

Wisconsin Waterfowl Association
Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, February 17, 2020

Board Members present: Ian Bartelmez, Mike Depies, Andy Ducato, Jim Freck, Tim Gerdmann, Randy Helbach, Dennis Nelson, Todd Schultz, Pat Smith, Peter Strenn, Bruce Urben. Absent: Joe Gonyo, Russ Olson.

Also present: Bruce Ross and Kelcy Boettcher

Agenda:

- **6:30 pm – Financial Report**

Financials were emailed out and posted on the board secure page.

- **6:35 pm - Executive Director's Report**

Bruce Ross gave an overview of the Executive Director's report and the feedback on the annual meeting and survey results from the meeting's attendees. Regarding the board's decision to create an ad hoc committee on the Wisconsin Waterfowlers Conference, Bruce and Bruce Urben recently spoke with an informed group of conservation organizations and state and federal agencies on moving forward with such a meeting. Planning is still in the early stages as far as the purpose of the conference, where and when it would be held and ways to make it successful. Bruce suggested the board put together an ad hoc committee. WWA completed our waterfowl zone survey with almost 700 responses that has been shared with the WDNR. Bruce, Randy and Bruce Urben had a conference call with George Ermert who has volunteered to be WWA's voice in Madison. Bruce recommended that WWA register as a principal organization for a small fee and will have some reporting requirements. After discussion regarding the investment return and staff time, Dennis motioned, Todd seconded, motion unanimously approved. Rob Monette started as Associate RD on February 1st and Bruce has notified the chapters of the new staff assignments.

- **7:20 pm – Director's Commitments**

Bruce Urben reported that the Making a Difference document was presented at the last board meeting and all directors were asked to complete and return the form prior to this meeting. To date, Bruce Urben reported that we've only received this back from half of the board. It is a critical component to moving forward with committee assignments and becoming more impactful in our missions and to help guide staff moving forward.

- **7:25 pm – Committee Assignments**

Bruce Urben asked that all board members confirm their commitments on their committees. The Executive Committee meets approximately once a quarter to deal with large issues that may need resolving between scheduled board meetings. The committee consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and past President, Pat Smith. The Habitat Committee consists of Jim Freck (chair), Mike Depies and Tim Gerdmann and Andy Ducato have committed to join. The Education Committee consists of Ian Bartelmez (chair), Dennis Nelson, Bruce Urben and Todd Schultz. For the new Ad-Hoc Waterfowlers Conference Committee, Andy Ducato and Pat Smith volunteered, Andy will chair. The Policy Committee consists of Randy Helbach (chair), Bruce Urben and Todd Schultz. The Development Committee consists of Russ Olson, Joe Gonyo, Peter Strenn and Pat Smith and Dennis Nelson volunteered to join. This committee could use additional help from experienced chapter members and Pat Smith volunteered to chair. The

Communications Committee has volunteer Kevin Banaszak helping with Facebook but needs significant additional help as social media is a critical component for the organization to move forward.

- **8:00 pm - Action Planning**

Bruce Ross went over the emailed action plans and reiterated that this was the capture of conversations held over the past year and that it is too much, but gives our committees options for what to pick. The hope is that the committees can use this in their next meetings, add, remove and/or update and actively embrace and move forward with the items that remain.

- **8:05 pm - Calendar Update**

Bruce Ross reported that the plan for the 2021 Calendar is to take the photographs submitted through our Facebook Calendar Contest and have a board member sort through those, re-post them onto Facebook and select the final photographs. Ian and Todd volunteered and will assist.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm