

## Final Minutes

WTWG Conference Call  
1:00 – 2:15 EDT October 19, 2006

*Participants:* Jack Barclay, Kristin Brugger, Jim Goodyear, Barnett Rattner, Don Sparling, Joe Sullivan, Louise Venne

### **Old Business**

1. **Minutes from last meeting.** Barnett provided a summary of minutes from Anchorage, but since written minutes were not available, no vote for approval was possible.
2. **Treasurer's report.** Jim reported the current balance of the WTWG's account is \$3880.60. Income has been from member dues. Expenses have been:  
\$500 Student travel award  
\$200 Student book award  
\$3 Fee for returning paper checks
3. **Newsletter and Communications Report.** Louise reported that the upcoming newsletter was almost completed. The length is similar to past newsletters. There was discussion regarding the number of newsletters per year. We have been targeting 4 per year. Depending on the availability of pertinent information, the number may be reduced to 3 per year.

Barnett requested suggestions for Chair editorials that appear in each newsletter.

The website needs to be updated. Suggestions for web content included opportunities for graduate education and funding sources for graduate students. Joe volunteered to coordinate updates to the website. Joe was to contact Earl Wyatt, TWS webmaster to determine what needs to be done to update WTWG website.

We need an updated brochure. Jack and Louise will work to develop the brochure.

4. **By-Laws.** Barnett provided a brief update on the WTWG by-laws. At this time, there is no need to update the by-laws, but the official copy of the by-laws needs to have the date on which they were finalized. That date was determined to be September 26, 2005, the date they were approved at the annual TWS conference.
5. **Draft Goals Statement.** In the by-laws and on WTWG website, the goals of WTWG are listed. Barnett brought them up for discussion regarding whether they were appropriate or needed updating. All thought they were adequate as written as long as a minor typographical error on the website copy was corrected.

6. **Membership.** Don would work to recruit members from those that had been members in the past, speakers at the conference that present contaminant papers, and all TWS members that show an interest in contaminants.
7. **2007 Symposium.** Barnett has contacted Steve Sheffield regarding trying to coordinate the symposium with the Steady State WG, but he did not hear anything back. As an alternative, the proposed topic for a symposium is Transboundary Pollution in conjunction with the International Wildlife WG. Dick Halbrook has been working to coordinate the effort. We tentatively have nine or ten speakers lined up and are close to being able to submit a proposal to Headquarters.
8. **Outreach.** There was agreement that we need to do more to reach out to the general TWS membership regarding contaminant issues. One possible approach was to select a member of WTWG and focus on how they contribute to Wildlife Science. A few names were proposed regarding who that might be with consideration being given to selecting a member who works as a consultant to highlight the growing number of wildlife biologists employed as consultants or with other private industry.

We will continue with the Graduate Student Award Competition.

### **New Business**

1. For those attending the SETAC meeting in Montreal, there will be a get-together on November 7. Location and time will be posted at the meeting.
2. **Dues change.** Jack Barclay noted that WTWG's dues are \$7, whereas most other WG's annual dues are \$5.  
Louise Venne proposed that dues for full members remain at \$7, but dues for student members be reduced to \$3.  
Don Sparling 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Motion passed with unanimous approval pending agreement from TWS Headquarters. Barnett to follow-up.
3. **Toxic Chemical Compound Policy Statement.** This policy statement is due to expire in the next couple of years. Barnett thought it would be appropriate for the WTWG to review the statement as well as the background information on which the statement was based. He asked Kristin to look into the issue and report back.
4. **Control of Environmental Contamination Due to Lead Shot.** WTWG has been asked by John Organ to work on this issue. Barnett reported that the issue might be expanded to include input from American Fisheries Society regarding concerns over the impacts of lead sinkers as well as lead shot. Barnett would follow-up with AFS.

The issue of exposure from upland game hunting was raised as an additional potential issue to be addressed, as well as skeet or other shooting ranges.