

Minutes
MAFWA Business Meeting
June 30, 2010
Indianapolis, Indiana

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

MAFWA Business Meeting – Mark Reiter, MAFWA President

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Proxies for Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota and Ohio (Exhibit Z).

2. Approval of 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes – **Becky Humphries, Michigan moved to accept; Jeff Vonk, South Dakota, second. Approved.**

3. Treasurer's Report – **Sharon M. Schafer** – (Exhibit AA) Page 1 is a summary; page 2 is general checking from July 1, 2009; fiscal year ends today (went through revenue – total \$32,368.88; and expenditures – total \$38,354.21) balance of \$6,969.74; page 3, conference checking account (went through revenue – total \$46,887.25 and expenditures – total \$27,493.81) balance of \$56,001.94; Southern Wings, page 4, balance of \$38,720, received three payments; page 5 is federal grant and we moved \$525 from regular checking account to set up, balance is \$507; share account at credit union we have to have to maintain other accounts is on page 6, balance is \$5; page 7 is inheritance beginning July 1 was about \$226,000, interest and earnings of \$10,356, expenditures \$3,784.82 (Sheila and Ollie have debit cards) and change in market value (not sure we should show that), 4.2% cash, equities 1.8%, 30% investments and 64% taxable bonds; the last page is the Conservation Enhancement Fund. Ollie – That fund was established to create another source of income, only one sustaining contributor, still need a committee for this. We put together literature and developed strategies, but no fund raising committee, need to move forward on this. Sharon – Started with a little over \$2,300, and balance as April 30 was \$2,779.48, have not received any statements on this yet. One more page to packet, the budget, we will cover later. **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to accept, Joe Kramer, Kansas, second, Approved.**

4. Audit Committee Report – **Ollie Torgerson** – Had professional audit conducted during the year compliments of Missouri because we changed treasurers so no need for another audit by the Audit Committee.

5. Investments Committee Report – **Ollie Torgerson** - Have an Investments Committee set up that is to work with Shane Hessman and report to you, but they did not meet. Rich – Questions of wisdom of our strategy and see three options, rather than have an investment person do that, want to be more conservative. Shane gave us some reports, but have not had time to go over those.

6. Resolutions Committee Report – **Dave Schad (MN)** – (Exhibit BB) This committee is composed of myself, Dave Graham (Jim Marshall served in his absence) and Becky Humphries. Resolutions are:

1) We asked our Furbearer Committee to prepare a resolution on delisting the gray wolf and restoring management to the states because the species has been successfully restored as indicated by criteria in WI, MI and MN. Adequate management plans are in place and the wolf should be delisted and managed by state agencies. Two “NOW THEREFORE” versions are offered. The second version is based on Executive Committee direction (adds the “public taking” language). **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to accept version two; Jeff Vonk, South Dakota, second.** Matt - Wisconsin in favor of delisting. **Approved.** MAFWA did support delisting per joining Michigan’s Amicus brief in the past. Ollie – Ron, we have supported public taking, should we submit that to you or one of your committees. Ron – To me. **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to also send to USFWS, Matt Frank, Wisconsin, second. Approved.**

2) Our Private Land Committee submitted a resolution on CRP benefits, resolves that we pay tribute on 25th anniversary of CRP. **Dave Schad, Minnesota, moved to accept; Bob Ziehmer, Missouri, second. Approved.** Ollie suggested sending to both house subcommittees of Ag and Sec of Ag and copy AFWA and other Regional Associations.

3) F&W Health Committee submitted a resolution on voluntary, positive animal tagging to trace where they are coming from. **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved, Dave Schad, Minnesota, second.** Rich – looked at this and what about small producers, big ones already doing this, but burdensome for small producers. Becky – Argue that disease is burdensome, not helpful when you only mark some. Important in securing our food source. Rich – Seems to be in Department of Ag, opinion going to those, more important for them. Becky – Very important for us to weigh in on this, worked in concert to move forward to control disease as it moves back and forth between states. Bob – How many states that have captive herds control or require reporting? Kirk – Becky, where you going with this as far as copying people? Becky – Intent is to send to U.S. Animal Health Association, welcome suggestions on where else it should go. Kirk – Assume that is where you need to go since Secretary Johan in not in favor of this. Does not have to come out of today. Rich – Send to our Secretary of Ag also. Dave – helpful to share with others. Becky – Yes. **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to send to U.S. Department of Ag, Ag Committees on Health and Senate, U.S. Health Association, AFWA, State Vet. Jeff – Would prefer to have that conversation myself, provide copies to this membership and let them share. Matt Frank, Wisconsin, second. All approved with South Dakota opposed.**

4) Thank you to Indiana (*read*). Personal thanks to Mark and his staff. **Dave Schad moved by acclamation. Approved.**

7. Awards Committee Report – **Jim Marshall (OH)** – Committee was Chief Graham, Keith Sexson, Dave Schad, Jeff Vonk and Terry Steinwand. We received several nominations for four major awards. May 28 reviewed nominations and sent winners to Sheila Kemmis to get awards printed.

8. Bylaws Committee Report – *Ollie Torgerson* – Colorado and Jeff Ver Steeg left the Association so there is no report because Jeff was the sole members of this committee. Marc Miller has stepped up to replace Jeff and I will work with him to bring forward changes in by-laws.

Items we need to address in by-laws are: 1) remove Colorado; 2) two committees that sunset, Health and Public Lands, have been reinstated for 3 more years. No 30-day notice, so we can't vote today, but by-laws authorize electronic voting. I will work with Marc to draft this, take it to Executive Committee and they will make recommendation to send this out for electronic vote. 3) Another item is affiliate membership (we now have over 20). We have 3-4 who have not paid their dues but have no provision to dissolve their membership. Audubon is one, IKES, XON TV (out of business), so we need to prepare language to take them out. We vote them in but there is no way of voting them out at present. 4) Another question for consideration is election of officers. We had Glen Salmon leave a year ago and Mark came on new as DNR director, should we elect officers rather than have alphabetical rotation? There is a lot of turnover of Directors. NE elected Dave Chanda to serve a 2nd term because of this turnover. I will work with Marc, but first we have to have Mark appoint him to the committee. The Executive Committee has a teleconference meeting in August, so we could have a by-laws vote as early as October and move forward. Becky – On discussion of president; we've run into two situations like this already and another one coming up, that is a lot as first year for a new director, but do we go to something different? Rich – Rotation is tied to the annual conference and if our president is elected we could still have that Director turn-over. We are cool with you coming to Iowa. Dave – Consider electing our President, would need nominating committee to move nominations forward to this group, work with by-laws committee. Joe – I am not a Director, but you should leave it the way it is, because they get ownership and engagement real quick if a brand new Director become President. If you change it from the way it is, a new Director may never embrace work with Midwest. It is a good way to learn what we do; it's a flash way of learning. Leave the way it is. Rich – Something to be said for that, powerful motivator for me. Matt – At least look at, have group look at, decide whether we even want to change the process for changing president, whether or not you make the switch. Mark – I would like to talk to Marc personally and get recommendation. Jeff – I support leaving it the way it is because I went through this in the Western and was able to manage it well. Every Association has an Ollie and staff to work with and frankly state staff does a lot of the work. You never know, it is Governor Elections that cause change and you could still be in this change if you change the way the president is appointed.

9. Executive Secretary's Report – *Ollie Torgerson* – PowerPoint Presentation (Exhibit CC) – Today is the final day of my contract with you for this year, tomorrow starts another year which will be seven years for me in this job. In my contract, the President and Executive Committee have to decide between now and October 1 what we do a year from now--keep me or find someone else. An evaluation of my work performance then is done in conjunction with AFWA meeting. Jeff – Someday you will decide you don't want to do this. Is there a process or notice or trigger that you would tell us this is my last year? Ollie – My contract is 30-day notice from me or from you to disengage. I don't know what models are like in other Associations. Jeff – Went through transition with staff person in WAFWA, Larry Kruckenberg, and had to face the reality when he decided to retire from Wyoming. The

association set up account to build funds, had some anticipation. Can't speak to his contract, but think it is more than one year. Build in more than one year that gives some stability. Ollie – Anybody can drop dead at any time. My hero is Bob Brantley of SEAFWA who was Florida's Director for 17 years and has been SEAFWA Executive Secretary for some 15 years now and is still going. Who knows and I would like to continue doing it for a number of years, but who knows about personal health. You bring up a good point. Previously we did two-year contracts and last year Executive Committee decided on one-year contract because there was no pay adjustment. We've had two brand new directors as President, Mike Conlin left and Marc Miller finished out Mike's term. Then Glen Salmon left Mark Reiter came on. We have a one-year presidency and hit two brand new DNR directors in a row. Thanks to Marc and Mark for stepping up and getting the job done. We said goodbye to Glen last year and we welcome you here any time, Glen. Mike Conlin and John Hoskins left during the year and Bob Ziehmer came on. Unfortunately we lost the State of Colorado, they became a member in 1944, so we say farewell to Jeff Ver Steeg, who has been a long-term and strong supporter of MAFWA starting in Illinois. We welcome Bob Ziehmer, new Missouri Director, who is showing interest in our Association and provides Dan Zekor to help. Director turn-over is always an issue and this year could be really big. Three of our states have board appointed Directors: Nebraska, Missouri and Kentucky; and the rest are Governor appointed. In March we transitioned the treasurer position from Joe Kramer after 17 years, with help of Sheila Kemmis in Kansas and Becky offered Sharon Schafer, which required a by-law change. Transition went very smooth, I'm sure Sharon didn't think so. You Directors wanted us to become more involved in banking services so that has increased work for Sharon, who is doing: Southern Wings; Midwest Fish Habitat Partnership; Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference 2012 for Kansas (separate than Association); and Ohio asked to provide banking services for them to send money to the Northern Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, so Sharon has been busy. With Midwest Habitat grant, we hired a grant manager, Tom Niebauer. MAFWA was asked to be represented on the Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership Executive Committee, Doug Nygren from Kansas was appointed by President Mark. I was asked to get Great Lakes states Directors together (8 states) on a teleconference to share habitat priorities from each of the Great Lakes states and identify overlap in habitat priorities. Member states are: IL, MN, PA, IN, NY, WI, MI, and OH. Another one of my responsibilities is sponsorship support: 2004 –sponsor support is unknown because the hotel direct billed those Associations; 2005 - \$28,125; 2006 - \$30,350; 2007 - \$31,950; 2008 - \$33,500; and 2009 - \$35,000. Created five levels of sponsorship and this year, due to federal sponsors, we raised \$35,500. One of my jobs is to manage the website, which takes about 8-10 percent of my time, hired Chris Durrill to set up the web site and she trained me. Getting new affiliate members is another of my duties and have two applications this year: Delta Waterfowl and National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP), both in good standing. Mark – Do we need a motion?

Jeff Vonk, South Dakota, moved to accept new affiliates, Joe Kramer, Kansas second. Approved. Joe – Wondering, in state of Colorado if we exhausted all efforts because Jeff Ver Steeg has done enormous amount of work for MAFWA, he did by-laws for PLJV and Central Flyway. Asking if we exhausted all efforts, travel or budget, he was worth his weight in gold and we shouldn't ignore that. Ollie – It is not money, he is no longer allowed to come to our meeting, so he donated \$3,000 and paid Cos dues. He is getting pressure, asked that all emails be cut off to him and his staff. Maybe you can talk to Colorado at

WAFWA and see what is going on. Jeff – Have you talked to Remington? Ollie – I talked to Remington. Joe - If we can't keep Colorado I recommend we sign a thank you letter to state of Colorado so Jeff is recognized for all the work he has done. Ollie – Guessing a Sagamore award would be in order. Jeff – Maybe we can present that next year and get him to Iowa. **Jeff Vonk, South Dakota, moved to support Sagamore award, Joe Kramer, Kansas, second. Approved.** Matt Frank is stepping up to be Director/Liaison for the Midwest Legal Committee; Resolutions Committee--Becky Humphries is replacing John Hoskins; Awards Committee--Jeff Vonk is replacing Mike Conlin; and on the Audit Committee--Rex Amack is replacing Ken Herron. A professional audit was requested because we were transitioning treasurers and was done by Missouri Department Conservation, so thank you Bob Ziehmer. Also thank Sharon Schafer, new treasurer and Sheila Kemmis, recording secretary for all you do. Everyone steps in and helps by volunteering services or staff. Thanks to Mark Reiter and staff of the Indiana DNR and in particular, Mitch Marcus, as new chief of wildlife for putting together this fine conference. Also, Director Dave Graham, Ohio wanted me to express his personal thanks to you--he greatly appreciated the calls and letters regarding executive leave.

10. New Business -

a. FY11 Budget Approval – **Sharon M. Schafer** (Exhibit DD) – On page 9 of package sent out earlier. Thank Ollie for help on this. Based on 13 states; annual dues=\$23,400; annual dues=\$300; affiliate dues=\$900; sponsorships=\$35,500; registrations=\$13,500; hotel supplement =\$2,350; exhibitors=\$1,400; investments=\$3,000 (included down below), interest= \$20. Estimated expenditures Executive Secretary salary=\$39,186; Executive Secretary travel=\$6,000; Recording Secretary travel (one conference)= \$1500; Treasurer travel (three conferences)= \$4500; accountant=\$2000; accounting software (Quicken for report preparation)= \$100; insurance=\$900, credit card charges=\$550; conference charges=\$47,600; total estimated \$102,000. This is a deficit of about \$20,000 to be covered from previous year's profits. **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to accept to accept budget, Dave Schad, Minnesota, second.** Becky – Thank Sharon for stepping up to do this work as well as her day job as Budget Chief for MI DNRE. Jeff – Concerned with deficit and somebody should take a look at that. When was last dues increase? Ollie – 2004. MO paid first two years of my salary, states paid \$300 dues at that time and to keep me on states paid a special assessment of \$1,500 extra. Jeff – Have account we can draw from to stay solvent, but going in wrong direction if we continue to go down this road. Matt – Executive Committee needs to discuss this. Becky – I thought that a couple of years ago, we discussed it, but with states' budgets decided not to do anything with dues at that time. Have room now to think about that. Ollie – What did we pay for Jen Mock? Sheila – Each state paid \$2,317 a year for three years, then \$5,100 for one. Mark – Is that in the by-laws? Ollie – Yes. Jeff – We need to take a good hard look at that. Also, look at affiliate dues and providence dues. Dave – Did we have a deficit in prior years? Ollie – Budgeting is new for us, we have more going on now and just started budgeting. We have no previous history to examine. **Approved.** Glen – You are taking on more responsibility and more work is being done.

b. Forming New Technical Working Committees – **Ollie Torgerson** – Dave Schad has suggested forming a new technical working committee on hunter and angler recruitment. All of these require by-laws changes. Dave – Came to me from people working in this area from our different agencies, new approaches, panel indicated ideas floating around and value in discussing. Would benefit and different challenges in Midwest, demographics and access, pull together on regional basis to compare notes. Ollie – Worth discussion, who would organize efforts and this would require a director/liaison and require by-law change. Jeff – Clearly support that, SD would support attendance. Joe – Question would be how states would send people, R/R has different part of agency, education part, all kinds of people engaged, get solid representation from each state, find areas of education. Dave – Good point, have folks on both angling/hunting/skill building/education, we have well defined program with 1-2 people overlooking that. You made a good point, challenging to find that one person. Becky – Agree, we have pulled together all of our R/R efforts to share cross marketing, helped our agency, more share amongst states, great idea. Matt – All doing a lot of work in this area and would participate. Bob – Echo idea. Ollie – Clear consensus to start Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Committee, require somebody to organize, put together organizational structure and bring forward for you to approve according to our bylaws. Someone has to take ownership or leadership. Dave – I have someone, Jay Johnson brought this idea to me. He is charged up about it and I will ask him to work with you and help make some appointments. Becky – Dennis Fox will help in our agency. ***Dave Schad, Minnesota moved to go forward, Becky Humphries, Michigan, second. Approved.***

c. Southern Wings Project Approval – **Ollie Torgerson** – MAFWA is doing banking for Southern Wings and we have been asked to approve projects at our level. I am not sure why but perhaps to make sure you directors are aware of projects our states are involved in. Four states participating (IA, MO, SD, WI). Need motion to approve these projects. Mark – Does anyone ask participating states for approval? Ollie- Yes. ***Rich Leopold, Iowa, moved, Bob Ziehmer, Missouri, second. Approved.***

d. VPAP Funding Request – **Ollie Torgerson** – MAFWA is being asked by AFWA to help fund efforts to get front end information on VPAP through Southwick Associates, for one year asked for \$2,000 in-kind money, total of \$10,000, each Association asked to contribute \$2,450 with idea of having information for Congress to ask for funding. Mark – Action requires amending budget. Ron Regan– Can reduce the number to \$2,000. Dave – Status of rulemaking, program this fall or 2011? Ron – Rule-making moving ahead and Jen working with your state contacts, working on webinar and think still this year. Dave – Seems challenging, doesn't seem realistic. Rich – Know taking high risk, but order of magnitude makes this worthwhile. ***Rich Leopold, Iowa, moved to amend budget by \$2,000, second by Kirk Nelson, Nebraska. Approved.***

Joe – Supporter of Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership. I am the messenger and asking if MAFWA is willing to become a member. Is one of 17 fish habitat partnerships (*read second paragraph*). MN is not on this list. Dave – With 10,000 lakes don't need reservoirs. MOU there and obvious Midwest is supporting this and states are supporting this. Copies the North American Waterfowl Management as far

as funding. Asking MAFWA consider being member and sign MOU. Ollie – We already sponsored this and this is more of a formality. They wanted to show broad base of support. **Bob Ziehmer, Missouri, moved to sign MOU, Rich Leopold, Iowa second. Approved**

Mark – IT guys asked if we wanted to broadcast this conference via video-conference and he thought we should consider this. Talked to Ollie and asked him to look at for Iowa. Becky had comments that there may be things on agenda that we don't want to talk about that openly. Becky – Peeked curiosity, retention laws, if we video tape, discussing items under litigation, informal discussion could hurt. Need to think about retention schedule for meeting minute recordings. Food for thought. Matt – Get presentations that are very good. On website. Educating public. Ollie – Electronic copies placed in proceedings and in minutes. Rich – Know our entire lives, have an audience here and as we look forward to Iowa, have sub-group look through and do some discussions offline if needed. Mark – Talk about this again. Rich – I would like to go through tentative agenda and decide what should be recorded and what should not. Mark – Get suggestions. Dave – Brings to mind another issue, each state should know open meeting laws, what authorities we have to exclude people from disrupting meetings. Rich – With conversations we have had, don't feel nervous, and have legal eagle in background to be sure following letter of the law in home state.

Mark – Appreciate everyone coming; the support and sponsors; Chief of Wildlife Mitch Marcus handled the bulk of the work with lots of staff help with door prizes and program; Brad, Jennifer and Michelle for AV and all help from IN staff; and Ollie. This all came together.

11. Passing of Gavel to Iowa – Mark Reiter, Indiana passed gavel to Rich Leopold, Iowa. **Rich Leopold** – Gave past president's award to Mark at Awards Luncheon, but need to stop and recognize Mark.

Adjournment - **Becky Humphries, Michigan, moved to adjourn, Dave Schad, Minnesota, second. Approved.**

Break sponsored by Indiana Wildlife Federation

