, on July 13, 2005, strongly urges the Association to: 1) avoid, to the extent possible, direct involvement in disputes between state governmental members, 2) enter into or invite discussions with the directly affected state governmental members before taking any formal positions or action if direct involvement by the Association seems prudent and necessary, and 3) seek the opinion of state governmental members before any formal or legal intervention or participation in litigation by the Association in any dispute between state governmental members.” **Joel Brunsvold, second. All approved with ND and WI abstaining. Resolution passed as amended.**

Resolution 4 - Support control of feral swine in US – Sponsor Glen Salmon, IN. “Be It Hereby Resolved that MAFWA agrees to 1) cooperate in the control of feral swine populations in the Midwest 2) urge the IAFWA to adopt a similar resolution 3) urge the United States Secretary of Agriculture, appropriate Congressional Representatives and the President of the United States to adequately fund coordinated feral hog control efforts in the United States.” Rebecca Humphries, MI – This was voted on unanimously by the Health Committee. **Joel Brunsvold, IL moved to pass Resolution 4, John Guenther, MN second. Resolution passed.**

Larry Nelson, MN – I have a new resolution that I did not get a chance to get out before.

Resolution 5 – MAFWA Regional Cormorant Control – “Therefore, be it resolved that The MAFWA encourages members to immediately implement projects to limit the expansion of nesting colonies of cormorants and to begin to reduce the size of existing colonies, consistent with their authorities. The MAFWA recommends that the IAFWA (in cooperation with other relevant entities) convene experts to summarize the known information regarding the population dynamics and harmful effects on the environment and other wildlife populations. The MAFWA recommends that the IAFWA (in cooperation with other relevant entities) create a plan among state, federal, and non-governmental entities that specifies the objectives and appropriate actions needed to minimize cormorant damage.” I added “control efforts” in the second paragraph behind “population dynamics”. Rebecca Humphries, MI – I am uncomfortable with the first

paragraph that says “immediately implement”, this is a federal responsibility. Keith Sexson, KS – Maybe we could strike the first paragraph in that section and still get the point across. Rebecca Humphries, MI – I suggest we strike “members to immediately implement”. John Guenther, MN – Maybe it should read: “encourages immediate implementation of projects...” **Keith Sexson, KS moved to pass Resolution 5 as amended, Tom Niebauer, WI second. Resolution passed as amended.** Ollie Torgerson – Did you say where this resolution came from? Larry Nelson, MN – I didn’t say, but I put John Guenther, MN.

**Awards Committee** – *Glen Salmon, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (Nominations can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)* Thanks to Kirk Nelson, NE; Sheila Kemmis and Ollie Torgerson for helping out. Had nominations for every award we did this year. Early on received suggestion from Steve Gray that we add two more members to the committee so I will work on that. Awards were given at lunch yesterday.

**Bylaws Committee** – *Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado Division of Wildlife (Bylaw revisions can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)* Do we want to defer action or deal with it now? After discussion, decided to handle now. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO - Sheila sent copies of proposal on June 7 and Ollie sent it out again on June 30. I want to thank Dave Risley, OH for helping me out on this committee. After all I could resign and he could get this. I will highlight the changes only. These revisions include: adding one new Standing Committee (Investments); and adding a list of all official Technical Working Groups, as well as adding two new ones (the National Conservation Needs Committee and the Midwest Pheasant Study Group); clarifies the process and timeline for proposing resolutions; clarifies responsibility for recording meeting minutes and producing proceedings; empowers Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Association between meetings (with limitations); and adds a list of the dates of previous bylaw revisions. We can take changes page by page or adopt as a bunch? Steve Gray, OH – Do as a bunch. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – We also need to delete the Wildlife Diversity Committee when we get to that one. Dan Zekor, MO – Elimination of Wildlife Diversity Committee and one that Joel Brunsvold proposed about having Committees sunset after three years and reauthorize after that time. Glen Salmon, IN – Also, need to change Awards Nominations Committee from three to five members. **Joel Brunsvold, IL moved to amend.** Jeff Ver Steeg summarized from June 7 memo and added “To dissolve the Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee and to amend the proposed Bylaws by deleting this committee from the list of Technical Working Committees”, “To sunset the Technical Committees after three years in order to force a periodic re-consideration of the need, purpose, and membership of each committee,” under number six on memo. Keith Sexson, KS – Change bylaws to allow for trust fund to be set up as 501(c)(6) status, rather than (c)(3). Steve Gray, OH – Lets wait on that until we meet next. Ollie Torgerson – Need to add incorporated to bylaws. **Keith Sexson, KS second. Motion passed. (The new Bylaws [with requested changes] can be found on our website in the proceedings under Committee Reports.)**

**Approval of Affiliate Memberships** – *Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator, Wisconsin* - We have two new applications for affiliate membership, the National Audubon Society and the National Wildlife Federation. **Tom Niebauer, WI, moved to accept the new affiliate members, Ken Herring, IA, second. Motion passed.**

*Break*

Steve Gray, OH – We have a few door prizes left. Whose birthday is the closest? (Gave print to Rebecca Humphries for closest birthday.) Gave game hog award to Tom Niebauer for the most

deer killed last year. Leftover prizes went to people who had not won. Check-out has been extended until noon. Todd Peterson, Wisconsin, had some type of seizure last night in hospitality room, called emergency room and he is back in his room now. Tom Niebauer, WI – I want to thank Ohio staff for helping with that. Steve Gray, OH – Looks like good news on that. Luke Miller, OH – Also, for anyone who signed up to take fish home, we will bring the fish back down here so you don't have to go to the hospitality room.

**Committee Report Discussion and Action Items Proposed** – *Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA*

**Coordinator** – On the Farm Bill Coordinator position, that would be \$5,714 per state and we will challenge the other Associations to help us fund the \$160,000 for Jen Mock's position. Joel Brunsvold, IL – Issue with me from yesterday is priorities of the International and how important this is to me. **Joel Brunsvold, IL moved to approve funding Farm Bill position, Rebecca Humphries, MI second.** Each state will pay \$5,714 and challenge other Associations. Doug Hansen, SD – I think that raises a good question, to make it contingent upon the other Associations donating their share. Rex Amack, NE – First time this was an emergency. We will be paying twice this time because we belong to two Associations and we still get to send in our \$27,000 to IAFWA. I think IAFWA needs to decide what they want to do, just do it and fund it. Our bean counters don't like the increases, first \$300, then \$3,000, now \$9,000 and they are not going to like that. We talk about this year after year at IAFWA and I don't think we get any where. Joel Brunsvold, IL – That was my point yesterday. Rex Amack, NE – Jen stated that NGOs were going to fund \$80,000. What happened to that? Ollie Torgerson – Do you want to make that part of the motion that the IAFWA pick this up after the three years are up? Rex Amack, NE – No. I think the IAFWA needs to be more effective. Luke Miller, OH – I don't think those states that belong to more than one Association should have to pay twice. Jen Mock, IAFWA – I talked to John Baughman this morning and he faxed me a sheet that shows how people are being paid within the IAFWA. If we need an adjustment in our priorities then we need to take a look at that in September. **(Handout can be found in proceedings under Committee Reports.)** Ollie Torgerson – You can set their priorities as their Directors. **Motion passed.**

Ollie Torgerson - Conservation grant proposals for funding Ray Evans' position. Multi-state grant would come directly from USFWS to IAFWA and banking will be done by IAFWA. Jen Mock, IAFWA – Grant for CRP is one year for \$79,400 and the other grant was due in June. All proposals were made by the IAFWA. Second project was conservation projects for two years \$75,000 for each year. Submitted under IAFWA, not MAFWA. We can amend that so that MAFWA is the sponsor. Tom Niebauer, WI – Does that mean MAFWA would have to become the banker? Jen Mock, IAFWA – We can change the wording to list supported by MAFWA with IAFWA as the administrator. Bob Bryant, USFWS – It would be better if IAFWA was grantee and MAFWA was the sub-grantee. Ollie Torgerson – I think the thought was the IAFWA was on too many of the grants? Tom Niebauer, WI – I have concern about us having to do the banking and become grant coordinator. Luke Miller, OH – Give back to IAFWA? Doug Hansen, SD – You can have as much involvement as you want if we set up an Oversight Committee. Tom Niebauer, WI – I believe the historic concern over the last several years was about IAFWA funding staff positions, not specific projects. Ollie Torgerson – No action required on these two grants as IAFWA has already applied for them.

Ollie Torgerson - Cooperative agreement with NRCS, asks for someone to assist Ray on advice. Ray Evans, ECO – I will be contacting biologists in all states and asking for your support.

Doug Hansen, SD – The two grants we were talking about, have already been submitted by the IAFWA, on behalf of us? Ollie Torgerson – No, on behalf of the IAFWA. Doug Hansen, SD – In

a nutshell what would those two grants provide? Jen Mock, IAFWA – Evaluate CRP practices to see if we are getting fish and wildlife benefits. Second one involves Watershed Security Program and protects the program, need to evaluate on a state by state basis. Landowners receive incentive payments for improvements to their property and we will come back with recommendations on changes to meet our objectives. Ken Herring, IA – The recommendation was to submit through this group, but if they have already been submitted there is no action needed. Keith Sexson, KS – Who wrote the grants? Ollie Torgerson – Jen. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Do we need to provide a letter of support, or recommended, or addendum “under guidance of MAFWA Chair?” Doug Hansen, SD – IAFWA has done a grant on behalf of other committees. Could be the same in this instance. Jen Mock, IAFWA – Administration would be under IAFWA. Doug Hansen, SD – The grant would need to be amended to have MAFWA guidance? Dean Hildebrand, ND – If grant committee looks at this they will see how much interest we have in this case. Ollie Torgerson – I guess we want to take some action now. **Doug Hansen, SD, moved to sponsor, not administer these two grants.** Glen Salmon, IN – On behalf of MAFWA. Ollie Torgerson – On behalf of the MAFWA. **Second by Jeff Ver Steeg, CO. Motion passed.**

Ollie Torgerson - Public Land recommendations? Prescribed Fire Subcommittee can be set up on their own. **No action.** Support invasive species control? **No action.** Support development of land management without staff to handle it? Ken Herring, IA – Concur but we think they can do that. Ollie Torgerson – Propose they write that. **No action.** Get people to meeting? Ken Herring, IA – Chair should follow up with letter to chair of that Committee. Ollie Torgerson – I will do that.

Ollie Torgerson - Furbearer recommendations? Randy Kreil agreed to become liaison, so that is done. Carnivore movements and supply Ad Hoc support, consider agreement for information sharing? Chris Dwyer, OH – We are looking for lack of opposition, focus on details, we want something that says that is a good idea. We just want a general acceptance. Ollie Torgerson – Good idea, but don’t know how to develop an agreement. Steve Gray, OH – We can just say we are aware of that. Glen Salmon, IN – Do we need to accept Public Lands report? Ollie Torgerson – Vote to accept all reports at the end of this? Furbearer group asked if we want a white paper on fox and coyote running enclosures. **Joel Brunsvold – Yes, I really don’t know all about that, I move they write the white paper. Keith Sexson, KS second.** Steve Gray, OH – We will have someone write that up. **Motion passes.**

Ollie Torgerson - Guidance for formal representation and collaboration with Wildlife Health Committee? Rebecca Humphries, MI – Would like to extend invitation to members. Will you let us know when they are holding meetings? Ollie Torgerson – We will post it on our website. So Bruce will extend invitation.

Chris Dwyer, OH – Need to be involved with USDA, Midwest states not affected, except Ohio. Would like to get input, or at least raise awareness, and get guidance if you want us to attend USDA annual meetings? Rebecca Humphries, MI – In Michigan we have a lab technician on staff and we coordinate through him. Chris Dwyer, OH – The lack of representation from Midwest meetings at the USDA meetings is minimal. The question we raise is if Ohio cannot be there, if it is appropriate for someone from one of the other Midwest states be sent? Rebecca Humphries, MI – I think so. Steve Gray, OH – We will give our guidance. Glen Salmon, IN – Is there funding involved? Chris Dwyer, OH – No, that is covered.

Ollie Torgerson – Do we need to move to accept all committee reports? Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – If we adopt those reports we adopt every single word, but we shouldn’t adopt, accept or receive

those as a whole. Steve Gray, OH – We dealt with every item as far as we know. On Public Lands we could direct Larry Nelson, as the liaison, we would direct him to work with them. Keith Sexson, KS – In the future we could deal with the action items at the time the reports are presented.

**Old Business** – *Steve Gray, Ohio Division of Wildlife*

**None**

**New Business** – *Steve Gray, Ohio Division of Wildlife* - We have done a, b, and c on agenda, now we need to look at the discussion items. Ollie Torgerson – IAFWA got in touch with Regional Associations and recommended we become incorporated and asked what our tax status was. We are a 501(c)(6) and our Executive Committee felt comfortable with our tax status, but did agree to become incorporated. Did decide to set up the Conservation Enhancement Fund as a 501(c)(3). Becky sent her attorney to Washington, DC and she has recommended that the fund also be incorporated. John Baughman brought papers out and if you pass this I have all paperwork signed. It will cost us \$20 in fees to Kansas to file the papers. The attorney also suggested we have a different board for the fund, but we have decided to keep the Executive Committee of the MAFWA plus one person. She has also written by-laws for the fund (**Conservation Enhancement Fund By-Laws in proceedings Appendix**). There are several action items: 1) Do we want to incorporate? 2) Do we want to apply for 501(c)(3) status for Conservation Fund? 3) Do we want to incorporate Conservation Enhancement Fund based on legal advice? 4) Have Executive Committee for Conservation Enhancement Fund be Board of Directors, MAFWA Executive Committee plus one member, as suggested by legal?

**Rebecca Humphries, MI, moved to incorporate MAFWA in Kansas. Tom Niebauer, WI, second.** Doug Hansen, SD – The best place for filing this is in Kansas because the new investment firm is in Kansas. **Motion passed.**

**Rex Amack, NE, moved to make Conservation Fund 501(c)(3). Joel Brunsvold, IL, second. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Keith Sexson, KS, moved to incorporate Conservation Enhancement Fund. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO, second. Motion passed.**

Rex Amack, NE – Should plus one be appointed by Chair of Investment Committee, be Chair of Investment Committee or be Investment Manager? *Discussion.* **Doug Hansen, SD, moved that “plus one” should be appointed by Investment Committee Chair in case Chair overlaps and is already on the Executive Committee. Glen Salmon, IN, second. Motion passed.**

Steve Gray, OH – Keep just one meeting for now. **No action** on that.

Dan Zekor, MO – Discussion about groups meeting together, have a motion: “That the Association formally request each Technical Committee be as efficient with meeting and travel time as possible by making an effort to consolidate their meetings or regional meetings, such as the Midwest Fish and Wildlife conference, and further to annually report their work activities and recommendations to the MAFWA at the annual meeting.” Steve Gray, OH – Basically urge committees to hold meetings together when possible. Dan Zekor, MO – Could be done in form of a letter. Rebecca Humphries, MI – One of the things I would encourage is to meet in a timely manner or encourage them to meet prior to our meeting. Law Enforcement Committee is not meeting until next week. Steve Gray, OH – We are making progress on that.

Ollie Torgerson - Need concurrence on National Acceptance Team. Dean Hildebrand has been doing that and sending Mike McKenna and USFWS is comfortable with having Mike McKenna



doing that. Do we want to keep allowing ND to represent us? Steve Gray – Ok with that? Dean is going to retire this year. **All concur.**

Ollie Torgerson – Establish federal budget input? Tom Niebauer, WI – Served on IAFWA budget for years, process begins when President's budget is introduced and three weeks later they go over that and then look at green books for what is not in the green book. Priorities are what is not in federal budget. We can put input for things we want as our priorities. Could list our priorities and then send our President to meeting in Washington in January. Steve Gray, OH – It is good advice, but can be overwhelming. Doug Hansen, SD – Do you think that is something you could do Ollie? Ollie Torgerson – I will do whatever you tell me to. Steve Gray, OH – That would be good, or have someone go for several years. **Dean Hildebrand, ND – I would endorse the Executive Secretary because they could call him for a point of reference.** Dan Zekor, MO – In Missouri, we are asked to go through a thought process on our federal priorities. Ollie would need sense of what group wants and you would have to communicate to Ollie what your priorities are when you are going through the process. **Steve Gray, OH – I think he could glean what he needs from our meeting.** Ollie could represent us better than we could ourselves. Glen Salmon, IN – Where would that tie in with IAFWA Federal Budget Committee? Steve Gray, OH – They overlap. Don't have to be on that committee. Ollie Torgerson – If I don't know what your priorities are, I am going to suggest the money go to Green Bay Packers.

Ollie Torgerson - New IAFWA Science and Research Committee wants input from MAFWA. Dave Risley, OH – More senior members retired and that committee kind of dissolved. Poor representation of the states, not just specific of the Midwest, dominated by NGOs and federal agencies. Ohio has one member, but need to encourage the states to be a little more active. Steve Gray, OH – Defer that and encourage our member states to be more active. Glen Salmon, IN – When Mitch King gave report on WAFWA, they are a step ahead of us. Steve Gray, OH – Ollie Torgerson get more information and we can discuss at next meeting.

Ollie Torgerson - Stems from discussion of Farm Bill Coordinator position, send resolution asking for Farm Bill permanent position on IAFWA staff. Rex Amack, NE – I agree with that. Steve Gray, OH – Can do that in the form of a letter. Rex Amack, NE – Personally I would like to see IAFWA take the priorities we suggest and do them. That is what we did with TWW and we have been funding that with special assessment for 14 years and that doesn't make good business sense to me. Jen Mock, IAFWA – Tom Bennett was chair of a new committee last year to evaluate funding mechanisms of IAFWA funding and where that was going. That chair is vacant right now. Steve Gray, OH – We need to deal with this quickly. Write a letter, sign it and send it out in next couple of weeks.

### New Logo

Steve Gray, OH - Back at North American in March we looked at some examples of possible logos. This stemmed from a suggestion made a year or so ago in Wisconsin, letterhead logo is antiquated, Ohio, Missouri and other places worked on this. Executive Committee talked about this in March. First concept, the habitat scene (#1) is complicated. Revised logo presented in March and came up with (#2), then someone came up with idea to make it a patch or decal format (#3). Tom Niebauer, WI – Are these logos reduced to 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper to make sure they looked good. Steve Gray, OH – Designed to 2" minimum. Joel Brunsvold, IL – Nice patch for shoulder, how does that work? Steve Gray, OH – We could use both of the ones with the same logo and have modifications. Did we depict the right animals? Rex Amack, NE – Nebraska doesn't have walleye. Jeff Ver Steeg, CO – Don't think we have room for more things

on there, but the one with the habitat is too busy. Steve Gray, OH – Do we need animal that we hunt or fish for on our logo? Doug Hansen, SD – Symbolic not inclusive of everything we do. Joe Kramer, KS – How many people know that is a turkey feather? Steve Gray, OH – Not very many. You have a bird, a mammal and a fish. John Guenther, MN – This is the first time I saw these, liked all inclusive one, but it was too busy. Like the patch and the logo is the symbol and that is what we will recognize. I think it says what we do, accept logo and then the manner in which we display that could be interpretive. Ollie Torgerson – We could play with some color on that. Steve Gray, OH – We will focus on these and work with that.

George Vandel, SD – Would like to thank Ohio for their hospitality. Steve Gray, OH – We have held a lot of conferences and it is a perk for our staff.

#### **Passing of the Gavel (symbolic)**

This is a symbolic passing of the gavel since Steve Gray will be in place until after IAFWA meeting. **Passed gavel from Steve Gray, Ohio, to Doug Hansen, South Dakota.**

#### **Preliminary Details for the 2006 Meeting** – *Doug Hansen, South Dakota*

Dean last year and Steve this year have set a high standard for us and made it a tough act to follow. In 1989, I became Director and my first meeting was in 1990 and I became President and we held a poor meeting, I will do much better this time. With Ollie's help we can do better. I would like to thank Steve and Dean for their inspiration. The meeting is scheduled for Spearfish, SD in the Black Hills next year. George Vandel and Larry Giolotti will act as conference chairs and we will follow the same general format as this.

#### **Adjourn**

**Rex Amack, NE moved to adjourn, Glen Salmon, IN second. Adjourned at 11:42.**

**NOTE: Conference evaluation is attached at the end of proceedings in the Appendix.**