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WEDNESDAY JULY 13th

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| 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. | Breakfast buffet (Pontiac Room)
Sponsored by FDC Enterprises |
| 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | MAFWA Business Meeting (Birds of Prey Room)
Moderator - <i>Steve Gray</i> , President

20. Call to Order and Roll Call
21. Approval of 2004 Annual Minutes
22. Treasurer's Report – <i>Joe Kramer</i>
23. Audit Committee Report – <i>Doug Hansen</i>
24. Jaschek Fund Report - <i>Joe Kramer</i>
25. Investments Committee - <i>Doug Hansen</i>
26. Resolutions Committee – <i>Larry Nelson</i>
27. Awards Committee - <i>Glen Salmon</i>
28. <i>By-Laws Committee</i> – <i>Jeff Ver Steeg</i>
29. Approval of Affiliate members |
| 10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. | Break |
| 10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | 11. Committee Report Discussion and Actions Items
Proposed
12. Old Business
13. New Business
14. "Symbolic" Passing of the Gavel |
| 12:00 | Adjourn - Lunch on your own |

Roll Call – All states present except Kentucky; no Canadian Provinces.

Member State Representatives

Rex Amack, Nebraska
Joel Brunsvold, Illinois
Steve Gray, Ohio
John Guenther, Minnesota
Douglas Hansen, South Dakota
Ken Herring, Iowa
Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota
Rebecca Humphries, Michigan
Kyle Hupfer, Indiana
Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin
Keith Sexson, Kansas
Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado
Dan Zekor, Missouri

Other State Representatives

Mike Conlin, Illinois
Marion Conover, Iowa
Dale Garner, Iowa
Larry Gigliotti, South Dakota
Joe Kramer, Kansas
Alan Marble, Michigan
Luke Miller, Ohio
Kirk Nelson, Nebraska
Larry Nelson, Minnesota
Todd Peterson, Wisconsin
Dave Risley, Ohio
Glen Salmon, Indiana
George Vandel, South Dakota
Bill VanderZouwen, Wisconsin

Conference Staff

Sheila Kemmis, Recording Secretary, Kansas
Sally Biancone, Registration, Ohio
Melissa Meyer, Registration, Ohio

Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri

IAFWA Representatives

John Baughman, Exec Dir, Washington, DC
Terry Crawforth, President, Reno, NV
Jen Mock, Washington, DC (**speaker**)
Len Ugarenko, Washington, DC
Dave Walker, Arlington, VA (**speaker**)

USFWS Representatives

Matt Hogan, Acting Director, Washington, DC
Robert C. Bryant, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota
Jerry (Mitch) King, Snellville, Georgia (**speaker**)
Mike Stempel, Region 6 Acting Deputy Director, Denver, Colorado
Robyn Thorson, Region 3 Director, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota
Charles Wooley, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota

USDA/APHIS Representatives

Charles Brown, Raleigh, NC
Jon Cepek, Raleigh, NC
Andy Montoney, Raleigh, NC

Guest Speakers

Fred Circle, FDC Enterprises, Columbus, OH
Ray Evans, ECO Associates, Holts Summit, MO
Chris Goddard, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Ann Arbor, MI
Ron Helinski, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, DC
Gary Isbell, Ohio Department of Wildlife, OH
Frank Lopez, Ohio Department of Wildlife, OH
Jay McAninch, Archery Trade Association, Centreville, VA
Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE
Gordon Robertson, American Sportfishing Association, Alexandria, VA
Rob Sexton, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, Columbus, OH
Dave Scott, Ohio Department of Wildlife, OH
Gildo Tori, Ducks Unlimited, Ann Arbor, MI
Scott Yaich, Ducks Unlimited, Memphis, TN

Guests

Carole Evans, Holts Summit, MO
Daniel Kemmis, Pratt, KS
Sandy Nelson, St. Paul, MN
Susan Niebauer, Madison, WI

Other Organization Representatives

Bill Andrews, Project Wild, Woodland, CA
Michael Armstrong, MICRA, Little Rock, AR
Carolyn Caldwell, MAFWA CITES Representative, Ohio Department of Wildlife, OH
Dave Case, DJ Case, Mishawaka, IN
Michelle Doerr, Bowhunting Preservation Alliance, Stewart, MN
Marc Gaden, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Ann Arbor, MI
Robert Hoffman, DU, Ann Arbor, MI
James Earl Kennamer, National Wild Turkey Federation, Edgefield, SC
Janet McAninch, Archery Trade Association, Centreville, VA
Gary Moore, The Nature Conservancy, Dublin, OH
Lisa Petit, National Park Service, Brecksville, OH
Kobi Platt, National Wildlife Federation, Ann Arbor, MI
Pat Ruble, Bowhunting Preservation Alliance
Tammy Sapp, National Wild Turkey Federation, Edgefield, SC
Rick Story, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, Columbus, OH
Jodi Valenta, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Newtown, CT
Rick Young, Pheasants Forever, St Paul, MN

Ohio Staff (who were registered and helped on conference)

Verdie Abel
Steve Barry
John Daugherty
Dave Graham
Todd Haines
Jeff Herrick
Sue Howard
Phil King
Roger Knight
Jim Lehman
Jim Marshall
Randy Miller
Vicki Mountz
Kevin Ramsey
Tom Rowan
Dan Schneider

Thanks to all of the above individuals and all other Ohio staff who helped with the Conference.

If we inadvertently left anyone off this list we apologize.

Rex Amack, Nebraska moved to approve, Rebecca Humphries, Michigan second. Minutes approved.

**71ST ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 10-13, 2004**

**RADISSON HOTEL, 605 E BROADWAY AVE
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501**

SUNDAY JULY 11th

Executive Committee Breakfast Meeting (*Liberty/Manhattan Room*)

Opening Remarks

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota gave welcome address. Going to Fort Lincoln tonight. Going to Washburn tomorrow where Lewis and Clark spent 144 nights. We will meet in new Interpretive Center and go to Fort Mandan. Give you chapbook there.

Strategic Thinking Session

Dan Zekor, Missouri, facilitator for strategic thinking portion of the meeting. Put together basis of strategic plan from past meetings. Had communication with some of you and have come up with a list of issues.

Funding Coordinator Position – Ollie Torgerson has been acting as Coordinator for past two years and have his work plan here which most of you have read. Need to decide how we will continue funding this position. Ollie said \$30,000 to \$40,000 salary, plus expenses. Some states have stated that they would absorb costs of office expenses. Question is, do we want an Executive Director, do we go out for bids, and how much do we pay and where do we pay them from? We have about \$209,000 from the Jaschek fund and we have about \$30,000 in interest. Ollie will be done in Missouri in August and will move up to Wisconsin and Wisconsin has stated they would be willing to provide some office space. Glen Salmon, Indiana – What are dues? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota - \$300, raised two years ago from \$100. I asked Ollie to go out and get affiliate organizations and their dues are only \$75 and I feel we can raise those. John Hoskins, Missouri – Two years ago Jerry Conley was outgoing and I was incoming and we were executing a reduction of our work force and we offered people who wanted to retire early a part-time job. Jerry came up with the suggestion to have Ollie work for the Midwest with Missouri paying his part-time salary. This has been a win-win situation. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota thanked Missouri and asked Ollie to leave the room. Mike Conlin, Iowa – Has Ollie moved to Wisconsin? Scott Hasset, Wisconsin – We can offer space, but not administrative services. Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin – We can offer space, but would like to offer that on a two year period and then review it, but we can not offer clerical support. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – What clerical support does he need? Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Ollie stated between 120 and 150 hours. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – One person basically. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Ollie stated that there were three states that stepped forward and offered office space. We are trying to decide if we keep Ollie involved. Lauri Osterndorf, Wisconsin – Need to take a step back and not look at Ollie, but other people also. John Hoskins, Missouri – We need to decide first if we want a coordinator. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – The Executive Committee felt it was very important to have a coordinator. Keith Sexson, Kansas – Do we need a vote? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We will vote at the business meeting, we are trying to give you as much information as we possibly can. **Asked a show of hands on who wants a coordinator, all raised hand.** Just a consensus. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Need to come up with a formal process and kick that off on Tuesday. We need to talk

about money. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – We are in the short term focus and there are other ways to get this done. Had discussions with at least one other director in this room and we could host this position within our staff, which would provide a much cheaper option to the Association. We would be willing to absorb those costs. What we are struggling with, at the Executive Committee level, is continuity. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – Illinois could offer staff also. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Iowa could have some problem with travel costs which the Association could cover. What are the important qualities of this job? Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – Do you have an outline of what the job would cover? Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Ollie brought forth a proposal of about \$50,000, but during the Executive Committee meeting was lowered to about \$40,000. We discussed using the Jaschek fund or a special assessment. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Ollie stated 1,000 hours at \$30 a year salary, \$5,000 travel expenses and \$5,000 office costs. Rex Amack, Nebraska – Does Wyoming pay 100% of Larry Kruckenberg's salary? John Baughman, IAFWA – In Wyoming we decided that we could. We thought it would be 10 percent most of the year with 25 percent around meeting times. It has ended up about 25 percent most of the year with 50 percent around meeting times. The Northwest pays their Coordinator about \$4,000. The Western sells their proceedings and pays Larry about \$1,000 a year and some travel. Rex Amack, Nebraska – Twenty-five percent would be about 500 hours a year.

Dan Zekor, Missouri – You are talking about possibly rotating this around the states? Keith Sexson, Kansas – Continuity is important, issues don't always change, but faces change, and the coordinator could carry the Association. Not sure rotating this around the states would be a good idea. Steve Gray, Ohio – Feel that continuity is also very important and we have come a long way in two years. We have already proven that it didn't work when we were rotating this around. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – A two year rotation would be slightly better than what we had before with the President changing every year. You get what you pay for and it would take someone else quite a while to come up to speed. Who is directing this, Ollie or us, we need to decide what we want, 1,000 hours or 500 hours. Keith Sexson, Kansas – I think the fact that the Association went forward with the NCN proposal is proof that we wanted to move forward.

Larry Nelson, Minnesota – Speak in favor of continuity. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Do we have enough leg work done? Do we feel good with what Ollie has done? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I am somewhat biased because as the President I have relied on his expertise. If we decide we want an Executive Director, possibly we could find someone with the same level of expertise for lesser money or Ollie would agree to take lesser money. Discussed a possible dues increase, which could amount to about \$2,800 a year. Can we reduce the number of hours or can we find someone in our state to do this job? We need to go over this and bring suggestions to the business meeting. We have planned an Executive Committee meeting for August. We need to look at how we want to come up with the money, maybe we need a committee to come up with a recommendation. We are trying to lay down a foundation for the future, whether that is Ollie or not. Tom Bennett, Kentucky – Are we shooting in the dark? Do we need to see how much money each state can come up with, by poll? You've got to have some leadership. I can meet that red-faced test in Kentucky. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – In Colorado we could do this as a special assessment rather than as a dues increase and that would buy us some time. Tom Bennett, Kentucky – If it is important to you, you will find the money. Dan Zekor, Missouri – **Special assessment idea of dues adjustment for two years, \$2,500, could you go back to your state and do it? All raised hands.** Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Dedicate Jaschek fund interest to fund position for two years to minimize the assessment. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Registration for this meeting was only \$100, possibly raise registration fees, could also bring that assessment down. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Like two year transition idea. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Look at package of ways to fund this position including an assessment. Rex Amack, Nebraska – **Asked show of hands for states that would offer financial support or administrative support like**

Western does. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Show of hands? **Three states showed hands.** Rex Amack, Nebraska – Also, Kansas has made a substantial contribution with Joe Kramer as Secretary/Treasurer for about 13 years and Sheila Kemmis has been doing her job for about 10 years. Glen Salmon, Indiana – We need to look at what would happen if they left. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – The Executive Director could take on some of that responsibility. Dan Zekor, Missouri – What would be the next step? Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Formalize special assessment and other options at our business meeting. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Doug Hansen put together basic frameworks and bring to business meeting with help of Larry Nelson, Minnesota; Joe Kramer, Kansas; and Jeff Vonk, Iowa. John Hoskins, Missouri – Are we putting forward a proposal for existing coordinator or putting out proposal for bids? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – That is up to the Association. We could put out an advertisement if you so desire. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – Are we transitioning to a two year period? Glen Salmon, Indiana – Stick with Ollie for two years, look where he has gotten us and then over the next two years go over this and then go out for a bid. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – I don't disagree with that, but we are going to put an offer on the table and Ollie can refuse or accept that. Mike Conlin, Illinois – We can meet the budget, go forward with a maximum of \$2,500 assessment. I agree with keeping Ollie for the next two years. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Have short term position, now need to look at the long term. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – Put a committee together. Steve Gray, Ohio; and Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota will work together and put together a committee? **Establish a long term committee – Laurie Osterndorf, Wisconsin; Rex Amack, Nebraska; Joel Brunsvold, Illinois; Glen Salmon, Indiana; and Joe Kramer, Kansas.** John Hoskins, Missouri – Regarding annual work plan, do we continue with same work plan if we don't keep Ollie? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We update that every year.

Break for 15 minutes

Steve Williams, USFWS – Thank North Dakota for their efforts at putting this on. Apologize for needing to leave early, going to Calgary for Wetlands Council Meeting. Feel like this is my real home Association meeting. The first meeting I came to there were only about 25 people at that meeting and think the action you will take at the business meeting is great. Introduced Robyn Thorson, John Blankenship, Mitch King, Bob Bryant from USFWS. Paul Schmitt is coming in later also. Endangered species: moving to delist wolves in northwest; moving forward to delist bald eagles; and in Region 6 and Region 1 dealing with issue to list sage grouse. We have to make a decision by December 29. Eleven states fall within sage grouse range. Separated migratory birds and state wetland restoration programs. On migratory birds, working on setting season restrictions for waterfowl. On small wetland easement program, we have done about 3,000 easements. Matt Hogen has pushed through a policy and got it approved by the Secretary of Interior. We have run out of money that was appropriated because we are putting those on the ground faster. Reprograming request for waterfowl survey funding. Sportfish and Wildlife Restoration new coordinator is Mitch King. We see positive results coming out of states and USFWS. On fisheries, continuing to work on step-down plans on strategic plan. Looking for enhanced funding in 2005 budget. Difficult times in fish hatcheries and trying to impress on Congress the importance of these hatcheries. Working with BOR on mitigation hatcheries, and then plan to go to COE. Excited about National Fish Habitat Initiative and the role we can play in that with the states. National Wildlife Refuges, close to finalizing three policies, the product at the end will be much improved. Recognize that even though we own and manage 500 plus refuges that each of them lie within state borders. Hope to hire someone as a national liaison with the states on how we manage the refuge system. We have hired coordinators. This year 10 new refuges open for hunting as well as wildlife viewing. Law Enforcement in the Department of

Interior is working on providing full time law enforcement officers on refuge property. Having difficulties in southeast and you (states) may be approached at some point to provide law enforcement on wildlife refuges. We will be graduating a new class of Law Enforcement special agents in September. We had requests for review of law enforcement plan, which we are doing. Reported at previous meetings that USFWS and USGS are coming together on research efforts (USFWS has the need and USGS has the research capability) and we have seen success and hope to sit down at the table as equal partners. Have a dual commitment to make it work. Also, working together with NRCS to provide better conservation in this country. There has been a fair amount of discussion about the states and using some of them as examples. Fiscal year 2006 federal budget is in a tight squeeze. How do we put together a budget that has a group focusing dollars on the core mission: federal aid; critical activities, migratory, fisheries, law enforcement, endangered species, sport fish and wildlife restoration, and national wildlife refuges. Tom Bennett, Kentucky - Question about mitigation hatcheries with BOR, could use help to educate Congress on this issue.

Steve Williams, USFWS - What is the role of NABSI? Need to redefine their work and look forward to working with you and International committees. Mike Conlin, Illinois - Closer ties with USGS, real problem is tight budgets, talked about closing down some of those stations in our area. Could use help of USFWS on work on Mississippi River. Steve Williams, USFWS - We also have an overhead rate that we are paying to the USGS. We meet monthly and deal with topics that come up in the field. Trying to build a relationship and overhead might wait a little bit because it is a sticky issue. Larry Nelson, Minnesota - Appointing a coordinator to explore opportunities for refuges and hunting and fishing coordinator, do you see one at every refuge? Steve Williams, USFWS - Two national coordinators, don't see one at every refuge right now. Looking for opportunities for disability hunts, in an attempt to institutionalize one of the big six that happen at refuges (hunting and fishing).

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota presented a plaque to Steve Williams for support of Midwest and certificate of quotes signed by directors.

Strategic Thinking (continued)

Dan Zekor, Missouri - Document handed out that listed critical issues of Association. Would like to discuss a couple of those issues and need suggestion of what to discuss. John Hoskins, Missouri - Farm bill in federal program. Will funding continue at a level where we are used to? John Baughman, IAFWA - Discussion later in program about farm bill, among seven national needs and will be guided by Midwest priorities. We are working in an advocacy role of getting as much money into these programs as we can. Jeff Vonk, Iowa - Is it right to ask when you will put together a support person for the farm bill and ask questions as an organization? John Baughman, IAFWA - Timeline of when we need to have our position put together? Jeff Vonk, Iowa - I think it is ok as an organization. John Hoskins, Missouri - Is it something we should or could do is ask for support? See value of asking Presidential candidates their position on farm bill. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois - Nationally, the International should front for us on something like this. John Baughman, IAFWA - We have sent out a document that explains our position. Jeff Vonk, Iowa - My point is that we will take position, as a coalition or in other ways, or ask for support from those candidates and get some kind of accountability to go back to. I think we ought to try and reasonably expect a response. Keith Sexson, Kansas - Also, they are working on their platforms now. Jeff Vonk, Iowa - I think both candidates will be working on conservation issues. Tom Bennett, Kentucky - We will put it on the next conference call in early August and work it out. John Hoskins, Missouri - Some of our states are considered battleground states for some of these elections. Robyn Thorson, USFWS - It is hard to get national support especially

during a war issue. Jeff's point is well taken and the timing is outstanding because of the importance of the swing vote. Claudia Emken, The Nature Conservancy – Did a national poll a couple of months ago and I can provide that information and it is broken down regionally. Waiting until August to talk about that and may even be too late. Voters are concerned about conservation issues. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Would you please provide all directors with a copy. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Now is the time to get their response. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – The other issue involved, is does the Midwest step out in front or do we take a regional approach. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – I think this is important nationally in different ways. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – If you put together a position paper and send that to your Congressional delegation, sent by the directors, they usually are appreciative. A hand written note works best and if we do that cohesively, you can have an impact. If all four Associations did this I think this could happen. It is appropriate to do this before, not after the election. John Baughman, IAFWA – Some issues need to be occurring now, some after the election, but I think that this needs to be addressed locally. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – These are questions about commitments that we all are concerned with. Some of the issues are beyond just fish and wildlife. Richard Bishop, Iowa – Not speaking about methodology, farm bill is extremely important to the Midwest. We need to take this to the International and push this. Dan Zekor, Missouri – Possible strategy – conference call at IAFWA level, at MAFWA level have someone come up with guts of letter to send out to candidates. Reasonable approach or better idea? Mike Conlin, Illinois – Have chair of private land committee draft letter. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Could put together a white paper, North Dakota is going to lose 1/3 of our acres. It would be wonderful if we could get this to the Presidential candidates, just not sure how we can do that. Need to work with Tom Bennett and John Baughman and write the words. I can compose something and send it out to you, but we need to put it in the right target. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – My people could send out letters to Congressional. Randy Kreil, North Dakota – Midwest Private Lands met here. Dave Walker, IAFWA – Private Lands group could write up something and send out recommendations to the other Associations. What is regional could be different from what is national, needs to be more broad. Randy Kreil, North Dakota – You will see a report from the Private Lands group. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – We need to see what they support, not what we support, to get a sense so we have a record. Mitch King, USFWS – Like idea of putting something together and having each of you take it out to your delegation in your state. What I haven't heard is someone who could take this out nationally, identify three or four key folks that could take this to the campaign. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – When will this be discussed? Randy Kreil, North Dakota – Tomorrow discussing CRP, also Private Lands report on Tuesday. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – The private lands group did come up with something we can use and the key here is to come up with a unified approach and I would like to see Dave Walker discuss this tomorrow. Would like to build on this with President Bush first and then the Kerry side. This is getting more visibility and we need to build on that. Scott Hassett, Wisconsin – Agree with Jeff Vonk on this, it is a two prong thing, need to get message out and get a commitment out of those candidates and it should come from the Midwest because we do have so many swing states. We need to work tomorrow on the vehicle to use. John Goss, Indiana – Use power and sign short concise statement. Dave Walker, IAFWA – Right now we are seeing a slow erosion of the funding, need to ask folks what their position is on full funding of the authorization levels. Robyn Thorson, USFWS – Getting harder to wait for 14 signatures, but maybe a letter from Midwest and list states and ask them to state their opinion, signed by Association President and let them answer. I think they will be shopping for what they can say about the farm bill. **Dean asked Robyn to work with Ollie to have a letter ready to go here before we leave, in the form of asking for a response back.** Jeff Vonk, Iowa – I want specific

questions. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota - **Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator; Robyn Thorson, USFWS; and Jeff Vonk, Iowa; will work on this.**

Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – On the Asian Carp issue, Illinois is building a processing plant to process 23 million pounds per year to use for fish protein. Steve Gray, Ohio – Need to finance the barrier the way it needs to be. It is an immediate issue for the Great Lakes states to be sure we get the adequate funding. Marion Conover, Iowa – National screening process is really needed, tied up right now. Would possibly like to see this added to letter to candidates. Need help from federal government. Doug Nygren, Kansas – Use of Asian Carp for animal feeding industry, ban of bovine products recently could increase this. Robyn Thorson, USFWS – The use of these Asian Carp for fertilizers, concern about creating market for these fish and keep eyes on the prize, to get rid of these. I appreciate what Illinois is trying to do. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – I think we are trying to solve the problem now. Mike Conlin, Illinois – We understand what you are saying. We have been trying to get rid of the Asian Carp for 150 years. There could be a silver bullet out there, but I don't see one. They are 70 percent to 90 percent of our viable species. We are aware of that potential and we have to deal with them now. Last week another problem, the round goby came into the Great Lakes, found one 110 miles downstream. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Is the funding in place for the barrier or is there something we need to be doing? Mike Conlin, Illinois – We have a handle on it right now. It is essentially for a double barrier and we want both of them operational. We will have one set operational by this fall and would like to have the other one.

Dan Zekor, Missouri – If you have any issues you want discussed please send a note to either Ollie or I.

Mike Conlin, Illinois – Commercial Fisherman harvested a black carp downstream in Arkansas which adds to that. We need a clean list where it is automatically illegal. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – What is being done about that, is somebody working that issue? Mike Conlin, Illinois – I have been talking with Steve Williams and he says it is going to happen, but it is just a matter of time. Glen Salmon, Indiana – We are looking at the next wild west, or frontier, as far as aquatic species and we need to look down the road. Dan Zekor, Missouri – In Missouri working on grant to address invasive species coordinator. Eric Schwabb, IAFWA – Regional workshops, first held in Northeastern, yours in December. Make sure that the states and regions work together and that the right people are at that meeting. **Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota thanked National Shooting Sports Foundation and Sharon Rushton for their support.** Glen Salmon, Indiana – Invitation to Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference is in Indiana this year.

Lunch sponsored by National Shooting Sports Foundation

Opening Session – Dean Hildebrand, Director of North Dakota Game and Fish Department (Rembrandt Room) Welcomed other new comers to the Association. Rebecca Humphries, Director from Michigan; Bruce McCloskey, Colorado's new director (could not be here); Larry Nelson, Deputy Director, Minnesota; Bob Bates, new Deputy Directory in Kentucky (could not be here); and Dale Garner will be taking Richard Bishop's place as the new Chief of Wildlife in Iowa. Also, not new but maybe here for the first time: Joel Brunsvold, Director, Illinois; and recognize Gene Merriam, the new Commissioner in Minnesota who could not be here.

Welcome to North Dakota - Dean Hildebrand, ND Director, showed 8 minute video on North Dakota Game and Parks. Placed outreach people in four of our largest communities, Fargo, Grand Forks, Bismarck and Minot.

Conference Overview – *Randy Kreil, Conference Chairman, North Dakota Game and Fish Department*, introduced planning group: Clare Renner; Jeb Williams; Kelly Wike; and Dale Repnow. Also, helping Scott Peterson; Randy Meissner; Colin Penner; and Barb Schell.

State of the International Association – *C. Tom Bennett, President, IAFWA, Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources* - In regards to the story of missing pelicans told a joke about a captain, a parrot and a magician. You need to write down these dates: August 2, September 26, and December 6. Financially IAFWA is solid, and we are moving space within the same building. The average tenure of Directors is very short, sometimes less than two years so we need to engage you quicker. Terry Crawforth, incoming IAFWA President, will be asking you to chair or serve on a committee and involve your technical people. We need to get leadership from your level. All of you can pass red-faced test if we can say coordination of the IAFWA has contributed millions in your states. Get strategies and plans ready for next year. Status of State Wildlife Grants (SWG), has been cut, was \$80 million and we need your help to bump that back up. August 2 is one year out meeting; IAFWA meeting is September 26 in New Jersey; December 6 – 8 is Conservation Education Summit. One year out workshop is something you need to commit to.

IAFWA Staff Report – *John Baughman, Executive Vice President, IAFWA, Washington D.C.* - Staff report is on the website - www.iafwa.org. Comprehensive wildlife plans. Want to develop state funding, 10 – 12 states have significant state-based funding, needs to be all 50 states. We would like to provide the tools to help states find the plan right for them. Conservation Leadership Institute meeting end of May in DC, about 25 people present. In the states, 40 percent of managers are baby boomers or above, even higher at the Director level. States can nominate people to come to the National Conservation Training Center for two week training, 25 – 30 people at a time. There is a lot of leadership training classes across the country, but they are very expensive and not natural resource focused. Winter of 2005/2006 for inaugural class and looking at some fund raising, about \$250,000 a year, hopefully have each state pay room and board only for their people, about \$2,000 for the two week training. Our offices will be moving to the 7th floor instead of being on several different floors. Expect defense bill and homeland security bills will be the only ones passed before the elections. There has been a USFWS person working for national refuge system at Arlington for three years, partially funded by IAFWA. Introduced Eric Schwaab and Russell Mason. *Eric Schwaab, IAFWA* – The new NBII coordinator will be Samara Trusso. Five court cases pending, John Hoskins, Missouri, is head of IAFWA Legal Committee and is looking at those.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Reports - *Robyn Thorson, Region III Director, Ft. Snelling, MN* Prepared a folder for Great Lakes – Big Lakes region [Not included in proceedings, contact Robyn for copy] - Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation plans; information on cormorants; fire and wildlife management; and other topics and could be of enormous value to you. The Deputy Regional Director is now Charles Wooley, since Marvin Moriarty is now the Northwest Region Director. The new regional chief of Federal Aid program is Bob Bryant. The Duck Stamp competition winner this year is again from Minnesota. A staff person from the Middle Mississippi Refuge, part of Mark Twain unit, has just been selected for the Olympic archery team - John Magera. President's executive order on Great Lakes announced May 8, will meet to address nine elements (same as Great Lakes Governor's have). Emphasized two things, separate from natural resources, relationships are everything (we listen), plan to have meetings with my leadership team and yours so that we can work together; tell our story, increasingly urban population, need to tell story in medium the public would receive best. Did not have meetings

this winter, because I received a special assignment, the Missouri River (biological opinion due Nov/Dec; Corps of Engineers low water; and court case). Personally thanked John Hoskins of Missouri for his help on court case. Midwest is split between two regions, Region 3 and Region 6.

John Blankenship – USFWS Region VI Director, Denver, CO (Deputy Director)

Involved in Midwest when I was in Minnesota, last time I can remember coming was when the meeting was in Nebraska and we went to the zoo. In November, the Missouri River changed over to Region III. The court case that just came out of the district court in Minneapolis, the state won, but the river lost. “MRRIC” is the new program that will put together a master manual. Two new appeals were filed to that court case yesterday. Sage grouse issue is a big deal (spotted owl of the Midwest). Western Association did a paper, but had no conclusions. Plan to do structured management team decisions and then meet together. The decision is extended to July 30. High Plains partnership, \$5 million, involving 11 states, NRCS, WMI, The Nature Conservancy and several other NGOs, budget has been cut to \$1 million this year. Platte River agreement in the works, EIS is on the streets. Eastern segment DPS on wolves is going to be delisted, western unit not so fortunate. Hope to have a cooperative agreement with Idaho and Colorado and 10J rule. Looking at some lands that might be better off transferred to the state. The Service is looking at transferring Kirwin Refuge (BOR in Kansas), the workshop is the end of July and the strategy workshop is the end of August. We haven’t done this for quite a while (transferred control of a refuge). We are supporting the fishing initiative for 2005/2006. Mitigation hatcheries died out for a while, four in Midwest, Hodgekiss in Colorado, Garrison and Valley in North Dakota. I will be retiring September 1. *Randy Kreil, North Dakota* – On Sage Grouse, we are working on conservation plans, like prairie dog plan, do you think we have a chance of making that work here? *John Blankenship, USFWS* – Yes. *Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota* – What about the cormorant problem? *John Blankenship, USFWS* – Can use the 10J rule. *Jeff Vonk, Iowa* – Can they show investment made of monitoring impact of all the work? *Robyn Thorson, USFWS* – Yes, they do. The Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) will be both carrot and stick on monitoring program. *Jeff Vonk, Iowa* – Is there a plan? *Robyn Thorson, USFWS* – It is in the biological plan, if Corps doesn’t do it, they will be held accountable. Adaptive management now done by MRRIC, not just Corps. Corps held meeting in May, now assigned people who did Everglades stakeholder plan, new meeting will be on August 12 in Omaha. All of the groups involved with the river need to be involved in the recovery of the river. *Jeff Vonk, Iowa* – Can states do monitoring at their own level? *Robyn Thorson, USFWS* – Absolutely. *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – Are groups like MRBA involved? *Robyn Thorson, USFWS* – All groups are stakeholders. *John Hoskins, Missouri* – On Jeff’s question on monitoring, surprised by your answer. We have been working on that for some time. Very concerned about it and there may be more monitoring there than you are aware of. On the Law Enforcement strategic plan, any opportunity for states and IAFWA Law Enforcement Committee to have a review? *John Blankenship, USFWS* – Yes, if not yet, soon. We will let you know. On pallid sturgeon, we put out 30,000 fish to study drift, captured some from 1996/1997 release, starting to look successful.

Break

Introduction of New Federal and NGO Partners – *Ollie Torgerson, Missouri Department of Conservation, MAFWA Coordinator* - Developed this session for new partners or affiliates to introduce themselves. Pleased to have federal agencies such as USFWS (Steve Williams, Robyn Thorson, John Blankenship); USDA-APHIS (Mike Worthen coming in tomorrow); NRCS (no

one present); USGS (no one present); National Parks Service, Midwest regional office which includes all but Kentucky, but have Arkansas instead, (Gary Vequist) have 56 parks in our area, and administer Land and Water Conservation Funds; and US Forest Service (no one present). Got to keep working with them and get them here to represent their agency. The Midwest has had only one affiliate for years, Wildlife Management Institute, but no one is here this year as Rob Manes resigned and they have not appointed anyone to take his place yet. Sent out 19 letters and have nine groups that applied for affiliate membership: 1) *Pheasants Forever, Rick Young* – 100 plus employees, biologists help chapters raise money and spend money. We focus on habitat projects (30,000 a year); legislative projects which CRP is the biggest, Dave Nomsen should be here to talk about that tomorrow. Solicit our chapters to raise dollars for legislative issues, Leopold Education program, and mentor hunts. Kicked off campaign for build a wildlife area, raised \$250,000 to buy a wildlife area in Wisconsin, plan to transfer ownership to DNR. 2) *American Sportfishing Association, Gordon Roberts couldn't come*. 3) *MICRA, Doug Nygren, Chair from Kansas* – MICRA includes 28 states in the Mississippi River Basin and other partners (federal and Indian Nations). Jerry Rasmussen is the agencies full time coordinator. Started out being a paddlefish organization, have a paddlefish/sturgeon committee did a tagging which was very successful, and also have a sauger committee, freshwater mussel committee and aquatic nuisance committee. 4) *National Shooting Sports Foundation, Sharon Rushton* – Vote your sport campaign going on right now, has it's own website or go through NSSF website. Trying to get people to register to vote to help keep your sport. Also, could use help on Step Outside program [**Not included in proceedings, contact NSSF for copies of Step Outside and World Shooting Complex, Sparta, IL information**]. 5) *Ducks Unlimited, Bob Hoffman (also Gildo Torri with him)* – Not new to Midwest, Dick Pierce was here religiously until his retirement. Great partnership is putting more water and ducks on the ground. Changing how we deliver our projects, our marsh program is one example. Added over 200,000 acres of upland and wetland habitat this past year. Confluence focus area on Missouri, Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, conserving acres within those areas. Charitable giving laws are being reviewed and that concerns us. Upper Mississippi lock and dam issue providing for updating the system in legislation. Great Lakes extremely important to us, also have legislation there. Taking an active role in these efforts to be sure they benefit habitat and waterfowl. 6) *Izaak Walton League of America, Bill Grant is the official liaison, not here*. 7) *The Nature Conservancy, Claudia Emken* – The Nature Conservancy is a private conservation organization with 1 million members nationwide. We are about protecting habitat, most people think of us as a land purchasing agency, which is true, but we are a science-based organization. Conservation by Design [**Conservation by Design and other handouts not included in proceedings, contact TNC for copies**] is our mission plan and we are a non-confrontational agency. Recently went through a reorganization and our new Midwest region encompasses almost the same area as you do. Some of the issues we are working on would be the upper Mississippi River monitoring study and the ecosystem restoration. Also, helped with our input with the ecosystem part of the bill but are not involved in the lock system. We work very closely with the COE, good partners, but don't work fast. Also, working on flood plain issue in Illinois. We have training available for prescribed burns and work on invasive species. 8) *National Wild Turkey Federation (James Earl Kennemer could not be here)* stated they budget \$2,000 per year for regional meetings. 9) *Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (no one present). Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator* - I should have contacted COE, five districts in our area, but I will try to get in touch with them for next year's meeting.

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I asked Glen Salmon to put together a new awards program for us and I will have him walk through it now and then we can go through it quicker at the

business meeting. Also, I will ask Jeff Ver Steeg to explain the Bylaw changes. Working on getting corporate sponsors and Ollie has done a great job at getting those. We may be increasing the dues to these groups in the future. We are working on these efforts together.

Glen Salmon, Indiana – I was given this awards program assignment by Dean and I have worked on this with Kirk Nelson and Sheila Kemmis. Awards to be considered would be: Excellence in Conservation award (plaque to rotate); Conservation Education award (team); “Spirit of the Shack” award (individual), plaque given to person to keep; President’s award (individual) NGO or government agency; Law Enforcement Officer of the Year (individual plaque) Wildlife Biologist of the Year; Fisheries Biologist of the Year. Hope to come up with a five or six person team to review submissions, and don’t plan to do all awards every year. If all seven awards are given each year, it could cost about \$400 a year. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – One of best reports I have received, gives instructions, costs and examples.

Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – Regarding constitution changes, it is a good thing that we look at our by-laws every year because we seem to change them every year. Seven possible changes: 1) allowance of electronic mail or phone calls to conduct business; 2) clarification of Coordinator; 3) Elimination of “First” from First Vice President; 4) Require Technical Working Committees (TWC), as non-voting, to submit written reports electronically; 5) Require TWC to submit to President and Recording Secretary; 6) Create new standing committee – Bylaws Committee; 7) Potentially increase annual dues to help fund Coordinator position. What our dues should be is the most important issue we need to discuss on Tuesday.

Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado - Bruce McCloskey is going to do a Partners in Flight presentation at the Western and he gave me a handout of that presentation to give to all of you [**“Integrated Bird Conservation” not included in proceedings, contact Colorado for copy**]. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – There is going to be an All Bird Workshop, August 16 and 17 in Pierre, SD and ND is having one in December.

Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator – Standing committees are: the Executive Committee; the Auditing Committee; the Resolutions Committee; and the Nominating/Awards Committee. We also have technical working groups: the Midwest Private Lands Technical Group (Keith Sexson, Kansas, liaison); Public Lands Management Working Committee (Tim Bremicker, Minnesota, liaison); Midwest Legal Committee (John Hoskins, Missouri, liaison); Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers (Steve Gray, Ohio, liaison); Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Committee (Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, liaison); MICRA (Mike Conlin, Illinois, liaison); Midwest Pheasant Study Group (no liaison); Midwest Deer and Turkey Working Group (no liaison); Midwest Furbearer Study Group (no liaison); and Prairie Grouse Technical Council (Richard Bishop, Iowa, liaison). Do we want to continue with strategic planning session next year and keep Dan Zekor? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We will discuss that at the business meeting.

Evening Social & Pitchfork Fondue at Ft. Lincoln State Park, catered by *Best Western Seven Seas Inn* of Bismarck/Mandan, ND – Sponsored by **Ducks Unlimited**

MONDAY JULY 12th

Buses leave for Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center – Washburn, North Dakota, south-side parking lot. (*Vans will be in the front of the Hotel @ 3:00 p.m. to transport spouses and other family members to the Interpretive Center*)

Farm Bill Session: Moderator - *Randy Kreil*, Conference Chairman, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

CRP in Crisis - *Steve Adair, Ducks Unlimited* (PowerPoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

Nationwide CRP cap was 45 million acres in 1985, 39.2 million acres in 2002. Provides landscape-level conservation of soil, water and wildlife habitat. Currently there are 34.1 million acres across the nation, with large acreages in ND, MT, SD, KS, TX, and OK. Duck population levels are driven by events on breeding grounds, such as nesting success. Pheasants increased from 1.4 to 6.1 million birds in SD and are 40 percent higher in Iowa. Of grassland songbirds in CRP, 5 of 12 species would decline in ND if CRP is greatly reduced. Some concerns are that CRP has caused decline of farms and rural communities. In SD, 1.5 million acres; NE, 1.2 million acres; KS, 2.9 million acres; IN, 0.3 million acres; in CRP. Some people believe CRP is not part of working lands (showed examples of people who have made it work) and believe that CRP environmental benefits are local. That is not true, there are large economic impacts from waterfowl hunting and wildlife viewing. National average was 48 percent acceptance in 2003, lower than in 1997 (67 percent). In three key states, ND, SD, MT (prairie pothole region) acceptance levels have dropped dramatically. The minimum score for the last sign up was 269 points and a lot of past acreages did not get in. Compared average EI on those three states and EI was higher than in the past. Wetlands have been taken out of the equation for CRP signup, which takes away points. Also, national priority areas do not get extra points. Wildlife quality (100 pts) water quality (100 pts) erosion factor (100 pts) enduring benefits (50 pts), drive the sign up. Many acres will expire in those three states and we will loose 84 percent of 4.1 million acres in 2007. We would need to retain 57 million acres or 54 percent of cropland, and that is not going to happen. There is a continuing loss of grasslands in the prairie pothole region, 62 percent, or 56 million acres has been converted to cropland. CRP has reached critical mass in prairie pothole region. The EBI and eligible practices need to be re-evaluated to prevent CRP loss. Demand remains strong from producers, but declining grain stocks, growing deficit, misconceptions, and competing interests threaten the program. Need to push for reauthorization in 2007 to get greater wildlife benefits for the Farm bill conservation programs. *Mitch King, USFWS* – What about a survey? *John Goss, Indiana* – How many acres in prairie pothole region? *Steve Adair, DU* – 8 million acres. *John Goss, Indiana* – What do you need to get there? *Steve Adair, DU* – About 40 million acres. *Dave Walker, IAFWA* – Actually, 63 million acres, 2002 Farm bill was 45 million. *Robyn Thorson, USFWS* – Are the Grassland and Wetland Reserve programs not used? *Steve Adair, DU* – Funding levels not there for grassland, wetland program is not well received in ND, SD, MT. No permanent easements. *Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust* – When are the citizens of this country going to stop paying for those acres. When CRP stops it will all be plowed up. This is a temporary program, we need to promote perpetual programs. *Steve Adair, DU* – One idea is to move to more of long-term program. *Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust* – Not enough, must be perpetual. *Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota* – Our state will not allow us to do long-term leases, let alone perpetual leases. We are the only state that does not have conservation easements. The longest we have is a 30 year lease. There is going to be a continual battle. We are trying to make that happen, but it is going to be a political battle. *Jeff*

Vonk, Iowa – We can't go down the road of buying the land over and over, we do need something perpetual. Arnie Kruse, ND Natural Resources Trust – Yes, you are buying the land for every 10 years, are we better off doing that? Jeff Vonk, Iowa – We need to take a more comprehensive program look at farms. If we keep saying that all we want is a 10 year fix that is all we will get. Arnie Kruse, ND Natural Resources Trust – We are paying for this with the commodity program. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – The opportunity is now. Mitch King, USFWS – I agree with this gentleman, that it is better to have the land owned by the landowner, than no land at all because they do not want to sell us the land. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – We have the opportunity here to make that change.

CRP and Duck Production in the Prairie Pothole Region - Ron Reynolds, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Bismarck ND (PowerPoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

I can shed some light on this discussion, CRP is just part of a program. ND and SD prairie pothole region (PPR) covers 7 percent of the area and 21 percent of breeding ducks in the traditional breeding waterfowl survey units. The U.S. attracted three times the Canadian PPR of breeding duck pairs. Limiting factors – births, decline in puddle duck nest success from 1930s to 1980s. Nest failure due to depredation associated with changes in land use. Deaths – Nest period is risky, half of female deaths is during breeding for mallards. Nest success #1, hen survival 19 percent, duckling survival is 14 percent. USDA passed CRP and resulted in over 4.5 million acres in PPR of ND, SD and MT. Criteria for successful nesting cover programs: characterized by nest success higher than other major cover types; more attractive to nesting hens than competing cover; distributed to be accessible by a large portion of nesting hens. From 1992 to 1997 the Region 6 HAPET office lead a study of impact of CRP on duck production in PPR. Used four square mile plots as study sample base. Searched 30,000 acres of CRP, looked at 10,700 duck nests and applied our results to peak CRP. Results: 23 percent higher than other major nest cover types; CRP most preferred for nesting hens (undisturbed); due to magnitude and distribution of CRP available to 30 percent of hatched nests came from CRP; overall nest success in all cover types was higher during CRP period vs. pre-CRP periods; nest success positively related to percent of grass cover on landscape. Five species were studied: shoveler, blue-winged teal, gadwalls, mallards, and pintails. Bottom line: 12.4 million (2.1 mil/yr) success rate. After 1997, if current spatial distribution of CRP can be made available; assume nest success hasn't changed; look at size/distribution of breeding ducks (survey every year). Extrapolate findings – estimate 24.8 million additional ducks fledged. We have annual surveys in temporary, seasonal, and semi-permanent wetlands, can carry more ducks on CRP as opposed to croplands. Changes in CRP sign up, high duck population increase of 11 percent, low duck population if decrease of 78 percent in CRP. Several items are no longer used in EBI signup. Wetlands are the primary feature that attracts ducks. Need to protect the wetlands; swampbusters is also a good incentive. If we lose swampbuster we will see large areas being drained. HAPET worked with NPWRC to look at mallard pair/wetland regression and came up with a model. Present size and distribution of duck population is 4,249,823 duck pairs using model, will see 38 percent decline if shallow wetlands are removed. Several groups out there are working on protecting wetlands. We need more money and effort to go into the program, protect what we have. Other wetland wildlife and grassland wildlife is also dependant on those areas. Need to maintain over 5 million acres of CRP with wetlands in PPR; maintain swampbuster; secure 1,400,000 additional wetland acres; secure 10.4 million additional acres of grasslands, can expect to lose 6.2 million ducks annually, or 68 percent of average duck harvest from 1998-2002 if unsuccessful. Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust – How often does EBI come up for adjustment? Ron Reynolds, USFWS – Every sign up. Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust – Thought grassland important, what role

does mid-contract management have? Ron Reynolds, USFWS – Not same degradation of CRP. Use will go down if structure changes.

A CRP Legislative Wake-up Call – Dave Nomsen, Pheasants Forever (PF) (PowerPoint)

[Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is the most successful federal program and is critical to PF success. But it isn't just CRP; it is also the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Security Program (CSP) and Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP). CRP is flagship program. In the summer of 1994, attended a meeting in Washington and the thought was, "not an acre, not a dollar, the days of CRP are over", and things looked grim, but we are in a more tenuous position now than we were then. In the past months, from December 4 to June 15 we have sent out several press releases and activities. President Bush and USDA Secretary Veneman met with PF. Several negative articles have appeared in 2003 including articles from the Salina Journal (KS); The Washington Post; Los Angeles Times; The Hawk Eye (IA); and American Corn Growers Association. Also we queried several states and received responses from J. Unsworth, Idaho Fish and Game; Joel Brunsvold, Illinois DNR; Richard Bishop, Iowa DNR; Gene Merriam, MN DNR; D. Childress, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and John Cooper, SD Game and Fish; all giving positive comments on the benefits of CRP to wildlife. Currently we are trying to raise \$1 million at PF to help push CRP by educational publications and mailings; lobbying; congressional hearings; coalitions; and program implementation. In one of my last meetings at the White House, we asked them to come up with a statement regarding CRP. Farm Service said all options, including no CRP, should be covered, but we should have stated how successful this program is.

Dave Walker, IAFWA – Tremendous partnership in Washington with NGOs. Another aspect of CRP that deals with acres currently enrolled is the cap and the budget reconciliation process. Have 34.7 million acres enrolled, cap is 39.2 million acres. Don't expect to see a budget resolution this year from Congress, but we are anticipating significant instructions to mandatory side of the program. The authorizing committee is going to looking at the 45 million acres as a place to cut. Need to communicate accomplishments of CRP and show benefits and also of these other programs. Congress is going into a six week recess and people need to talk to their representatives at that time. The Conservation Environmental Effects Project is looking at quantifying efforts. Looking at soil and water quality benefits of these programs and how wildlife is coming along. There is an effort to update information that is out there, such as NRCS document, FSA entering into agreement with Wildlife Society to update. Urge states that have active research efforts to forward information to me. Want updated by February to be available for this next process. We are making headway and hope to see accomplishments soon. Working with several different agencies to get this done and to see that wildlife has a share in these efforts.

Dave Nomsen, PF – Spent a lot of time on the technical solution. We need to implement CRP and WRP programs and have been using donor funds from other programs which has formed a wedge in the other groups. We have to solve this problem. There is \$95 million in the budget to solve that. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – We need a commitment from Bush Administration, also have you talked to Kerry campaign about that commitment and why not? Dave Nomsen, PF – Yes, we should. We have been wrapped up in this. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Having hard time getting positive commitment from contender. Dave Nomsen, PF – Didn't understand question, yes I have met with the other campaign. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Are we getting a firm commitment? Dave Nomsen, PF – Looking at his website you will find some positive comments. Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust – CREP is a better wildlife program. Why continue to promote a temporary

program? Dave Nomsen, PF – The fact that the lion share of the wildlife legacy comes from CRP, not from CREP or buffers. In some states they are the only programs available. Don't have implementation success stories that we need in those programs. Want to do it on a scale we are doing it today, keep the focus where it is today.

Dave Walker, IAFWA – Take a national perspective and take the whole package together, there are 218 in the House, 60 in Senate, need to have those numbers or this doesn't happen.

Quantifying the Environmental Benefits of CRP on Prairie Wetlands: Separating Acts of Nature from Acts of Congress – Chip Euliss, USGS, Jamestown, ND (powerpoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

Recognize unique combination of grass and water is largely the reason for the large waterfowl population. Acts of Nature: landscape formation (structure, weather, erosion/deposition); landscape position (elevation, slope, aspect); geomorphic processes (soils, hydrology, water quality); climate (precipitation, evaporation, temperature). Prairie wetlands hydrological functions all comes from the sky not from the ground. Recharge wetlands are temporary, gets water from sky, but lose it to the ground, holds water for short periods of time and are as fresh as drinking water; flow through wetlands have surface and ground water trickling through, which is importing and exporting salt, water is as fresh as drinking water or as salty as the ocean and are seasonal and larger and deeper; discharge wetlands are surface water driven, have salt imported into system, but no export and are extremely salty, even more than the ocean. Prairies are important to ducks and other wildlife. A great variety of wetlands in this part of the world attracts a great diversity of wildlife species. Through the prairie pothole region (PPR) there has been severe drought, especially in the 1980s. A drought changes the water quality and with a deluge of water, what is growing in the water changes and brings different types of wildlife. We are trying to encourage people to place the study results in the right spatial time. The Wetland Continuum is a publication that is coming out today and shows hydrologic relation to atmospheric water. Acts of Congress have made impacts on this. Also, 80 percent of wetlands are exposed to land use or agricultural practices, burning, or grazing. Several factors affect the wetlands. Ecosystem function of prairie depends on synergistic processes, uplands and wetlands; a single wetland can undergo dramatic changes; wetland processes can be influenced, but not completely altered; processes influencing wetlands are interrelated. We need to look at the whole thing. Ecological fit – the idea that the health and sustainability of ecosystems depends on how well Acts of Congress are coordinated with Acts of Nature. Goal: long term sustainable productivity and health of nation's ecosystems; improved criteria for selection of ecological fit. We are looking at the impact of USDA and USDI programs on functions performed by restored wetlands in the PPR. Building on a sample of wetlands used in 1997, by the end of the summer we will have collected data on over 500 wetlands. Ecosystem services: biodiversity; water quality; sediment reduction; flood water storage; carbon sequestration; are pushed by ecosystem processes and acts of nature and Congress. About 2.4 percent annual immersion of CO₂ can be stored in an annual wetland. Arnie Kruse, ND Natural Resources Trust – How does carbon sequestration compare to corn and soybeans? Chip Euliss, USGS - Much more. Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust – You get a net carbon loss with corn and soybeans.

CRP Value for Nongame Birds - Larry Igl, USGS, Jamestown, ND (powerpoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

Completed 15 year study of CRP and included all breeding birds not just nongame birds. In pre-settlement times three things affected the landscape: burning, drought, and ???. Since settlements there have been several factors that affect the landscape. Grassland birds can survive in just about any type of landscape. Populations are declining, more than any other species. Eastern

meadowlarks are declining 2.9 percent per year since 1966 (showed several other species). Woodland species are increasing. From the North American Breeding Bird Survey 1966-2002 – Declines in 18 species is significant and increases in 2 species is significant. Converting highly erodible cropland to grassland. CRP three reasons. Background: In four states we have been studying: MN, MT, ND, SD 29 percent of CRP occurs. In 2007, expect to lose about half of CRP acres. Did study of grassland bird populations (showed samples). Most studies done in the past only cover small amounts of time or are restricted to one place, or studies one type of species. NPWRC CRP study initiated in 1990, is ongoing, four states with nine counties total, 30-40 fields/county, 300-370 fields/yr are studied. Covered a variety of practices using a modified transect study. In the early part of the program a paper was published by Doug Johnson and Jay Hestbeck, 73 species of birds used the CRP in 1993, now 130 species. In 1995, Doug Johnson and I produced a paper which asked what would happen if the CRP was converted back to cropland, it showed three species would increase, but most would decline. Study also has to deal with the changes in temporal dynamics, wet/dry cycles. Compared species densities from beginning of the study 1990/1991 to current 1999/2003, and it showed that irruptive species change locations with the change of wet/dry cycles. Also, looked at area sensitivity such as habitat fragmentation, and there are 15 species in 303 fields. A sister study done between 2001 and 2003 were on CRP seeding mixtures, 128 study areas (added IA). Looked at emergency haying and grazing during years of drought and deluge and compared species one and two years after haying. Future and current evaluations: 1) effects of haying and grazing; 2) landscape features; 3) introduced versus native plantings; 4) temporal patterns; 5) tree encroachment into idle CRP fields. Ultimately you want to show that CRP is having some benefit on nongame birds and it does appear to be reversing the decline of some species.

SESSION WRAP-UP

Arnie Kruse, ND Natural Resources Trust – Expense of CRP program was brought up and we showed that for the Midwest that we saved the US money by having the land in CRP rather than cropland (about 1/3 cost). It is very important that you get some economists together and see how much we are saving US taxpayers. One program is the preventive planting program.

Dick Kroger, ND Natural Resources Trust – We are in a non-winnable war unless we can turn this into a permanent program. *Randy Kreil, North Dakota* – The real challenge is to maintain what we have to reach that goal.

Lunch catered by Lewis & Clark Café of Washburn, ND (Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center Deck) – Sponsored by ND Natural Resources Trust

Issues and Opportunities Session - Moderator - Randy Kreil, Conference Chairman, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Silver Carp Biology and Management - Jerry Rasmussen, (MICRA) (powerpoint presentation)
[Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

Bighead Carp introduced in 1972 from China, now in 23 states, typically spawn at river confluences April to June and produce 280,000 to 1 million eggs. Silver Carp introduced in 1973 from China, typically spawn at river confluences May to June producing 145,000-4,300,000 eggs. Concerns include: reproductive potential; grow up to 12 inches a year; compete for food; disrupt commercial fisheries; threaten fishermen, boaters and water skiers with physical injury. Distribution in Mississippi Basin is spreading fast, one bighead carp caught in Texas was 90 pounds. These fish were brought in by fish farmers in the south to control plankton and remove

excess waste in catfish rearing ponds, but escaped captivity and the floods in the 1990s provided the spawning habitat needed. In 1999/2000, Mississippi River backwater fish kills 97 percent bighead and silver carp. There was 5.5 tons in 1994 and 55 tons by 1997 in commercial fish catches. The fish prefer temperature ranges similar to those preferred by yellow perch, salmon, trout, goby and ruffe. Duane Chapman has been studying these fish, at 36 degrees, guts are filled with food, and both fish remain active all winter. Three bighead carp have been reported from the Great Lakes (Erie and Ontario) and a fourth in a fountain in downtown Toronto. It was felt that they are being shipped here as food for Asian ethnic origin people. This causes concern among scientists and fishery managers, because they believe they are buying two, eating one and setting one free for Karma. Fish are entering from the Illinois River going towards the Great Lakes. Prevention is the answer, but something should have been done long ago. Need to tighten importation laws, develop and maintain clean species lists, educate the public about releasing new species; increase fines and penalties for intentional illegal releases; increase regulation on fish farming industry (use Lacey Act); increase regulation of baitfish collection by fishermen (look very similar to gizzard shad); prevent escape through man-made waterways by installing organism barriers, improving water and waste treatments, modify navigation systems; separate watershed through hydraulic pressure; and control (destroy captive stocks, develop pheromones and attractants, develop harvest methods, develop commercial markets, and develop rapid response measures). It is controversial to create a commercial market which would make it an economic issue. Spending millions on control, DNRs, hunters and fishermen paying the bills, should be those who created the problem. Illinois seems to be one of the most impacted areas. Scott Hassett, Wisconsin – What do you mean by holding the industry responsible? Jerry Rasmussen, MICRA – Most of these are not small farmers. Scott Hassett, Wisconsin – Do we know specifically what farms these are coming out of? Jerry Rasmussen, MICRA – Absolutely, they are still selling them down there in Arkansas. Bruce Morrison, Nebraska – Example of lax import laws. This Association, or somebody, needs to get on the import laws and change this. We had a resolution last year in Nebraska, but nothing has been done, we need to send another letter to APHIS. Jerry Rasmussen, MICRA – A letter can be filed away, you need to get right in their face. Claudia Emken, The Nature Conservancy – Fish passage seems to be a problem, what about the COE? Jerry Rasmussen, MICRA – The COE doesn't seem to be very concerned. Mike Conlin, Illinois – What about catfish stockings, could they come in there also? Jerry Rasmussen, MICRA – Could very well be, I hadn't thought of that.

“Train the Trainer” – Law Enforcement Crime Scene Investigation Program - Dr. Richard B. Minnis, Assistant Research Professor Conservation Law Enforcement, Mississippi State University (MSU) (powerpoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]

MSU has been a center for teaching wildlife forensics to Conservation Officers (COs) since 1985 and is an internationally acclaimed program. Concerns include: improper collection, packaging and handling evidence (funded by USFWS Forensic Lab); and the need for equipment and training on how to use it (responses from MD State Police, MS DWFP COs). Training consists of a 3 ½ day course on crime scene forensics as it applies to conservation law enforcement, it is tailored to issues and set up to train trainers to go back and train other employees. Several topics are covered in the course. It is a hands-on course, the participants receive classroom instruction; crime scenes are constructed; officers break into 5 teams; work scenes over the 3 ½ days; work each aspect; complete full documentation; and one scene is conducted at night. Benefits of the program include: receive basic crime scene kit worth \$150; provide lecture materials; practical crime scene experience; practice with documentation; exposure to resources available; minimize common crime scene mistakes. There are two options for states or organizations, the classes can

be conducted at MSU for \$595 per officer (with kits); or local training at \$695 per officer (with kits). It is \$150 less if kits are not included. Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator – If Directors want to take advantage of sending officers to MSU, how much would it cost? Dr. Minnis, MSU – It would be \$595 with kits, and the participant would need to fly in Monday and back on Friday. It is probably more cost effective for us to come to you because you would not have to pay for room and board.

A Report from The International Association of Natural Resources Pilots – Jeff Faught, IANRP Vice President, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

The International Association of Natural Resource Pilots (IANRP) is a group of pilots who utilize aircraft in the field of renewable resources. Their aviation specialties are varied and include aircraft use for forestry, wildlife, and fisheries applications, plus enforcement of natural resource regulations. Each individual has a wealth of knowledge in their particular field, and through the Association they can share their experience and knowledge with others. The organization has 250 members around the world, our website is www.ianrp.org and we also have a quarterly newsletter we send out called ConAero, put out by the University of North Dakota. We hold an annual workshop, this year at ND at Grand Forks, hosted by University of North Dakota and University of Minnesota-Crookston. Interaction between partners is very beneficial. Video of ND and MN aviation departments (video presentation) **[Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]** showing the various jobs done, such as wildlife research and surveys; stocking remote fisheries; law enforcement; flying officials and department staff; sometimes rescue and fire fighting. The pilots are mostly COs, but some are biologists. Association Objectives are: 1) To Promote the recognition of the importance of sound aviation practices in resource management, with safety as the paramount factor. 2) To encourage and develop the educational, social, and economic interests of aviation in resource management. 3) To exchange information on operational techniques and procedures. 4) To utilize member experience to develop and distribute reference materials of interest to the Association. 5) To coordinate, research, and promote new techniques and equipment. 6) To take all action necessary to further the use of aircraft in natural resource management.

The Bowhunting Preservation Alliance – Pat Ruble, Director of Government Relations, Bowhunting Preservation Alliance (BPA)

Foundation sponsored by archery and bowhunting industry, we don't have any members, don't publish newsletters or magazines, and don't do any fund raising. Funding comes from the archery and bowhunting industry. I was hired last March and our sole purpose is to work with state fish and wildlife organizations to implement projects to recruit and retain bowhunters and archers. We used DU guidelines as the basis for our guidelines for BPA. We are looking to come up with a document of projects that could be implemented over the next 3 – 5 years and are working with a small number of states to begin with and are looking for other states that are interested. The first Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with IA, working with MN, MI, OH and others to complete MOUs. Hope to get archery ranges built, especially in urban areas. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – What about the use of Crossbows? Pat Ruble, BPA – Ohio has a large number of crossbow hunters, exceeded longbow hunters by the mid 1980s, 30,000 deer were harvested by crossbow, 20,000 by longbow. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – We have two groups in opposition over the use of crossbows? Pat Ruble, BPA – You will, we have 20 years of experience with crossbow hunters. Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin – Are you looking for partners or can they come to you if we are interested? Pat Ruble, BPA – Either, mostly we are making the contacts. If we can show the public that we are using the funds to further the sport, I think that will help. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – The program KY is using, dealing with archery in

the schools, how do you interface with them? Pat Ruble, BPA – It already has, we have made \$150,000 available for Roy Grimes to use to set up the program in the states [**Get “Archery in the Schools” information from Roy Grimes, Kentucky**]. We are working on a website, which is not completely available yet. We are concerned that the kids going through that program (archery in the schools) don’t go on and go hunting because they don’t know where to go, that is why we set up the website. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Tom Bennett stated they have a national event and stated about 34 percent of kids that have gone through the program actually purchase licenses. We are interested if there is money available to get this program started.

Break

Prairie Grouse Management Plan Proposal, Jim Mosher, Executive Director, and Stephanie Harmon, USFWS, Science Advisor of North American Grouse Partnership

Jim Mosher, NAGMP - This program is four years old and has been run completely by volunteers, until February of this year when I agreed to become Executive Director. The partnership is comprised of talented grouse biologists interested in preserving grouse and their huntable status. When discussing listing of peregrine falcon, we decided grouse could be next and this organization was formed. USFWS provided a grant, which our Board matched, that got us off the ground. We recently received a second grant that we still need to match, to get a study going. Stephanie Harmon of the USFWS and Rick Baydeck, of the University of Manitoba are here to speak about the program.

Stephanie Harmon, USFWS – (powerpoint presentation) [**Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website**]. We need to connect dots to see why, and how, we plan to obtain our goal. Grouse are in trouble throughout North America (NA). Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC) is an ESA candidate; Greater Prairie Chicken (GPC) is listed as a species of concern; Attwater’s Prairie Chicken is ESA listed; Sharp-tailed Grouse is petitioned, but not listed for ESA; Gunnison Sage Grouse is an ESA candidate; and Greater Sage Grouse has the momentum being listed because of grassland issues. There are eleven grouse species in all and this plan will be a policy document to support self-sustaining and harvestable populations of all grouse species throughout NA. You can still take a listed species as long as there is a benefit to that species. Wrote draft document or prospectus with several component efforts including the needs [**You may obtain copies of prospectus from North American Grouse Partnership**]: prairie grouse need vast landscapes (20,000 acres); requires cross-jurisdictional coordination (facilitated plan like NA Waterfowl Mgmt Plan); plan must support all bird conservation; plan must help coordinate existing state, federal, provincial, and private efforts (including Farm Bill); and other grassland species will benefit from grouse conservation. Grasslands species are the most endangered. Need continental grassland inventory database (need to quantify amount of threat and areas – lose native grassland to western red cedar every day); fund for standardized, comprehensive, long-term grouse population monitoring (lek surveys work if done during right part of day in robust populations, [showed trends]); coordinate implementation of existing programs that affect grasslands (CRP can help areas recover if using native grass); political and regulatory authority to protect (GRP does not allow for wind turbine development); and need conservation incentive funding.

Rick Baydeck, University of Manitoba, Canada – Pleased with populations in Canada. Season starts in 59 days and can take 6 birds per day of sharp-tailed, spruce grouse, ruffed grouse, in a 3-day hunting season, a total of 18 birds. Canada supports NAGMP because finally there is an effort to coordinate provincial plans and initiatives; prairie restoration complements (PHJV) and trilateral grassland strategy; Forestry and Mining interests are encouraged by having a place at the table; Sharptails Plus and other sporting groups have rallied behind the effort; restoration and management of populations; ecosystem-based habitat management strategies; development of

Grouse Management Partnerships; standardized protocols for range-wide monitoring; landscape level planning; and population and habitat research. Recommendations are to standardize and upgrade surveys; consistent harvest monitoring; establish key linkages between habitat and population variables; and research. Habitat recommendations include: ecosystem-based, large landscape approach; restoration, enhancement, conservation and protection; inventory and monitoring; and research.

Jim Mosher, NAGMP – The plan is located at www.grousepartners.org/plandraft and if you review the plan, we would welcome feedback. You can send that to me at jim.mosher@grousepartners.org

John Blankenship, USFWS – Key with sage grouse is 55 percent of population on federal land, no management, are you ready to get into that? Jim Mosher, NAGMP – Worked with Izaak Walton League (IKES) in the past and have formed partnerships with BLM and other federal partners. Also, working with NRCS on the Farm Bill.

National Fisheries Habitat Initiative – Doug Hansen, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department (powerpoint presentation) [**Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website**]

Think fish habitat and then apply what the previous speakers said to this. The PowerPoint presentation was put together by Eric Schwaab. What is the National Fish Habitat Initiative? National protection of fish habitat by implementing strategy that brings national focus, broad strategies and adequate funding. Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council was asked by IAFWA to come up with a recommendation “A Partnership Agenda for Fisheries Conservation (2002)”. USFWS adopted a leading role, but several partners are involved. Aquatic habitat is being lost or destroyed and without intervention will continue at an ever-increasing rate and will have dire consequences. Since 1900, 123 species have gone extinct, we have to address our habitat. In 2001, 82 million Americans spent \$108 billion on recreation, fishing alone was almost \$36 billion. We think that if we continue to piecemeal this at regional and local levels it won’t have the effect needed and we can deal more effectively with national issues. We need to work on water quality and quantity issues, quantify habitat needs, increase and broaden public support and track progress and achieve measurable results. Hope this can provide a framework to promote collaboration; leverage funding sources; enhance relationships; and create ongoing national congressional recognition of the problem. We looked at the NA Waterfowl Management Plan to use for a model. We can develop a national plan that has national focus; capitalizes on existing mechanisms, incentives and explore new strategies; measures progress and communicates success; is geographically focused and locally based; is scientifically sound; and fosters partnerships. Start with a national view that rolls down to regional and local plans where dollars, and technical assistance trickles down, and information trickles back up to the national plan. Incentive programs could include tax breaks, easements, etc. We could provide technical assistance where needed. Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council advises USFWS on conservation issues and has held four stakeholder meetings and the fifth meeting will be held next week in conjunction with the Western Association meeting, they will then put together a report. IAFWA has taken an interest in the plan and Eric Schwaab represents the state interests. American Fisheries Society (AFS), and USFWS (lead federal partner) are some of the other partners. Website is www.fishhabitat.org

Eric Schwaab, IAFWA – Can get access to this program and a white paper we have developed. Show economic and social perspectives of this plan. Over-fishing is the fisheries management we are going to face in the 21st century. Dealing with watersheds is a lot of what this plan is about nationally. The AFS workshop is on August 22, at their annual meeting in Madison and we need strong state participation. It will be extremely critical to the success of this initiative.

State Wildlife Grants – *Paul Schmidt, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Dean Hildebrand and Mike McKenna – North Dakota Game and Fish Department* (powerpoint presentation) **[Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]**

Paul Schmidt, USFWS – A key partnership opportunity for the USFWS and state Fish and Wildlife agencies. Director has a vision, a plan where states become major partners in wildlife conservation on national basis; USFWS will help provide knowledge and expertise as requested by states; USFWS employees informed about state planning process and are knowledgeable in the roles that the Service can play in the development and implementation of strategies/plans (CWCSs). The blueprint for wildlife conservation will be national and will provide the impetus for additional Congressional support; and will increase potential for sustaining healthy populations and keep species off of the endangered species list. In 2001, there was a glimpse of this in the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program, commitment to develop a strategy by October 2005 to be eligible; In 2002, 2003 and 2004, State (and Tribal) Wildlife Grants Program strategy also due October 2005. There are eight essential elements to make this happen. IAFWA and Teaming with Wildlife have carried the ball on this. In 2003 and 2004, created Conservation Wildlife Teams to help states, now have 13 people on team, Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota is your representative and Mike McKenna has also been at the workshops. Ron Regan is on the team and I am the head of the Team. This is like a football team and the states are the quarterbacks, it is not just for the states, but the resources within those states. We work across state lines, provide resources and contacts with field service staff at regional, field or national levels. The National Acceptance Advisory Team (NAAT) is to review the 56 CWCSs to see they meet the eight critical elements and submit them to Steve Williams. If any state fails, it is a failure by the USFWS also. Development Assistance Teams were formed to sustain the Teaming with Wildlife Work Group and work with state, federal and NGO partners during the next 15 – 18 months. The National Acceptance Advisory Team (NAAT) charter is now complete and we will be attending the one-year-out conference in Nebraska in August.

Mike McKenna, NDGF – The key thing is to look at documents and generate questions for review. *Glen Salmon, Indiana* – How much time are you given to review each plan? *Eric*

Schwaab, USFWS – A day for each plan. Need each state to come up with an executive summary. *Claudia Emken, TNC* – Disappointed in presentation that it took so long to mention NGO involvement. *Eric Schwaab, USFWS* – My oversight, we have asked and reached out to them and they have been an integral part to this.

The Missouri River- Yellowstone River Confluence Project - *Keith Trego and Merle Bennet, North Dakota Natural Resources Trust*

Keith Trego, ND Natural Resources Trust – The partnerships and coordination that went into doing long-term conservation work in this state has been a huge hurdle because of state laws. We got approval last Friday, from the Governor's office, to do this acquisition. Includes cultural, historical and many other aspects. We have only six people on the Trust. State law says that Wetland Reserve Programs (WRPs) can only be 30 years, but can be forever everywhere else.

Merle Bennet, ND Natural Resources Trust (powerpoint presentation) (powerpoint presentation) **[Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website]**

In 1806, L&C made their return trip, one surveying Yellowstone drainage, one the Missouri drainage and met up at the confluence in McKenzie County, a few miles inside the North Dakota line. A few years ago a landowner decided to sell a large chunk of land in this area. In 1866, Fort Buford was established, supply fort for Battle of Little Big Horn, Fort Union established in 1883, surrendered to army in 1886. We took a look at all of the wildlife resources in this area, prime paddle fishing and the best habitat for endangered pallid sturgeon, sicklefin chub and sturgeon

chub. Also, people come from all over to hunt whitetails in this area. Piping plover and least terns, which are on the endangered species list, also are in this area. The ND State Historical Society completed a \$2 million visitor center on the north bank of the confluence. The Och's property is the property we looked at purchasing first, and then the Neu property. They are both in the area of the visitor center and a boat ramp. The Neu property is 490 acres, including 55 acres of wetland, 360 acres of woodland/ grassland and 75 acres of cropland. Started looking for funding because of the value of the land, spoke to Conservation Fund folks and they also agreed to help with the purchase of the Och's property. USFWS helped get Section 6 money and NRCS helped with the Wetland Reserve Program (the existing landowner signed up for the WRP program and will transfer that to us when we purchase the ground), and that provides 75 percent of cost-share on restoration; and special allocation of \$1 million. American Foundation for Wildlife, a North Dakota fund raising group, provided project funds and can hold the title for acquisition. North Dakota Game and Fish provided a nonfederal match for Section 6 monies, and will accept land in fee title which will eventually be turned over to them. In ND we have to go through local and state government to get approval, agencies such as the County Water Board; County Commissioners; local Legislators; Natural Areas Acquisition Advisory Commission and the Governor. Last November the Neu land was purchased. The Ochs property is 997 acres, with 110 wetland acres, 655 woodland/grassland acres, and 232 cropland acres. The land is under option to purchase and we got approval from the Governor on Friday. We hope to get this soon and have looked at a few other small pieces of land in the area. It took a long time to come up with a fair price on the Ochs property, use unmatched dollars on Neu purchase as match, and obtained partners for additional nonfederal dollars. NAWCA grants have been best money, offering a 1:1 nonfederal match. There are 16 partners and contributors in all, the largest partnership ever. We have leveraged \$2,028,048 in federal funds and protected 1,487 acres of prime property.

*Social – Music by Heart River Band – Sponsored by North Dakota Action Group
Chicken and Ribs Barbecue catered by Best Western Seven Seas Inn of Bismarck/Mandan, ND
Sponsored by Pheasants Forever*

TUESDAY JULY 13th

Breakfast Buffet catered by Radisson Hotel (*Picasso/DaVinci Rooms*) Sponsored by **Delta Waterfowl** – Presentation by *Rob Olson*, Delta Waterfowl

MAFWA BUSINESS MEETING - (*Rembrandt Room*)

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota called the meeting to order, all states were present, except Kentucky, who left early. No Canadian provinces.

Approval of 2003 Annual Meeting Minutes

Steve Gray, Ohio moved to approve, **Scott Hassett, Wisconsin** second. Minutes approved.

Treasurers' Report - *Joe Kramer, KS Dept. of Wildlife and Parks*

Audit Committee headed up by ND, MI and IA. Standard statement given by body of Midwest, switched from calendar year to fiscal year a few years back which makes it hard to get final report to Audit Committee in time for review. Total assets beginning \$230,776.89. Merrill Lynch beginning \$40,660.45, now \$44,819.54, will discuss this fund later. Working assets \$190,116.44;

annual dues - \$4,500.00; affiliate dues - \$550.00; Nebraska conference- \$5,672.70; North Dakota conference - \$8,250.00; Interest - \$6,900.32 for total receipts of \$25,873.02. Disbursements: NE conference expenses - \$8,883.99; Sheila - \$103.00; ND conference expenses - \$1,000.00; Parsons - \$133.58; Coordinator expenses - \$2,862.93; Website development - \$550.15; UPS - \$137.04; Dan's Safe and Lock - \$6.00; Uhlik Music - \$49.96; DJ Case - \$500.00 for total disbursements of \$14,226.65. This leaves working assets of \$201,762.81, plus the estimated value of Merrill Lynch of \$44,819.54 for total assets of \$246,582.35.

Joel Brunsvold, Illinois moved to accept report, Larry Nelson, Minnesota, second. Report approved.

Audit Committee Report - *Joe Kramer, KS Dept. of Wildlife and Parks*

Discussed treasurer's report with Audit Committee, Randy Kreil, Jeff Vonk and Rebecca Humphries (who replaced George Burgoyne). Audit Committee accepted report and final balance of \$246,582.35. **Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, moved to accept report, Keith Sexson, Kansas second to approve. Report approved.**

Jaschek Fund Report – *Joe Kramer, KS Dept. of Wildlife and Parks*

A brief history of Jaschek fund for those of you who are new to the Midwest meetings. Walter Anton Jaschek left roughly \$209,000 to the Association and also left Audubon and Ducks Unlimited each \$209,000. He did not have a lot of heirs, had a niece that did not end up with the money. Steve Miller, Wisconsin, tried to find out more about the gentleman, but was unsuccessful. Need to try to put together a brochure or something about this. He lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and lived in a modest house worth less than \$50,000. The Midwest Association has used the funds for CARA, Teaming with Wildlife, and has helped do the work that we do. Currently we have five CDs and they are only making about 2 percent, a couple of them are still making about 4 percent, but when they roll over we will probably not get the higher percentage. The cash in the savings account is the interest from the fund. Also, the checking account is healthy, but only reflects dues collected (none of the Jaschek money is in this account). We have been with Merrill Lynch for over five years and the money could come out at any time without a penalty. As you see it is down by about \$6,000 from the original \$50,000 invested there. *Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota* – That money made this organization much more successful. There are a lot of suggestions of what can be done with the money, but I feel we can increase affiliate membership dues, state membership dues, and increase registration rates to raise additional funds. *Joe Kramer, Kansas* – The board previously decided to lock in the principle and only spend down the interest.

Executive Director Position – *Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota*, (asked Ollie to leave the room)

I appointed Doug Hansen to come up with a method of hiring and funding the position. *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – I think we owe it to Mr. Jaschek, to all pronounce his name in one way. Our group had several discussions and came up with four statements: 1) desire to build MAFWA; 2) experienced Coordinator critical; 3) states willing to pay special assessment of \$2,500 each; 4) use Jaschek Trust fund. The Committee felt that funding this position falls under the Jaschek Guidelines as they now stand. We would like to offer Ollie Torgerson a contract at \$33 per hour, not to exceed 1,000 hours for a total of \$33,000 and travel expenses of \$5,000. Wisconsin has decided to house him and we don't feel like the office expense should cost us. *Mike Conlin, Illinois* – How will Wisconsin handle office expenses? *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – They will donate the space and others have agreed to provide clerical help. *John Hoskins, Missouri* – We will provide support electronically. *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – Came up with three options to pay for this using some of the Jaschek Trust money. Under Option

1, state assessments would be \$21,000 and \$17,000 would come from the Jaschek Trust. Assuming the interest remains the same we make about \$7,000 a year. Self directed benevolence. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – I think a two year contract ought to be part of the proposal. We need to explore and find a more permanent solution to this funding. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – It is my understanding this is a two year contract, but there is a 30 day escape clause in the contract. In Option 2 there would be more from the states and less from the Jaschek fund, which would draw down the account only about \$4,000. Option 3 would rely even less on the Jaschek fund. The Committee recommends Option 1 which would require a special assessment of \$1,500 per state. We didn't get into any alternatives such as dues increases. I would like to thank Jeff Vonk, Iowa; Joe Kramer, Kansas; and Rex Amack, Nebraska for their help on this Committee. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Need to vote on this and it is my hope that we could initiate a contract with Ollie by the end of the day. **Motion to accept Option 1, by Doug Hansen, South Dakota, second Keith Sexson, Kansas.** Discussion – John Hoskins, Missouri – Under the proposal there is no mention of a two year contract. Amendment should read “September 1, 2004 – August 31, 2006 (24 months). Either party may terminate the contract upon 30 days notice. The Coordinator's work performance shall be reviewed, evaluated, and reported to the Executive Committee during July 2005. Review of terms of said contract as a vehicle for future years, shall be considered and negotiated by the Executive Committee between July 1 and October 1, 2005.” Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – A one year contract, then an evaluation and an offer of a second year. **John Hoskins, Missouri moved to amend proposal, Rebecca Humphries, Michigan, second.** Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – Will amounts change after the first year? John Hoskins, Missouri – No, same amount offered for second year. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – What is the final long term? Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Two years. **Amendment carries. Rex Amack, Nebraska moved acceptance of proposal as amended, Larry Nelson, Minnesota second.**

Jaschek Guidelines Re-Write Committee Report – Randy Kreil, North Dakota

As we began the process of rewriting the guidelines we were on hold until we were sure what we were going to do with the Coordinator position and now we know so we will begin the rewrite.

Investments Committee – Doug Hansen, South Dakota

I am not an investment person, but I have handed out a brief report that was handed out to the Executive Committee. You will see the gift listed there. The decision was made that basically 75 percent would go into short term investments, the CDs, and 25 percent would go into long term investments, the Merrill Lynch account. As you can see we did not make any money on the Merrill Lynch stocks. The CDs have made approximately \$77,000 in interest and the \$50,000 put into Merrill Lynch is only worth about \$44,000. I spoke with a firm in South Dakota, I am not related and they are not friends, but they are very active in natural resources funds and they handle our state trust funds. I asked them for a proposal. The first question they asked was whether we had a formal Investment Policy Statement and I told him that we had a basic policy. He asked what our goals were and my first recommendation is that we develop a formal Investment Policy Statement to cover our goals, etc. Feel Investment Committee should work on a draft for this. Our second recommendation is that we transfer the Jaschek fund to an investment management group that offers a more active investment service. They can do periodic reviews and rebalance our assets and invest in CDs and short term bonds. It is our recommendation that we shop around and transfer funds from Merrill Lynch to a firm that can actively manage our funds consistent with the policy and goals we set up. It would be prudent to set up basic specifications and there is a fee involved. We will then come back to the Executive Committee with three other plans. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – I don't know how risky you want to be. Dean

Hildebrand, North Dakota – We have to decide what level of risk we want to engage in, 60 percent into safe low risk (bonds and CDs) and 40 percent into long term, more risky stocks. One other aspect of this firm is that they can manage all of your funds and you can write checks and they can transfer funds electronically. More research needs to be done. Glen Salmon, Indiana – What you are asking for is approval to take the money out of the Merrill Lynch fund and move to firm approved by the Executive Committee? Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Yes, we hope that we can have a report by the September IAFWA meeting. We will pull out the other funds as they mature. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Joe and Sheila this could aid in your work by offering a one-shop-stop service. **Joel Brunsvold, Illinois, moved to accept report, Glen Salmon, Indiana, second. Report approved.**

Resolutions Committee

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Tim Bremicker, who is the Chair of the Resolutions Committee, is not here, but Larry Nelson, Minnesota, has volunteered to take his place as Chair. Please send in resolutions to Larry. Larry Nelson, Minnesota – I have two resolutions in front of me, but as a committee we have not had a chance to meet since I have just been appointed. One will not take any discussion, but one may need some discussion.

Kirk Nelson, Nebraska – There is a resolution from Nebraska regarding “Resolution in support of separate budget line items to distinguish Missouri River endangered species compliance, infrastructure projects, and bank stabilization efforts” and asks for support to again contact the COE for states on the Missouri River. The attached letter was signed by several states. We feel the COE is trying to use all of the monies on pallid sturgeon and trying to blend these funds and that is not what Congress intended and we are not sure that what they are doing is legal. Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado – The Midwest should not do business on Montana’s behalf since they are not in this Association, feel we need to contact them. **Jeff Vonk, Iowa moved to pass the resolution, Rex Amack, Nebraska, second. John Hoskins, Missouri** – I suggest we remove Montana from the letter. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Strike Montana from signers of resolution. **Motion carried.**

Larry Nelson, Minnesota – One more resolution, thanking North Dakota for hosting the conference. **Larry Nelson, Minnesota moved to pass resolution, Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, second. Motion carries.** Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We appreciate the resolution.

Keith Sexson, Kansas – We also have a draft resolution on behalf of MICRA and Jerry Rasmussen. Doug Nygren would like to address this group. Randy Kreil, North Dakota – A resolution that passes here goes onto IAFWA and that may be better than a letter. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Not sure that would happen. John Baughman, IAFWA – You would have to move that and send it to me and I will take care of that. Doug Nygren, Kansas – “Resolution to Support National Screening Process for Exotic Introductions into the United States”. We urge IAFWA to implement a clean species list as stated in letter sent by MICRA (attached to resolution). Steve Gray, Ohio, moved to pass the resolution, Glen Salmon, Indiana, second. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I think we should defer action for a few minutes while we have an opportunity to look at this. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Suggestion to Doug Nygren that Water Resources Committee has addressed this in the past and feel he should bring this to that committee also and we will take it to the IAFWA. Bruce Morrison, Nebraska – Similar to motion passed last year in Omaha, may want to change that to fish and wildlife invasive species to cover all species. Keith Sexson, Kansas – If we passed wildlife on one in a previous session, we need to revisit that. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – Not have too many resolutions, but let’s keep specific. John Hoskins, Missouri – Have Randy refer to edits. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Where is the resolution we passed last year? Bruce Morrison, Nebraska – It went to APHIS, USFWS and others, Nebraska was contacted by APHIS and told that there would be a review

and I will meet with them later. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Please report back to us on this and you can kick start that other resolution (from last year) and report back to us. **John Hoskins, Missouri, moved to pass resolution as changed, Keith Sexson, Kansas second. Motion approved.**

Executive Director (continued)

Jeff Vonk, Iowa – Ollie is in favor of all but the one year. I am in favor of changing this to a two-year with a one year review. **Jeff Vonk, Iowa, moved to amend period of contract to two years with an option to renew, all other items to remain the same, Rex Amack, Nebraska, second. Motion carried.**

Awards Committee – Glen Salmon, Indiana

The past president's award is presented to Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota. Asked him to give out two other awards. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota - No one can over state the importance of Dick Bishop to the Midwest, gave an award for 23 years of commitment as he is retiring this year. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota presented award. Dick Bishop, Iowa – The thing that will bother me the most is seeing all of you, but I am going to love the freedom I will have. I will miss working with all of you. It is most exciting to see the attendance you have here now, just two years ago the group was considerably smaller. I think it is important to keep your programs up or you can lose it as fast as you have gained it. Pleased to see rejuvenation of the Midwest. Glen Salmon, Indiana – The next award we have for dedicated service is for George Burgoyne Jr. who is not here and we can have Rebecca come up and receive this award for George who also retired this year. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Kirk Nelson and Sheila Kemmis for their help on this. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I would like to thank Glen for all of the awards that we are going to be giving. May want to add a Jaschek award to the new awards you presented before. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Those new awards include one traveling trophy and several individual awards. We went over what the other Association's have and came up with the list we presented. We will accept this in new business later.

Approval of Affiliate Memberships – Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator, Missouri

I would like to express my gratification and support of my position in the Association. It is an honor to serve you and work with John Baughman at IAFWA and the other regional coordinators. I won't let you down. One of the jobs I had was to build affiliate members. It was interesting that the NA Grouse Partnership said they were going to affiliate with us. I did not know that the Bowhunting Alliance had applied for affiliation, Pat Ruble sent it to Randy and he approved their bylaws. We have ten new affiliates that have applied for membership in the Association, they are: Bowhunting Preservation Alliance; American Sportfishing Association; Ducks Unlimited; Izaak Walton League; MICRA; The Nature Conservancy; National Shooting Sports Foundation; National Wild Turkey Federation; Pheasants Forever; and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Thanks Ollie for going out after these. I would charge you to find affiliates in your state and to send any suggestions to Ollie to pick up as many affiliates as we can and think about increasing dues in the future. Also, I would ask Ollie to continue working on finding affiliates. **Steve Gray, Ohio, moved to accept the new affiliate members, Larry Nelson, Minnesota, second. Motion passed.** Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator – I have certificates for new affiliate members.

Break - Sponsored by ND Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Prairie Grouse – Jim Mosher, NAGMP

The North American plan is a prospectus and the larger plan will be comprised of other species. We believe WMI is beginning to move on grouse. At March meeting, we were awarded a \$200,000 grant on prairie grouse (\$100,000 with \$100,000 match). In kind contribution would be greatly appreciated, but we need cash also. There are a number of Western states also involved and they will also be hearing from us. I know a lot of you are putting together your state conservation plans and I hope to get grouse in those plans. I have one last copy of 2003 annual report for Ollie and we would like an application from Midwest for membership.

MAFWA Coordinator Report – Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator, Missouri

Last time we met in North Dakota was in 1985 and I have a photo of who attended. Only myself and Joe Kramer in the photo, the rest are not here. I have a mailing list we need corrected that I am passing around. Also, sending around MAFWA work plan 2003-04. Developed a NCN for coordinator funding, spent quite a lot of time on this even though it did not get approved. Did not have an opportunity to work on “state of the state” reports. Broaden involvement of directors and outside groups, e.g. NGO’s, federal agencies, etc., in MAFWA activities, which we have done. EXCOM and coordinator should personally network with the above groups inviting their involvement (have 10 Directors here and more federal agencies than ever before and 10 new NGOs). There was 122 registrations and I think Ohio should plan for 150 people. We are about to launch a MAFWA website and Kirk Keller, Missouri, has set up an interactive website for the other Associations, IAFWA and all Committee chairs to update their own reports. Asked to look for State Director liaisons for all Committees, Joel Brunsvold, Illinois, volunteered for the Pheasant Group and Jeff Vonk, Iowa volunteered for the Prairie Grouse Technical Group. I am still looking for someone for the furbearer group. Helped plan this conference and will go to Ohio to help them. Worked on Jaschek fund enhancement program. Also, working on possible new logo and will talk about that later in meeting. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I am sending around the Executive Director contract for review.

CITIES Report – Carolyn Caldwell, CITES Representative, Missouri

Four issues of importance to Midwest. 1) Deletion of Lynx Rufus from Appendix II list. 2) Appendix II export process (one not listing dates on tags, 28 states will not have a year designation on them. Got results from statewide survey which I provided. 3) Solicited for comments on alligator snapping turtles and map turtles and we would like to add those two species to Appendix III (only monitors trade). 4) Multi-state grant application submitted for CITES team, best relationship with USFWS we have ever had. I will represent you to the best of my abilities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Private Lands – Greg Link, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Proceedings of meeting will be handed out in the fall. We talked a lot about CRP and talked about strategies for 2007 and the ramifications of that turn over and the acres. Got a good run down of the Farm Bill issues from Dave Walker, IAFWA and Dave Nomsen, Pheasants Forever. Had Senator Conrad come in the last day and had him speak about legislation that would be coming up. Giving Directors a heads up on activities we are working on. Recommendations: 1) Encourage each state to put one FTE in charge of Farm Bill issues, agricultural lands are a large amount of the acres of Midwest states and influence wildlife. Very few states have staff dedicated to Farm Bill issues. Each state will benefit from each state having that person. 2) Secure a nonfederal IAFWA position for policy development and need to forward this to the other three Associations. In 1999, the Directors of the Midwest realized the need for a position

which is currently held by Dave Walker. A multi-state grant was secured for two more years, but this is not a long term funding source. 3) Encourage the Midwest, via a letter, to encourage private landowners to open their property for recreation, “Open Fields” SB 1840 and HB 1382. Hope this will help states without a program get one started. Have each state get hold of their state legislators to get their support. 4) Haven’t utilized CRP allocation and don’t want to see us lose that. Encourage regular sign up and have all Midwest states write a letter to Secretary Veneman. Bush is recommitting his support of CRP, but didn’t see 29th sign-up happen this spring. Need to send the letter to Secretary Veneman. 5) Midwest President needs to send a letter to WMI Board for continued support to us because they are such a valuable asset to us. Other key items that will be happening are: 1) Full conservation title of the Farm Bill. 2) Need to seek out economic data to make people aware of benefits of CRP. 3) Broad based coalitions for support of Farm Bill. Last year WMI helped start that. 4) Environmental Index (EBI) is ever revolving, suggest modifications, such as nesting issue. 7) Direct FSA to work on county rental rates. 8) Webpage for Farm Bill network, would like a communication network set up again. Maybe through Teddy Roosevelt Conservation group. 9) Support of WHIP program in states, get proper dialog to ensure effective delivery and application. 10) Use USDA programs. Next meeting will be in Ohio, Luke Miller will be chairman. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Ask for approval of report and ask that we send letters as requested. **Keith Sexson moved to accept report, John Hoskins, Missouri, second. Motion carried.** Greg Link, North Dakota – Also, have Jeff Vonk’s proposal to query Congressional delegates, letter drafted. Ken Herring, Iowa – Handing out letter of draft outline of Conservation Policy Questions from MAFWA. Asked several questions and invited them to attend IAFWA and respond to Dean. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – Letter is good, do staff know who Fish and Wildlife agencies are? They may not know the states that belong. Is there some way we can identify the importance of us. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We will send these to all of the other Associations and IAFWA and ask IAFWA to follow up with these to the staffers. I think they all know who the IAFWA is and feel they can make that stronger. John Hoskins, Missouri – Clarify first paragraph from 14 states to “14 state agencies”, fourth paragraph should say “State Agency Directors”. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – I am going to take this letter and make sure the Kerry campaign knows who they are dealing with. This should get some follow up. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – I support the effort to take the bold step forward, unsure about paragraph four, to invite them to the meeting, don’t know if we have that right, it is not our meeting. Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator – Dave Walker wrote it. Dave Walker, IAFWA – We had a discussion about that and we can follow that up with a letter from the IAFWA. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – This should be put on the Executive Committee agenda. Larry Nelson, Minnesota – I suggest the opening line should be “the purpose of the letter is to get a statement of your position on...”. Reorder the letter a little bit and conclude with “we expect to hear back from you by...”. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – We are going to have to get a little bit political here and let them know who is sending this letter. Glen Salmon, Indiana – Can we approve this draft in theory and send the final out for comments to save time. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Ollie, please write that for my signature and send out to all Directors and other Associations for their input. Jeff Vonk, Iowa – This letter needs to go out as soon as possible, Monday would be fine, but not much later than that. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – It is up to you to respond as soon as possible. **Joel Brunsvold, Illinois, moved to send letter, Jeff Vonk, Iowa, second. Motion carried.**

Public Lands – Scott Peterson, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department hosted the Public Lands Working Committee (PLWC) on May 4-6, 2004 at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center near Washburn, ND. Once again the meeting was very productive and informative and the various discussion topics

included many issues affecting public land management in the Midwest. Attendees for all, or parts, of the 2004 meeting included the following: Robert Barbee-Kansas; Pat Brandon-Kentucky; Jennifer Windus-Ohio; Bill Bean-Indiana; Daylan Figgs-Nebraska; Paul Coughlin-South Dakota; Scott Peterson-North Dakota; Dean Hildebrand-Director, North Dakota; Dan Halstead-North Dakota;

Bruce Renhowe-North Dakota; and Kent Luttschwager-North Dakota. OLD BUSINESS - Item 1, NEPA Concerns:

During the 2001 meeting, three letters were generated to Attorney General Ashcroft, Dale Bosworth, Chief USFS and Steve Williams, Director USFWS. To date no response has been received. Rob Manes indicated that the International assigned a committee to review the Midwest Director's concern that NEPA can be a barrier to management and is used by some groups to stop management activities especially on Federal Lands. No status report has yet been received from the committee. **Action Item: The PLWC would like to reiterate that this is still a valid concern and that since the International has assigned a committee to review the Midwest Director's NEPA concerns, the PLWC is still interested in the findings of the International Committee.**

Item 2, Shooting Ranges: Shooting ranges on public land have apparently been a discussion item at past meetings and were once again discussed at length. All states recognize the necessity of ranges and support their construction on and off public lands. The PLWC discussed the possible development of a status report on shooting ranges on public lands which would help establish recommendations and guidelines for the development and operation of shooting ranges on public lands. **Action Item: The PLWC is still waiting for feedback from the Director's on what they feel the importance of this report is. Scott Peterson will contact the North Dakota Hunter Education Coordinator to see what current recommendations/ regulations are in place and will distribute a copy of these to the PLWC members.**

Item 3, Prescribed Fire Training: The PLWC is interested in investigating the availability of Prescribed Fire Training courses. The PLWC would further like to develop a guidance document outlining suggested training and information needs for prescribed fire planning documents. **Action Item: The International currently has information on this already but fire training is not always tailored to the states in the Midwest. Each committee member is to develop a status report on what their respective training requirements are and planning documents that they require. This is to be done by July 13, 2004.**

Item 4, Illegal Activities Training: This issue addresses the status of state's review of staff training and implementation of period training on the topic of illegal activities, such as methamphetamine production, on public lands. **Action Item: Continue exploring possibilities for training in these areas and encourage participation by public land managers. Also encourage Director's to explore and monitor training opportunities for this type of illegal activity and provide opportunities for staff to attend this type of training where practical.**

Item 5, West Nile Virus (WNV): This issue pertains to dealing with requests for mosquito control on public lands. **Action Item: Continue to provide factual information to the public on WNV and continue to assist with sampling and monitoring of WNV occurrence.**

Item 6, Compatible Uses of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs): This issue pertains to how states are dealing with the increase in requests for public use on WMAs. Some of these uses may be considered incompatible in certain instances including geocaching, horse back riding, dog training, etc... **Action Item: Jennifer Windus (Ohio) will provide the group with information from Federal Aid on their policy regarding these types of activities. Each committee member is to also send each of the other committee members an electronic copy of their state's WMA Public Use Regulations. Each of the states represented at this meeting have agreed to exchange information on their public use policy and regulations.**

Item 7, Discussion on Baiting Regulations: None of the states represented at the meeting allow baiting on their public lands with the exception of North Dakota which is currently in the process

of amending their regulations to prohibit baiting on their WMAs. **No action required.** NEW BUSINESS - Budget Cutbacks and Alternative Funding: Alternative funding sources for use on WMA management and discussion on various avenues being used/or considered in other states. Secondary Uses: If secondary uses of WMAs conflicts with the primary use, we may be in violation with our Federal Aid Mandates. This applies to Nature Base Tourism activities, dog trials/training, bike trails etc... Dealing with increased pressure for competing uses of WMAs was a common theme among the states represented at the meeting. Demonstration Areas on WMAs: Nature areas, interpretive areas, what other types of activities are allowed on WMAs? Some of the states have developed some demonstration areas such as native prairie demonstration areas that do provide some self-interpretive information while also providing some educational benefits. Indiana Bat Guidelines: Bill Bean expressed concern about how Indiana Bat guidelines, laws, and regulations are enforced. Specifically how this relates to which trees can be cut and during which period they can be cut. Any tree which is three inches or greater can not be cut during maternity roosting periods. The existing regulations are effectively restricting timber management activities on WMA in Indiana. No action was identified. Discussion followed relating to other restrictions on timber management. Managing More Land Without Increase in Resources: Self explanatory. Future Meetings: Discussion on future meeting rotation. The 2005 PLWC meeting is to be hosted by Ohio, 2006 possibly South Dakota? Scott Peterson will inquire about getting an updated meeting schedule from Dean Hildebrand, ND Game and Fish Department Director (needs to talk to Dean). Meeting Attendance: One of the items of major concern by all in attendance continues to be the relatively poor representation on the PLWC by certain states. Approximately half of the states represented in the Midwest were in attendance at this meeting. We will work on updating agency email and snail mail addresses. This will be used to both send the meeting minutes from the PLWC and to strongly encourage better participation in future meetings. Need action items dealt with: NEPA concerns? Has that been addressed? Tom Niebauer – Trust Fund and Work Group of IAFWA approved by Association’s annual meeting. Final Report “NEPA for federal aid” discussed with Mitch King and verbally shared with Steve Williams. There are some creative suggestions in there. Report available and I will send it to you. **Other action item is we want feed back on is shooting range issue.** We would be willing to put together guidelines for shooting ranges on public lands. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – I am building mine and I challenge you to do yours. Glen Salmon, Indiana – There are several documents out there, talk to Bill Bean. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – There is a lot of information available and NRA has a standard procedure out there. Joel Brunsvold, Illinois – If we can help in any way, ask me. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – I think the issue here is how they can be built and operated on public land. Scott Peterson, North Dakota – I think we need to update what is out there. Doug Hansen, South Dakota – May be issue of compatible use. Scott Peterson, North Dakota – Don’t need any other action from those Directors. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – You all need to send your people to these meetings.

Law Enforcement – Bob Timian, North Dakota

Dean asked me to report on North American Game Warden Museum project. In 1988 in Winnipeg the group decided to go forth with a museum. July 21, 2004 will be celebration day to demonstrate the actual construction of this museum and education center to protect natural resources. The building will not be complete, but is well on its way. Numerous states have contributed. Midwest Law Enforcement Agencies put in \$10,000 and the ND Game Wardens have raised \$150,000. We would like to thank Dean for his support and personal commitment. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – I would encourage everyone to donate to that cause.

Emmett Keyser, South Dakota (powerpoint presentation) (powerpoint presentation) [**Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website**]

Encourage you to join Violator Law Enforcement Compact, through this driver's license compact. Several of the Midwest states already belong to the compact and encourage those of you who don't to consider that. Mike Conlin, Illinois – Who should we contact? Emmett Keyser, South Dakota – Me, at Emmett.keyser@nd.state.us. Information is compiled and held in a computerized database in Utah and shared with member states and provides the opportunity to share those revocations and can match them with license drawings. John Hoskins, Missouri – Mike, for your benefit, Missouri is now housing that database instead of Utah. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – We passed that through our House a few years ago and it is a great tool. Emmett Keyser, South Dakota – Our group looks forward to establishing a better relationship with the Midwest Association.

NCN – Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin

No action items. The multi-state grants begin with conservation needs. The Committee consists of Tom Niebauer (WI), Dave Risley (OH), and Dan Zekor (MO) and we put together a grant request to fund coordinator positions for all four associations. Dean spoke on behalf of us. The primary purpose of this committee is to annually advise the Association on a recommended course of action for submitting a MAFWA recommended National Conservation Need (NCN) to the IAFWA. On the table is \$6 million and we can apply for that. See me if questions or check out IAFWA's website. Starting in January the Committee, on behalf of the President, will be contacting you for requests for NCNs. Requirements change a little each year, but don't wait until January to think of one. I saw numerous opportunities at this meeting for NCN grants. Russ Mason, IAFWA – Eric asked me to state that those grants need to be in by February. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – There was opposition to our NCN request for funding of the Coordinators, saying it was Administrative. So we did not receive funding for this year.

Legal – Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri - John Hoskins is the liaison for this committee and they have not met yet this year, but we hope to get the report on the website after the meeting.

Fish and Wildlife Health – Bruce Morrison, Nebraska

The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Wildlife and Fish Health Committee held its second annual meeting at Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton, Illinois on May 18 and 19, 2004. Nine of the 14 states that are members of the MAFWA were represented, as were the United States Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services and the U. S. Geological Survey-National Wildlife Health Laboratory. Chronic Wasting Disease, EHD, and West Nile Virus were primary issues. APHIS will be providing funding for testing again. There are recommendations for West Nile Virus, but no action items. The last two pages of the report are asking for support of EHD Bluetongue and we are asking for support of screening tests (for their own state) and then information would be supplied. Discussed fish diseases, but need more time spent on those. Michigan will host next meeting and Director Humphries is our liaison. Ollie was in Illinois and helped tremendously with that meeting. We need to know what we need to supply to you. I have been appointed to the Wildlife Service Committee by Secretary Veneman. Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Personally and behalf of the organization you have done a hell of a job.

Deer and Turkey – Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri - Dale Garner will be liaison for this committee. Meeting to be held in August in Iowa. Will put report on website when available.

Midwest Pheasant Study Group - *Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri* - The group meets every other year and next meeting is scheduled for this October in Michigan. We will place the report on the website when available.

Furbearers – *Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri* - No report available.

Conservation Enhancement Fund Discussion - *Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri*

The purpose of this committee is to establish a permanent Conservation Enhancement Fund to support activities of MAFWA, which maintain and enhance the capability of all MAFWA states and provinces to develop and implement comprehensive fish and wildlife programs for game, nongame, endangered species and their habitats with a goal of \$300,000. The purpose of the Fund is to provide a reliable annual revenue stream for MAFWA program use. *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – Looking at total assets, this would be in addition to the Jaschek fund? *Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri* - Exactly. **Doug Hansen moved to move forward, Glen Salmon second. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS:

The next teleconference is August 16, 2004 at 2:00 pm CDT.

Passing of the Gavel

This is a symbolic passing of the gavel since I will be in place until after IAFWA meeting. **Passed gavel from Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota, to Steve Gray, Ohio.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Bylaws Changes – *Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado*

Discussed creation of a Standing Committee and proposed amendments to our current Constitution and Bylaws are as follows:

1. The allowance of electronic mail and phone calls to conduct business in certain situations.
2. Clarification that the position of Coordinator is nonvoting (similar to Recording Secretary)
3. Elimination of the term “First” when referring to the position of the “First” Vice President..
4. Requiring Technical Working Committees (5) to submit written reports electronically.
5. Requiring Technical Working Committees (5) to submit an electronic copy of their reports to the Recording Secretary as well as the President.
6. Creation of a new standing committee, the Bylaws Committee.
7. Potentially increasing the annual dues to help fund the Coordinator position (no need to raise dues as we are paying for Coordinator position with special assessment and Jaschek funds) may want to raise dues to \$500 to match the Western Association.

Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota – Do we want to raise dues? *Doug Hansen, South Dakota* – Leave dues as they are. *Mike Conlin, Illinois* – In agreement. *Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota* – Will leave as is. **Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado moved to accept as proposed bylaws, except dues increase, Steve Gray, Ohio, second, motion carried.**

Formal Awards Program – *Glen Salmon, Indiana*

Glen Salmon moved to accept program as presented earlier, Steve Gray second. Motion carried.

NAWMP/NAWCA Contributions to Canada – *Randy Kreil, North Dakota*

Some states have contributed to these programs for some time and we would like to encourage you to continue to support them.

Other Business

Joint State/Federal Aid Task Force – *Glen Salmon, Indiana*

Draft Directors Orders on effective dates and use of land as match have been approved by Steve Williams for signatory route. It is important for states to make decisions regarding this at this meeting.

Clean Up - *Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri*

Electronic mail would speed business up considerably. Please notify me of who your Executive Assistant is, if you are uncomfortable with this. Larry Nelson has agreed to take Tim Bremicker's place on resolutions committee and as liaison to the Resolutions Committee. We still don't have liaisons for the Furbearer Committee or the Public Lands Committee.

Preliminary Details for the 2005 Meeting - *Steve Gray, Ohio*

Luke Miller, Ohio, showed a presentation (powerpoint presentation) (powerpoint presentation) [Actual presentation separate file on MAFWA website] showing the preliminary agenda for July 11-14, 2005. The meeting would be near Lake Erie at Sawmill Creek Resort, near Huron, Ohio. There are lots of activities there, such as golf, Cedar Point, Cleveland Indians, Lake Erie Islands and fishing Walleye fishing at Lake Erie is fantastic in July and we would like to hold a sponsored fishing day before the conference.

Adjourn

Dean Hildebrand thanked everyone for reports and great conference. **Adjourned at 12:08.**

Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

(Summary of the business meeting taken from notes and reports)

(The following items are attached in the Reports Section)

CALL TO ORDER

Rex Amack, MAFWA President, Nebraska - Called the business meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Asked for additional agenda items.

ROLL CALL

Joe Kramer, Secretary/Treasurer, Kansas - Called roll call: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin were all present (Report A). We have a quorum, 14 out of 14 states are present. None of the three Canadian Provinces were present.

MINUTES

Rex Amack - Need a motion to accept the minutes from last year. **Motion made by Doug Hansen, and second by Mike Conlin.** No discussion. **Motion carries.**

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Joe Kramer, Kansas - (Report B) Total assets as of July 1, 2001 - \$230,526.95. We had receipts of \$4,700.00 for annual dues; \$900.00 for the Missouri conference; \$5,250.00 received so far from Nebraska registrations; and \$7,306.05 in interest; for a total of \$21,356.05 in receipts. Disbursements included: \$2,324.67 for Missouri conference expenses; \$474.06 to pay Sheila for her expenses in Missouri; \$80.32 to pay Parson's Jewelry for plaque engraving; \$11.32 for receipt books from Bolen's Office Supply; \$287.15 to buy plaques from the Trophy Shop; and a loss of \$970.08 in Merrill Lynch, if we were to sell our stock now. Assets include \$7,797.76 in checking; \$22,534.30 in savings; \$159,534.44 in the five CD accounts; and \$40,660.45 in the Merrill Lynch account (we put in \$50,000 and need to consider moving this upon maturity this year or hold out until we gain our money back and then move the money into something a little safer like CD's). Total income from the investments from 1996 to present, not including Merrill Lynch profits or losses, is \$70,116.87, which is primarily money we have made off the CD's. Income that has been invested off of this trust was some CITES money in 1997, Teaming With Wildlife in 1998, CARA in 1999, and IAFWA in 2002 and those funds amounted to \$40,638.83, with the remainder being spent for day to day expenses. Total investments remaining for use, as outlined in the draft, \$22,534.30, of which \$10,000.00 was spent this fiscal year, but was not taken out of the savings yet. Rex Amack called for approval of the Treasurer's report. **Dean Hildebrand moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Keith Sexson second.** Discussion? Jeff Vonk - Audit Committee would like to move money in Merrill Lynch Fund. Dean

Hildebrand - Direct Treasurer to look at no-load fund to get some recommendations. Rex Amack - Come back to that under Audit Committee and accept Treasurer's numbers. **Motion carries.**

Audit Report

Dean Hildebrand Game and Fish Department - The Audit Committee (Randy Kreil, George Burgoyne and Jeff Vonk) met and reviewed the records provided by Treasurer Kramer. Like to change Merrill Lynch monies to a different fund (Report C). **Dean Hildebrand moved to review the Merrill Lynch monies, Jeff Vonk second.** Discussion? John Hoskins - That is a poor return. Dean Hildebrand - Need more investment advice. Work with Rex and the Committee to remove that and take care of it. Accept Audit Committee report? **Motion carries. All in favor of accepting the Audit Report.**

Resolutions Committee Report

Tim Bremicker, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Three resolutions handed out yesterday (Report D) - 1) Missouri River Enhancement and Monitoring program (MOREP). Kirk Nelson - \$12 million a year, administered through Corps agencies. IAFWA would look favorably upon it if Midwest passes it. Mike Conlin - Funded for three year commitment? Kirk Nelson - Three years but concept is for whatever amount of time it takes to get the answers for the river. Doug Hansen - "Be it further resolved" should be after the "Now, therefore.." paragraph. Tim Bremicker - Will change. **Jeff Vonk moved to accept amended motion, Doug Hansen second.** Discussion? Jeff Vonk - Support concept. Rex Amack - Delegation supports this concept, paralysis by analysis. Think this would have an opportunity in Congress. Timing good, with all of the focus on the river over the next five years. All approve? **Motion passes. Will be drafted and sent to IAFWA.** 2) The Ban on Importation of Ruminants and Ruminant parts from Canada. Bruce Morrison - Requesting USDA to expedite a review. If action taken by this Friday at White House, no action will be needed, but if not, we need to take this action. Discussion. **George Burgoyne moved, Keith Sexson second.** Motion includes no action needed if action taken by Friday. **Motion carries.** 3) The Importation of Exotic Animals and Possible Wildlife Disease Ramifications. Bruce Morrison - Exportation, consolidate, review, scandalize, and enforce regulations and want records maintained of animal disease. This resolution will hit the pet industry right in the face. Several other resolutions are being passed by other animal health groups. Basically for exotic pets, all regulations lined out and enforced. George Burgoyne - Mark those guys bringing those in also. Rex Amack - Number one issue is Fish and Wildlife health disease. Keith Sexson - When they jump to humans all types of excitement takes place. In light of invasive species this needs to be dealt with. **Keith Sexson moved, John Hoskins second. Motion carries.**

Awards Committee Report

Glen Salmon, Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Presented awards to past president, Rex Amack, Nebraska; Kirk Nelson, Nebraska, for his supporting role; thanked Nebraska staff for their supporting role in getting things accomplished and Chuck Pils, Wisconsin, for his CITES work (Report E). Thanked Sheila Kemmis for helping get work done.

Legal Committee Report

Ollie Torgerson presented in place of Jane Smith, Missouri Department of Conservation - Handed out memorandum which included their agenda (Report F). No action needed from this report. States need to better support this committee. Need a director to take this group under their wing. **Hoskins volunteered to step up as our person because he is head of the legal committee of the International.** Joe Kramer - Point of order that committees need to meet 30 days prior to this annual meeting and submit report. **Dean Hildebrand moved we accept report, support John Hoskins, George Burgoyne second.** Sexson look at Midwest states where they meet. Discussion. **Motion carries.** Rex Amack - We do not have in house legal council, but the new Attorney General just reorganized his office and we have a representative on natural resources so we should have a better opportunity in the future to send someone.

Private Lands Working Group Report

Steve Riley, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - We also need a director to report to. We have no action items. Usually we have farm bill issues that we have had to pass through the Ag Task Force in the past. In strategic thinking session, number two and four issue fall into this group to deal with. Passed around a four page report (Report G). Touched on high points and identified road blocks: communication; maintenance on long term programs; lack of flexibility; landowners get mixed messages from different people; and perceived conflict among agency objectives. Questions? Tim Bremicker - Very strict travel kept us from attending this meeting, not lack of interest. Richard Bishop - Several things we have discussed over the years, regulations in some states not conducive in other states. Rob Manes - Echo what Richard said, reiterate that where state committee and field office technical guide is what tailors these programs to meet your needs. You stand to influence your state, field office technical guide is best place to keep in touch with NRCS. David Walker - There is a working group for field service. Steve Riley - Took advantage of those working groups and I assigned someone from my staff to each one. Tim Bremicker - Publically acknowledge work of our public lands group. Take advantage of farm bill better than in the past, thanks. Rex Amack - Thank you. **Sexson volunteered to be the liaison on this committee for Midwest as he does with the International.**

David Walker, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Carbon Sequestration (CS) (Report G). Involved with farm bill, discussed at North American, put together a white paper and now have a final draft. Will be going out to folks in the future. Guidelines on how to determine how they are going to count activities and see if they qualify for CS and can enhance fish and wildlife interests. Great opportunity, but could also have some problems. Discussion of benefits associated with these projects and are covered in these guidelines. Working with Department of Ag. and Department of Energy and making this available to staff on the hill. Follow up to Bremicker's question yesterday, report name "USDA needs to better insure..." (report # GAO84188). Tim Bremicker - Indication of how many acres are lost? David Walker - Would have to look at the report. Rob Manes - North America look at conservation compliance, most have no consequences if there is no compliance, difficult to address. Example - Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota loss, 1985 to 1997, lost 210,000 acres of cropland converted to native grassland. Jeff Vonk - NRCS identifies, refers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) for action, in 1992 farm bill, excuses allowed for inadvertent, given a year to comply. Part of deal is every time you find a problem and it is washed away by the next agency, you need statutory change to tighten that loophole. Rob Manes - Open public meetings, but county conservation groups do not

show up at those meetings. Jeff Vonk - Groups enrolled are confidential so you don't have a list. Rob Manes - There is a lack, or gap, in which groups are tied to compliance. Jeff Vonk - No will power in NRCS to go out and enforce this program. Look at state agency, uses a technical service provider to go out and take care of that, especially because of confidentiality. Rob Manes - NRCS states they are not trained to deal with that. Jeff Vonk - Need oversight. Rob Manes - Good issue for private lands working group to pursue and come back with recommendations, knowing they will come back with some problems. Tim Bremicker - If we are not backed up by swampbuster than what is left? **Tim Bremicker moved to refer to private lands group to come up with some recommendations for us.** Richard Bishop - What are you asking them to do? Tim Bremicker - Look at compliance issues for swampbuster and sodbuster and find barrier or problem and come up with recommendations. **Jeff Vonk second.** Rob Manes - We just did a cursory analysis. David Walker - Formed five new working groups: Technical Assistance; Field Office Technical Guide; Environmental Quality Initiatives; CRP; and Conservation Compliance Work Group. This last group could make a recommendation to the work group for the Madison meeting. Rob Manes - Riley would it be feasible to develop a list of issues to send to IAFWA work group? Steve Riley - Yes we could. Who is chair? David Walker - I don't know. Steve Riley - We could touch on it again in front of this body next year. David Walker - Look at ways to strengthen compliance as it deals with next farm bill. Rob Manes - Recommendations from farm bill, wildlife community resolve not even big enough to melt that boulder. This will be a long and difficult struggle. Jeff Vonk - Agree with that statement. Need to get authority for organization outside USDA and NRCS is great, but we need a third party or someone else. Steve Riley - We will keep the ball rolling. I will have something by tomorrow. All in favor? **Motion carries.**

Public Lands Management Working Committee Report

Daylan Figgs, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - (Report H). Four topics for working groups. After 2001 meeting, sent out three letters to Attorney General, US Forest Service and USFWS. No response from those letters. IAFWA formed a committee to look into this matter. We need to know what further actions we need to take and what exactly you would like us to do? We would like to put together recommendations and guidelines for the development and operation of shooting ranges. A similar report that we would like to put together is prescribed burning. We would like to form a committee to look at this issue a little further. Last item I would like to talk about is addressing illegal activities. Just by the isolated nature of these public lands makes them candidates for illegal activities. Something else we would like to work on. We discussed a variety of other topics that are in our notes. With that I would like to address any questions or comments. Doug Hansen - It would appear that the Directors of the states would need to implement those reports. Ollie Torgerson - Do you have a representative from every state assigned to your committee? **Tim Bremicker agreed to be the liaison Director to work with the Public Land Working Committee.** John Hoskins - Item 2, Do you have access to the information from the organization? Somewhat knowledgeable of that information from that working group with shooting ranges. Glen Salmon - What would be acceptable use of that? Tom Young - Control burn field biologists are having a difficult time with this because of private landowners. We are going to do some training, but for the private landowner. He has been preparing his private lands and is now ready to burn. Richard Bishop - Partner in my farm burned off part of our land and there was an explosion Tom Young - Seasonal grasses established and now they can't burn Jeff Vonk - Providing formal training and obtaining the safety equipment needed to protect these people. Richard Bishop - The USFWS has money available. Dean Hildebrand - In our state a group of folks, on reservations, are trained to pick up and go

wherever they are needed and we have taken advantage of that. We could bring these professionals in and have the where-with-all to do this, a one-stop shopping center. Tim Bremicker - Extensive burn in Minnesota three years ago about 80,000 acres. I would be willing to share that model with the public lands group. Get a better handle on what is available. Rex Amack - Small as your group was, you were very aggressive and the report was turned in thirty days in advance. **Ollie Torgerson moved to accept report. Keith Sexson second. Discussion? Motion passes.**

Wildlife Health Committee Report

Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - (Report I). Met in May, approximately 45 days before this meeting you received your report from us. Had fourteen people in attendance representing eight states and two federal agencies. Put this as number one on strategic thinking items. Recommend we keep myself as chair. 1) periodic newsletter; 2) white paper; 3) EPA; 4) compilation of wildlife disease outbreaks; 5) compilation of wildlife disease training; and 6) white paper West Nile Virus management. Since meeting and report you received earlier, in this report, monkey pox issue. The resolution you passed will be addressed here. Several different agencies have the authority to enforce the same act. BSE note, which brought on the ruminant resolution. Only other thing to report CWD compilation in handout. The reason SARS came on because the Asians were eating wildlife with connected disease. Cattle egrets spreading disease in the south. Next meeting is in May of 2004, Illinois will host. Chuck Pils - See article on federal proposal to combat monkey pox? Bruce Morrison - Fifty state conference call today at noon. Ollie Torgerson - On the import/export resolution, should we ask the committee to direct group to do this? **Glen Salmon moved to follow through with resolution. Mike Conlin second. Discussion? Ollie Torgerson** - Liaison with committee? **George Burgoyne stated he would. Motion to accept report, Keith Sexson, Steve Gray second. Motion passes.**

Rex Amack - Two other groups not giving reports today, Midwest Deer and Turkey and Midwest Pheasant group. Don't remember if these two groups were supposed to come up with a singular product and dissolve, or continue. Randy Kreil - We have been connected for years and have been very active. Ollie Torgerson - Formed in 70s. Also have a Midwest furbearers committee, don't know if they are affiliated with us. Need to make a formal connection with that group. Rex Amack - What about Midwest Law Enforcement Association? Sheila Kemmis - They have 28 member states and are bigger than us. Keith Sexson - Prairie Grouse Working Group? Jeff Ver Steeg - In 1995, we attempted to list all of those groups. Randy Kreil - Seems to me it might be worth the efforts of the Directors to get their arms around all of these groups and talk about committees and coordination of these committees. Steve Riley - History of Private Lands, got together and got sanctioned by this body because we got into policy level and needed to move issues forward in a more formal process. Pheasant Group did not feel they were about policy, just information exchange, said they didn't want to do that, wanted to be about science and techniques only. Need to consider what their charge is. Joe Kramer - One of other issues that has came up is criticism of not dealing with fishery issues, yesterday good presentation on aquatic nuisance, comes out of MICRA, need to get those groups back. There are 26 fish chiefs that created that group. Doug Hansen - Support for any kind of fishery exposure to this group. Take advantage of those that exist. Rex Amack - Reflecting Saturday's discussion and how Western works and their commitment to committees. It might be prudent to set how many committees we want to work with and how many directors we want. Association is taking on a whole new life compared to when we met in 1995 in Galena, IL. Richard Bishop - Agree with Kreil, bring

committees together. We could request a committee report even if they have no action they can give a short report at least for acknowledgment. Pheasant group spawned from this group and Ollie attended deer and turkey meeting for years. Rex Amack - Morrison head of health committee, not much fish discussed. Dale Garner - Two fish guys on that committee and some was discussed. Ollie Torgerson - Several committees, pull list from 1995 and go over them. Pheasant group still meeting? Steve Riley - Yes. Ollie Torgerson - I will contact Pheasant, Deer and Turkey, Law Enforcement, Furbearer, etc. Need to know we exist and let them know they can bring action items to us and we can take it to the IAFWA. If that turns out pretty good then we can ask in North Dakota for Directors to liaison with them. Don't want 18 or 20 committees like Western, but need to become more visible. Doug Hansen - Also, Missouri River group. Ollie Torgerson - Do they have a coordinator? Doug Hansen - Yes. Randy Kreil - Primary objective of 2004, Monday we would need to deal with committees. Keith Sexson - What about strategic thinking on Sunday? Dean Hildebrand - Address issues on strategic thinking chart. Think of terms of addressing these committees. Use this as the wick we keep dipping in the wax to build the candle. If anything crops up or if you have suggestions, drop me or Randy a note and we could go over that. Randy Kreil - Sunday strategic thinking session could go over issues of how you want to deal with how the committees are going to react. John Hoskins - This should be a significant agenda item. Ollie laying out what will need to be done for next year and that could be the Sunday morning.

Break

CITES Report

Chuck Pils, CITES MAFWA Representative, Wisconsin - (Report J) (powerpoint presentation) Went to Chile in November, 2002. Explained CITES (Conference on International Threatened and Endangered Species) powerful tool. Misconceptions on how CITES group works. Attending CITES Plants Committee meeting in August, in Geneva, Switzerland, the last one I will attend. We are considered an NGO and cannot vote. 77 resolutions and 170 decisions in effect. Almost becoming unmanageable in what they are allowing. 1) designate; 2) prohibit; and 3) confiscate. Scientific Authority. Three appendices: I. Species threatened with extinction, no trade prohibition; II. Species threatened with extinction, but trade controlled; III. Species that are protected by at least one country, which has asked for help in controlling trade and does not have to be discussed and approved at Conference of Parties (COP). COP is only body that can decide on contents of appendix I and II and meets every 2-3 years. Argued half a day on improving labels for caviar, and how it affected paddlefish. U.S. species on the Appendix III list are the alligator snapping turtle and map turtles. Appropriate to get more information, but the process is so slow. Thanks for support and chance to work with you. I will be in Madison.

Carolyn Caldwell, Ohio Department of Natural Resources will be the new CITES representative starting in Madison (Report J - letter and resume).

NGO Reports

Rob Manes on phone, will come back to him.

OLD BUSINESS

(The following items are attached in the Appendix Section)

Bylaw Revisions

Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado Department of Wildlife - (Appendix A) Adding Coordinator and Recording Secretary. Colorado back. Increase dues for affiliated NGOs. Increase to \$2,500. (See memo) Decided in 1993 to follow the alphabetical rotation and added that to the bylaws. Mike Conlin - What are advantages of that change of making the president not the rotation person. Ollie Torgerson - I brought up, because we need someone who will be interested, need leadership by desire and ability, keep rotation of meeting alphabetical. That is the concept, pretty well received in strategic thinking. Mike Conlin - If state is hosting and their director is not an officer or involved it seems that they would not come. Seems like it would get the director involved. Ollie Torgerson - Southeast does it the way we are proposing. Not sure how Western does it. Doug Hansen - It is done how we do it now. Steve Riley - Two meetings a year, host state, summer meeting is president, but winter meeting is in a different state. Joe Kramer - Goal of Midwest have as an exception. If language allowed that we could have it either way. Ollie Torgerson - But what if it goes to a state where the Director does not want to? Rex Amack - Could have some problems if the Director of a state wants to do it and the nominating committee didn't appoint them. Tim Bremicker - Saw it as a positive step to be pushed into being president when I was new and Minnesota was the host. I would support what Rex mentioned by offering it to a Director and then if he declines, put it to the nominating committee. Jeff Vonk - First right of refusal. Would you give the Director the right to refuse to host also? Jeff Ver Steeg - We can isolate some of these and discuss and vote separately. Some can be dispensed with easily. **Jeff Vonk moved to recommended items 1-7 on memo from Ver Steeg, George Burgoyne second.** Discussion? Ollie Torgerson - Under duties, three proceedings, if we go to internet could reduce that number, change three to just say "copies". Rex Amack - Amendment to remove? **Accepted as friendly amendment by motion maker.** Other discussion? Article 8 is fiscal year are we leaving that out. George Burgoyne - The motion involves the seven items listed on the cover letter. All in favor? **Motion carries.** Jeff Ver Steeg - Election and nomination of officers. George Burgoyne - It is worth a little more discussion and thought, think there is value to having this thrust on you, like Tim, was more involved. Only change would be to not pass the gavel until after the IAFWA meeting. Rex Amack - I agree. Doug Hansen - Would that take a motion? Dean Hildebrand - Change 30 days to 90 days or whatever, after IAFWA. George Burgoyne - Yes. Rex Amack - Problem would be that after this meeting, Dean would be on the Executive Committee. George Burgoyne - September meeting would be a problem. Rex Amack - We need to maybe wait until next year. Jeff Vonk - This goes back to rotation and the original question. George Burgoyne - With his experience that little difference, he feels that his knowledge would help. No matter when we change this there could be a problem. We are passing resolutions to be brought forward to the fall meeting and it would be logical for Rex to carry those forward from this meeting. Doug Hansen - To adjust bylaws, change to 30 days following IAFWA instead of MAFWA and that would cover that cycle. That takes care of the length of term, but not the selection. Doug Hansen - I would defer that because we now have a Coordinator to work with the new person and I think there is value to getting immersed right away and don't see the need. **Mike Conlin and George Burgoyne agree. George Burgoyne moved to follow IAFWA, Doug Hansen second.** Discussion? Jeff Ver Steeg - Question of order, new article under 9, written copy of bylaws. Dean Hildebrand - You have the authority to do that now. Jeff Ver Steeg - Would not be until next year. Doug Hansen - Could we agree to do that now? Jeff Ver Steeg - Can do. Dean Hildebrand - Page 2, clean this up a little, strike out part after 30 days after IAFWA. Take out "one year out". **Friendly amendment.** George Burgoyne - Article One "The term of the office shall commence 30 days following the adjournment ..." Discussion? **Motion carries.** Doug Hansen - Do we need vote of affirmation that it starts

immediately, **Doug Hansen moved, Burgoyne second.** Rex Amack - Notify IAFWA that we have changed our bylaws. Add that Coordinator contacts IAFWA. Discussion? **Motion carries.** Rex Amack - Thanks Jeff for all of your work. Glen Salmon - Training is important at IAFWA that they take full advantage of new director.

Coordinator Contract Position

Ollie Torgerson, Missouri Department of Conservation - (Appendix B - Draft Contract) Contract drafted up with Missouri Department of Conservation to provide my services to remain in effect to August 30, 2004. We will have to make a decision next year about how we go forth from there. John Hoskins - It needs to be a business meeting item next year to decide where we go from there. Ollie Torgerson - Randy, that needs to be a strategic thinking item, how we are going to deal with this. Rex Amack - Discussion? **John Hoskins moved, Mike Conlin second to approve contract.** Discussion? **Motion carries.**

Rob Manes, Wildlife Management Institute, Kansas - (Report K) (Wind Energy Development). For centuries, wind energy has been harnessed to power agriculture and industry. It offers an emission-free source of electricity to power homes and industry and lacks some of the obvious environmental detriments of traditional energy sources. Early wildlife concerns focused on avian collisions with wind generator blades, towers, support structures and power lines. Habitat fragmentation from roads, transmission lines, and maintenance activity is also a concern because that could inhibit the use of otherwise suitable habitat by a number of bird species. By 2010, several million acres of land could become occupied by wind power facilities, potentially rendering unsuitable important habitat for species sensitive to landscape fragmentation. Impacts on prairie grouse-greater sage grouse, Gunnison sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, lesser prairie chicken, and greater prairie chicken is of great concern. How wind power production affects birds, mammals and wildlife is somewhat unknown, but there exists sufficient information to demand a deliberative approach to the issue. An extensive radio telemetry study was done in southwest Kansas by Dr. R.J. Robel which revealed that lesser prairie chickens avoid otherwise suitable habitat near human intrusions. The study, conducted over a six year period, showed that prairie chickens avoid a one-mile radius around wind turbines. Many sites targeted lie directly in untilled landscapes. Grassland birds at southwest Minnesota site, significantly lower within 180 meters of each wind turbine, whether running or not. Sage grouse avoid tall structures that could serve as perches for predatory birds. Other avian species also show tendencies to abandon otherwise suitable nesting habitat, such as waterfowl and wading birds in the Netherlands. Collision-related bird and bat deaths unlikely to be significant, but at ill-designed, ill sited facilities, such as Altamont Pass, California, could result in significant impact to very rare species populations. Conflicts can be avoided or minimized through open dialog between the stakeholders, including energy developers, wildlife professionals, landowners, consumers, wildlife advocates, policy makers and others. The dialog must resolve issues rather than protect interests. Both clean, reliable energy and healthy ecosystems are essential to the quality of human life. Mark Holstein - One component is bio-diesel. Rob Manes - We can't ignore the native impact. I have also passed out a hand out on the High Plains partnership, which I will not go over at this time. Rex Amack - Thank you Rob.

Coordinator Report

Ollie Torgerson, Missouri Department of Conservation - Looking at the Sunday Strategic Thinking draft I have come up with a work plan (Report L). Things I will get done include: 1)

Notify committees that they need to send report electronically 30 days in advance; 2) Myself and John Baughman meet with new Director Brunsvold; 3) Affiliate with NSSF, ASF, DU and others; 4) Invite USDA/APHIS two regional directors to our meetings; 5) Invite Randy Moore, Regional U.S. Forest Service to meetings; 6) Invite three MICRA people; 7) Get National Conservation need approved at March North American meeting, to be voted on in 2004; 8) Update logo (new design); 9) Formal contract with committees, start networking; and 10) Get state of State reports established again. This will keep me busy. I will work closely with Joe and Sheila, and Dean and Randy. Jeff Ver Steeg - It is great to have a bird dog. John Hoskins - Ollie has great connection.

Website Development for MAFWA

Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator, Missouri - (see Report L) - We need a formal motion on website development. **Mike Conlin moved for endorsement of outlined plan, Steve Gray second.** Jeff Vonk - Is Ollie charged with maintaining the website? Ollie Torgerson - Yes. Along with IAFWA and linking with other Associations. We will not only help ourselves, but others as well. Jeff Vonk - I just want it clear that someone has that responsibility. Ollie Torgerson - I will work with contractor to design so reports can be entered automatically. **Motion carries.**

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Hansen - I would like to contract with Rob Southwick to develop an aquatic species program (Appendix C). Want a pilot state not already involved to meet by January 2004. George Burgoyne - Michigan is interested in getting more information. John Hoskins - Missouri too. Rex Amack - Nebraska also. Dean Hildebrand - North Dakota also. Doug Hansen - Aware of activities of Sport Fishing Boating Council, would like to pursue concept of National Fisheries Habitat Plan. Not sure what it might look like, the working group is looking at it. We are holding a meeting in Region 3 and inviting all of you to attend. Also, Regional Directors have been participating.

Tom Young - I started coming to these Association meetings in 1985 and the only face in the room that was here then, was Mike Conlin. This will be my last meeting after 30 years in Kentucky. I wanted to tell all of you how much it has meant to me to be involved, especially with waterfowl. I will miss all of you. My dream is of connecting people by starting a National retirement club that could maybe meet once a year. We could become lobbyists or travel back and forth on Association business. I have a guy in Kentucky would start a webpage for me. Please send me your business cards or call Kentucky Game and Fish and they will know how to get in touch with me.

Jeff Vonk - I am the Chair of the Wildlife Resource Policy of IAFWA. If anyone has items for my committee, please let me know.

Joe Kramer - The Association knows and should recognize Tom Young's years of service with a plaque for his 18 years of service.

Tim Bremicker - On behalf of the Resolution Committee, we would like to extend our gratitude to Nebraska and would like to see the Midwest continue to make strides. Thank you.

Richard Bishop - I would like to echo that sentiment and thank Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska for putting us back on track.

Passing the Gavel

Rex Amack passed the gavel to Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota. Dean Hildebrand - You have put the bar very high. Thanks Ollie. I will be going to the Western meeting and I would like to see the Associations compliment each other. Think we should put retirees on our website and we will do our best to get that done. Would like to thank Nebraska for all their work and invite everyone to North Dakota, there may be some logistical challenges. **After discussion, set meeting for July 10-13, 2004 in Bismarck, North Dakota.** Have a safe trip and God Bless.

Doug Hansen moved to adjourn, Mike Conlin second at 11:50 a.m.



Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies



TREASURER'S REPORT 2004/2005 (FY 2005) Transactions (As of June 30, 2005)

*** Total Assets beginning July 1, 2004** **\$251,512.85**

Receipts

Annual Dues (FY 2005)	\$ 4,500.00
Affiliate Annual Dues (FY 2005)	\$ 550.00
Special Assessment Dues (FY 2005)	\$22,500.00
North Dakota Conference Income	\$ 3,825.08
Ohio Public/Private Lands Mtg Income	\$ 6,008.54
Ohio Annual Meeting Conference Income	\$19,245.00
Carolyn Caldwell CITES Reimbursement	\$ 541.46
Interest Checking/Savings/CD's	<u>\$ 6,480.48</u>

Total Receipts **\$63,650.56**

Total Available Assets **\$315,163.41**

Disbursements

North Dakota Conference Expenses	\$ 8,666.91
Ohio Public/Private Lands Mtg Expenses	\$ 7,612.93
Ohio Annual Meeting Conference Expenses	\$ 5,825.38
Carolyn Caldwell CITES Travel Expenses	\$ 541.46
Coordinator Salary	\$22,737.00
Coordinator Expenses	\$ 4,642.88
File Cabinet (Coordinator)	\$ 115.88
Website Development (Chris Durrill)	\$ 70.50
Recording Secretary Expenses	\$ 833.40
File Cabinet (Recording Secretary)	\$ 217.00
Bank Charges	<u>\$ 17.00</u>

Total Disbursements **\$51,280.34**

Net Assets, June 30, 2005	\$263,883.07
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Accounting of Assets, June 30, 2005

Cash in general ckg acct #128791	\$ 14,135.58
Cash in conf. ckg acct #169633	\$ 14,346.67
Cash in savings account #917567 (Jaschek)	\$ 25,866.38
Cash in CD accounts (Jaschek)	\$159,534.44
* Merrill Lynch Investment (Jaschek)	<u>\$ 50,000.00</u>
Total Assets	\$263,883.07

ASSETS, JUNE 30, 2005	\$263,883.07
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*** Merrill Lynch Explanation**

Standard accounting practices do not show projected profit/loss as part of the statement as no profit or loss has actually been incurred until the stock is sold. The Merrill Lynch account has been changed to reflect the full \$50,000 invested. This figure is used in both the beginning balance (note difference from ending balance of FY04) and the ending balance. Any profit or loss will be shown when the stocks are sold. For your information the balances of FY 04 & FY 05 are shown below:

Balance as of 06/04	\$44,047.68
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Balance as of 06/05	\$46,437.17
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FY 2005 Jaschek Fund Report

Walter Anton Jaschek left \$209,534.44 to the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 1996 and 1997 and also left Audubon and Ducks Unlimited each about the same amount. He lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and lived in a modest house worth less than \$50,000, but that is about all we know about him.

The Midwest Association has used the funds for CARA, Teaming with Wildlife, CITES travel and the IAFWA AWARE program, spending \$40,638.83 of the interest. We have never used any of the principal inheritance. The total amount is invested. Currently we have five CDs, making anywhere from .950 percent to 5.160 percent. The cash in the savings account is the interest from the CDs, with a current balance of \$25,866.38. We also have \$50,000 invested with Merrill Lynch since 1998. The money was vested in 2003, but has never made any profit so we have not touched it. The Merrill Lynch fund is currently worth \$46,437.17.

The Investment Committee is working on options for investing this money in other ways.

**Anton W. Jaschek Trust
Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Spreadsheet
1996 - 2005
Available Assets To Date**

AS OF 06/30/05 (FY2005)

<i>TOTAL amount donated by trust fund (not including interest and dividends) =</i>	<i>\$159,534.44</i>
<i>(five CD's)</i>	
	<u><i>\$ 50,000.00</i></u>
<i>(Merrill Lynch)</i>	
	<i>\$209,534.44</i>
<i>(total trust fund)</i>	

<i>Total Income from investments from 1996 to present (not including Merrill Lynch dividends (profit or loss) =</i>	<i>\$ 74,503.21</i>
<i>1996 TWW special assessment (extra money)</i>	<u><i>\$ 2.00</i></u>
	<i>\$74,505.21</i>

<i>Total Income already invested</i>	<i>3/11/97 - \$ 4,904.00 Cites/Pils</i>	
	<i>4/23/98 - \$21,934.83 TWW</i>	
	<i>11/3/99 - \$ 3,800.00 CARA</i>	
	<i>6/27/02 - \$ 8,000.00 Transfer to Checking</i>	
	<i>08/06 & 08/27/03 - \$10,000.00 IAFWA AWARE</i>	<u><i>(\$ 48,638.83)</i></u>

<i>Total investments remaining for use as outlined in draft =</i>	<i>\$25,866.38</i>
<i>Ready Assets as of 06/30/05.</i>	<i>\$235,400.82</i>

<i>Profit or (Loss) on Merrill Lynch if sold 6/24/05</i>	<i>\$ 46,437.17</i>
<i>\$50,000 investment, vested 2003</i>	<i>(\$3,562.83)</i>

<i>Savings Account Balance</i>	<i>\$ 25,866.38 * (interest from funds)</i>
<i>CD Account Balances</i>	<i>\$159,534.44</i>
<i>Merrill Lynch Base Fund</i>	<u><i>\$ 50,000.00</i></u>
<i>Total Funds</i>	<i>\$235,400.82</i>

**** Used \$10,000 to fund IAFWA's AWARE fund in August 2003 - transferred money from savings in June 2005, so that is reflected here.***

Audit Committee Report
(Doug Hansen, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks)

Notes from Presentation (minutes)

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.

**Investments Committee Report
(Doug Hansen, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks)**

Notes from Presentation (minutes)

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.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Investment and Financial Management Services for the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies June 20, 2005

The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) is a 501 (c) (6) nonprofit professional association. Voting members represent the wildlife management agencies in 14 states and 3 Canadian provinces. It's primary purpose is the promotion, protection, preservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources.

MAFWA functions in typical association fashion. It rotates officers, has a 6-member Executive Committee and several standing committees, including a recently established 3-member Investments Committee. Annual meetings are held in July and rotate annually and alphabetically among the member states and provinces. The Executive Committee meets periodically through the year either at a related conference or by teleconference. MAFWA recently hired a part-time Coordinator.

Prior to 1996, MAFWA's financial assets consisted of the typical cash receipts from member dues, conference registration, and miscellaneous sources. In 1996, MAFWA received a sizeable gift of \$209,534.44 from the Jaschek estate.

MAFWA decided to permanently protect the principal amount of this gift, the Jaschek Fund, by investing in various securities and utilizing the interest and growth for various projects. In addition, MAFWA is also planning to establish a permanent Conservation Enhancement Fund, with a goal of \$300,000, that would provide a reliable revenue stream in support of a variety of MAFWA activities.

MAFWA has decided it would be prudent to utilize the services of an investment advisor/manager. It is MAFWA's desire that these services will provide optimum investment return with its current and future financial portfolio, in a manner consistent with investment goals, and with a high comfort-level working relationship between the advisor/manager and the association leadership.

To that end, MAFWA is seeking proposals from investment management firms interested in providing these investment management services. In submitting proposals, investment management firms are asked to provide pertinent information on the services they would provide, if selected. Specifically, MAFWA requests information on the following:

1. Process for and services to be provided in developing a written investment policy statement for MAFWA and an investment plan based on the investment policy statement. Samples to be provided.
2. Process and schedule for reviews of the investment plan as implemented.

3. Administrative support available to the investment management firm, such as dedicated staff, telephone access, Internet access, electronic transfer of funds, etc.
4. Schedule of fees and/or commissions and proposed manner of compensation for services.
5. Industry experience and related experience in managing funds of this type or for associations of this nature.

Requested Deadline for Proposals: MAFWA will be holding its annual meeting July 10-13, 2005, at which time a final decision will be made. In order to expedite the decision making process, proposals are requested to be submitted no later than July 1, 2005. Proposals should be submitted either in writing or electronically to:

Doug Hansen, Chm.
MAFWA Investments Committee
523 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-4518
doug.hansen@state.sd.us

Attachment: Financial Summary, Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) as of June 15, 2005

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES (MAFWA)
(AS OF JUNE 15, 2005)**

Liquid Cash Assets

Balance in General Checking Account	\$14,475.49
Balance in Annual Conference Checking Account	\$ 8,216.72
Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$25,733.28</u>
Total Liquid Cash Assets	\$48,425.49

Short-term Investments

CD 07 - 12 mo. @ 0.950% (expires 02/11/06)	\$25,000.00
CD 08 - 24 mo. @ 1.534% (expires 02/11/06)	\$50,000.00
CD 09 - 60 mo. @ 6.341% (expires 08/14/05)	\$25,000.00
CD 10 - 60 mo. @ 6.341% (expires 08/14/05)	\$50,000.00
CD 11 - 60 mo. @ 5.160% (expires 03/12/06)	<u>\$ 9,534.44</u>
Total in Short-term Investments	\$159,534.44

(Note: interest rolls quarterly into savings account)

Long-term Investments (as of 05/27/05)

Merrill Lynch Portfolio

Merrill Lynch Fundamental Growth B Mutual Fund	\$11,577.00
Merrill Lynch Balanced Capital Mutual Fund	\$22,591.00
Ready Assets Money Market Fund	<u>\$12,214.28</u>

Current Value of Long-term Investments	\$46,382.28
----------------------------------------	-------------

(Note: original investment was \$40,000 in mutual funds and \$10,000 in money market fund – 1996)

Grand Total of All Financial Assets **\$254,342.21**

Resolutions Committee Report
Larry Nelson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Resolutions can be found in the proceedings under Committee Reports. There were five resolutions:

- 1) Ohio Thank You
- 2) 2006 Emergency Wetland Loan Act Appropriation Support
- 3) State Disputes
- 4) Feral Swine Population Control
- 5) Cormorant Control

Resolution 1

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

**SUMMER MEETING, JULY 10-13, 2005
HURON, OHIO**

RESOLUTION

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, Luke Miller, Dave Risley, and support 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 at its annual meeting in Huron Ohio, on July 13, 2005, acknowledges the hard work and hospitality of Chief Gray and his staff and hereby passes this resolution in a showing of great appreciation.

Resolution 2

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES' RESOLUTION

Whereas, the first Wetland Loan Act (WLA), was passed by Congress in 1961 to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl through the acquisition of wetlands and other essential waterfowl habitat, and for other purposes; and,

Whereas, initial appropriations were for \$105,000,000, appropriated over a 15-year window; and,

Whereas, continental populations of many species of waterfowl continue to decline and the grassland and wetland habitats upon which they depend are being converted for other purposes; and,

Whereas, 90% of the annual variation in continental duck population growth rates can be attributable to breeding ground variables and habitat factors; and,

Whereas, there is currently no evidence suggesting that wintering and/or migration habitat is limiting recovery of duck populations; and,

Whereas, mid-continent waterfowl production habitat of the Prairie Pothole Region (PPR), is of highest priority for wetland and grassland protection and restoration; and,

Whereas, interest by private landowners to voluntarily sell their land to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service exceeds dollars available in PPR states;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at its annual meeting on July 13, 2005, that: legislation needs to be introduced/passed for a 2006 Emergency Wetland Loan Act appropriation of \$400 million over the next 10 years to address wetland/grassland losses and reverse the downward trend in continental waterfowl populations; this resolution be sent to congressional delegations, Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Congressman Dingell), non-governmental organizations, USFWS Director and Regional Directors and Flyway Councils; and, the IAFWA be urged to adopt this Resolution as well.

Resolution 3

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES' RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Bylaws and Constitution of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies ("Association") encourages the cultivation of friendly relations, mutual understanding among those engaged in conservation of our natural resources, and especially the coordination of efforts within public administrative agencies responsible for the protection, preservation and management of fish, wildlife, forests, waters and soils of North America; and

Whereas, the Association Bylaws and Constitution also encourage the development of public understanding and appreciation of the economic and ethical importance of conserving the forests, waters and soils, and managing wisely our fish and wildlife as part of natural and managed ecosystems and as a source of recreation and food for our citizens; and

Whereas, the individual state governmental members of the Association will, on occasion, have different perspectives or take different positions on substantive issues regarding the conservation and management of our natural resources; and

Whereas, taking positions in disputes between state governmental members of the Association can be divisive, thereby damaging the Association's ability to achieve its goals through a strong and unified organization;

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 actions, and, 3. poll the state governmental members before any formal or legal intervention or participation in litigation by the Association in any dispute between state governmental members.

Resolution 4

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES SUPPORT THE CONTROL OF FERAL SWINE IN THE UNITED STATES

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, feral swine are present in numerous states within the United States, and

WHEREAS, feral swine damage fences, forest stands, natural communities, row and forage crops, parks, cemeteries, and lawns and gardens, and

WHEREAS, feral swine harbor diseases that affect people, pets, livestock, and wildlife, and

WHEREAS, feral swine kill young lambs, goats, calves, and deer, harass adult cattle and horses, and destroy birds nests and other wildlife, and

WHEREAS, feral swine cause an estimated \$800 million of damage in the United States annually, and

WHEREAS, there is a standing Presidential Directive to control the spread of invasive species, and

WHEREAS, the National Governor's Association has called for joint federal/state programs to help prevent the spread of invasive species, and adequate federal financial support to enable states to control or eradicate invasive species, and

WHEREAS, the distribution and number of feral swine are increasing in the Midwest, and

WHEREAS, the undersigned agencies are responsible for protecting their state's natural resources from invasive species;

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, agrees to:

1. Cooperate in the control of feral swine populations in the Midwest;
2. Urge the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to adopt a similar resolution; and
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.

Resolution 5

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES REGIONAL CORMORANT CONTROL

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, cormorant populations in the United States have increased dramatically in the past ten years, and

WHEREAS, wildlife damage has been documented in many areas in the Great Lakes and throughout the country, due to the huge numbers of cormorants during migrations and nesting periods, and

WHEREAS, cormorants have devastated large quantities of terrestrial habitat, many in sensitive locations that are important to valued native bird species, and

WHEREAS, cormorants have inflicted significant damage to economically and ecologically valuable game and forage fish populations via predation, and

WHEREAS, the regulatory regime of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, has changed, providing opportunities for state and tribal fish and wildlife agencies to implement cormorant control projects to minimize harmful impacts, and

WHEREAS, the success of local efforts to control cormorants and solve local habitat and predation problems are ultimately dependent on a sound, coordinated regional strategy;

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:

1. Encourages immediate implementation projects to limit the expansion of cormorant nesting colonies and to begin reducing the size of existing colonies, consistent with their authorities;
2. Recommends that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA), in cooperation with other relevant entities, convene experts to summarize the known information regarding the population of dynamics, control efforts, and harmful effects on the environment and other wildlife populations; and
3. 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.

NOTE: Glen Salmon received request to add two more members to Awards Committee, which would make the Committee five members.

Midwestern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Award Guidelines

Excellence in Conservation Award

This award will recognize the agency that has shown excellence in conservation through a specific project. Each member agency would select one project completed in the awards year that exemplifies the goal of fish and wildlife conservation.

Each member state/providence in order to be considered for the award must submit a nomination entry. Each agency should outline one project highlighting the exceptional conservation efforts of such project and submit it to the awards committee.

A perpetual plaque would be awarded to the winning agency and would remain with that agency until the next awards ceremony where the next winner would take custody of the plaque until the following year. Each year the winning agency will have their name and year they won engraved on the plaque.

Conservation Education Award

This award will recognize the agency that has shown an above and beyond effort to try to incorporate education into a management program. This will be given to the agency that has initiated the most unique and original educational opportunity for the public.

Each member state/providence in order to be considered for the award must submit a nomination entry. Each agency should outline one project highlighting the educational aspects of such project and submit it to the awards committee.

A perpetual plaque would be awarded to the winning agency and would remain with that agency until the next awards ceremony where the next winner would take custody of the plaque until the following year. Each year the winning agency will have their name and year they won engraved on the plaque.

“Spirit of the Shack” Achievement Award

This award will be given to the individual who exemplifies the ideals of the great conservationist and educator, Aldo Leopold, and who has contributed to conservation in a superior way. This individual should epitomize stewardship and dedication to fish and wildlife conservation.

Nominations should include candidates name, title, member state/providence, a description of the work that qualifies this person for this award including specific projects or accomplishments relevant to the award specifications, also included should be the name and title of the person making the nomination.

A plaque will be given to the recipient of this award stating that is was given by the MAFWA, that it is the “Spirit of the Shack” Achievement Award, the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

Midwest President's Award

This award would be very similar to the award above only that this would be directed at an NGO or political individual. The Midwest President will select the recipient of this award, not the awards committee.

A plaque will be given to the recipient of this award stating that is was given by the MAFWA, that it is the Midwest President's Award, the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

This will be awarded to the individual who in the past year has shown superior leadership, initiative, and dedication in their duties. This person should personify achievement, public service, education, and above all natural resource conservation.

Nominations should include candidates name, title, member state/providence, a description of the work that qualifies this person for this award including specific projects or accomplishments relevant to the award specifications, also included should be the name and title of the person making the nomination.

A plaque will be given to the recipient of this award stating that is was given by the MAFWA, that it is the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award, the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

Wildlife Biologist of the Year

This award will go to the individual who has shown an unparalleled initiative towards the better understanding of wildlife and their conservation.

Nominations should include candidates name, title, member state/providence, a description of the work that qualifies this person for this award including specific projects or accomplishments relevant to the award specifications, also included should be the name and title of the person making the nomination.

A plaque will be given to the recipient of this award stating that is was given by the MAFWA, that it is the Wildlife Biologist of the Year award, the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

Fisheries Biologist of the Year

This honor will be awarded to the individual who has shown an unparalleled initiative towards the better understanding of fishes and their conservation.

Nominations should include candidates name, title, member state/providence, a description of the work that qualifies this person for this award including specific projects or accomplishments relevant to the award specifications, also included should be the name and title of the person making the nomination.

A plaque will be given to the recipient of this award stating that is was given by the MAFWA, that it is the Fisheries Biologist of the Year award, the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

Selection Process

To select the winners of these awards an awards committee should be formed. It should consist of 5 or 6 members appointed annually by the President in consultation with the EXCOM. The committee will make recommendations for final approval to the President and the EXCOM for potential recipients of the abovementioned awards. The lone exception to this selection process will be the MAFWA President's Award, which will be selected by the association's President.

Announcement Process

The Chair of the Awards Committee will forward to all Association members an "Announcement for Nominations" request no later than March 15th of each year, with a deadline for submittal of May 1st. The document will include all information required for submittal of qualified applications for each award. All nominations and information, including sharing of application with awards committee members will be done electronically.

Estimated Costs

The estimated cost for one basic 8"x10" plaque would be \$30 and that includes the engraving (see fig. 1). For something a little bit fancier the price for the same size would be \$63 (see fig. 2). The estimated cost of a larger (11"x15") perpetual plaque, with 24 individual plates would be about \$117 (see fig 3). That includes the engraving on the head plate and the engraving for the first individual plate. If we wanted the MAFWA's logo engraved on any of these plaques the factory has to quote the price of that depending on the logo. Total costs if all seven awards were given out in one year would be roughly \$400.00.

DRAFT

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

Memorandum

TO: Sheila Kemmis, Recording Secretary
FROM: Jeff Ver Steeg and Dave Risley, Bylaws Committee
DATE: 6 June 2005
SUBJECT: Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Attached is a copy of proposed amendments to our current Constitution and Bylaws. Please distribute this to our membership at least 30 days prior to our meeting in July. The key changes are as follows:

8. Clarifies the responsibility for recording meeting minutes and producing proceedings.
9. Empowers the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Association between meetings (with limitations).
10. Clarifies the process and timeline for proposing resolutions.
11. Adds one new Standing Committees, the Investments Committee.
12. Adds two new Technical Working Committees, the National Conservation Need Committee and the Midwest Pheasant Study Group (whether listed in the bylaws or not, formal action is required to create/add these two groups).
13. Adds a list of all official Technical Working Committees,
14. Adds a list of the dates of previous bylaws revisions.

Please note that in the attachment, additions are identified by underscoring while deletions are denoted by strikeouts. We've tried to highlight all of them in yellow as well.

As always, thank you for your assistance.

cc: Ollie Torgerson, Association Coordinator

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS



MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES

JULY, 2005

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.

ARTICLE 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, 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.
- (8) 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.

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

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

- (5) Record and publish the annual proceedings of the Association.
- (6) Assist with the scheduling of meetings and conference calls and to record minutes as appropriate.
- (7) Assist other officers with correspondence, recording keeping and tax reporting.
- (8) 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.

A R T I C L E 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 Executive Committee, by majority vote.

A R T I C L E V I I

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.

A R T I C L E V I I I

FISCAL YEAR

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

A R T I C L E I X

QUORUM

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

A R T I C L E 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.

- F. 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. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association between its business meetings, make recommendations to the Association as necessary and shall perform such other duties as may be specified in these bylaws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the Board of Directors and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President as necessary. The Executive Committee may also act via conference call or by mail (including electronic mail).
- G. 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.
- H. The Resolutions Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President. Copies of proposed resolutions should be received by the President and the Secretary/Treasurer and sent to members for their consideration at least thirty days before the regular annual meeting. Courtesy resolutions and resolutions of a last minute nature may be recommended to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting. Furthermore, proposed resolutions for which an urgent need arises between annual meetings may be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration via mail (including electronic mail), provided members are given a thirty-day notice. Members shall be notified of the vote outcome by the Secretary/Treasurer within forty-eight hours of vote tabulation.
- I. The Nominating/Awards Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President.

- J. 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.
- K. The Investments Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President. The purpose of the committee is to review investments, including the Jaschek portfolio, and make recommendations to the Association per the investment policy statement.

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:

- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. Resolutions from Technical Working Committees for Association action shall be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

The Association recognizes the following Technical Working Committees:

Legal Committee
National Conservation Need (NCN) Committee
Midwest Pheasant Study Group
Midwest Private Lands Wildlife Management Group
Midwest Public Lands Technical Working Committee
Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health 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
Amended July 13, 2005

Affiliate Members

Existing Affiliate Member 2001 to 2004

- 1) Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) - contact Ron Helinski

New Affiliate Members 2004/2005

- 2) American Sportfishing Association (ASA) - contact Gordon Roberts
- 3) Ducks Unlimited (DU) - contact Robert Hoffman

- 4) Izaak Walton League of America (IKES) - contact Bill Grant
- 5) Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) - contact Jerry Rasmussen
- 6) National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) - contact Jodi Valenta
- 7) National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) - contact James Earl Kennamer
- 8) North American Grouse Partnership (NAGP) - contact Jim Mosher
- 9) Pheasants Forever (PF) - contact Rick Young
- 10) Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) - contact Tom Toman
- 11) The Nature Conservancy (TNC) - contact Claudia Emken
- 12) The Archery Trade Association (The Bowhunting Preservation Alliance - BPA) - contact Pat Ruble

New Applications for Membership 2005/2006

- 13) National Audubon Society (NAS) - contact Roger Still
- 14) National Wildlife Federation - contact Dave Inkey (**approved July 2005**)
- 15) National Park Service – contact Lisa Petit (**approved July 2005**)