

Final Minutes

WTWG Conference Call
11:00 – 12:15 EDT June 12, 2007

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

Old Business

1. **Minutes from last conference call.** Joe distributed a final draft of the minutes from the 3/29/2007 conference call prior to the current conference call. Kristin requested a slight revision to the discussion of nominations of new officers, and pending those corrections, the minutes were approved. (Louise moved to accept; Jack seconded the motion; approval was unanimous)
2. **Treasurer's report.** Jim reported a balance of \$3663.63. There have been no expenditures since the last conference call. A check for dues totaling \$224 was received and deposited.
3. **Newsletter and Communications Report.** The next newsletter is scheduled to be sent by the end of June, 2007. Contributions for the upcoming newsletter are sparse so far. A few ideas were suggested for the "Chair's Corner." Don said he would contribute an article on the updated Ecotoxicology of Reptiles and Amphibians publication he is working on. Other contributions would be the Bios of the candidates and a list of recent publications by members.

The brochure is ready for a draft printing. Kristin volunteered her color printer to produce the final brochures. The printing will likely occur in August.

The website has been updated. Ruxandra Giura has taken over the responsibility of TWS website management from Earl Wyatt. Joe still needs to provide all meeting/conference call minutes to be posted on the website.

4. **Graduate Student Research Award.** An announcement appeared in the most recent Wildlifer. The consensus was to keep it as a research award, rather than a travel award. All agreed that the award could be for on-going work and did not need to be for a proposal for new research. There was support for the expectation that the work would be presented at a TWS conference. Louise would include a notice to all members of the WTWG and submit an announcement on the TWS listserv.
5. **Membership.** Nothing new to report. Membership remains at 63 members.
6. **Elections.** Don asked for nominations for upcoming board openings. Nominations are needed for Treasurer, Chair-Elect and one Vice-Chair.

7. **2007 Symposium.** Plans for the proposal for the ½ day symposium focusing on Transboundary Pollution in conjunction with the International Wildlife WG are moving along according to schedule. Nothing new to add.
8. **Status on Technical Review “Lead In the Environment.”** On May 24th, Barnett received a draft of the Technical Review from Chris Goddard, representing the American Fisheries Society. Steve Sheffield had provided a write-up of secondary poisoning issues. Barnett would incorporate Steve’s contribution into the overall document while performing some editing. The current draft includes issues dealing with both lead fishing tackle and lead shot. Upland game and water/wetland issues are discussed. Particulate and dissolved lead topics are included.

This technical review of environmental lead will be taken by TWS Council and in conjunction with AFS used to draft a position statement.

New Business

1. **Election Software:** Louise alerted the group that freeware for conducting elections and surveys is available. The current consensus is that with our small membership, conducting “manual” elections is a simple task and specialized software is not necessary.
2. **Position Statements, etc.:** Jack discussed a notification he received from TWS stating that Working Groups, Sections, and Chapters should have any position statements approved by Council prior to releasing that statement. Following the conference call, Barnett forwarded the notice to the board suggesting that we might need to revise our Charter to adhere to this notice from Council. An exchange of e-mails ensued with the majority of the board agreeing that our current charter addresses the issue well enough and that no revision to the charter is necessary at this time.
3. **Contaminant Concerns:** There was a very brief discussion regarding our role as a Working Group in relation to Council. While we agreed that we should not release public statements that do not adhere to TWS policy, we, as a Working Group, need to bring issues regarding contaminants and wildlife to the attention of Council.
4. **SETAC:** We have a meeting room reserved for the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry conference at no charge. The time and date have not been set. We are waiting for the conference schedule to be determined so we can avoid conflicts.
5. **Next Conference Call tentatively scheduled for August 15, 2007.**