

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● Jan. 2, 2019 ● 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. MST

#### ITEM NO. 1: Meeting Called to Order.

#### ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call.

- ✓ Jenifer Wisniewski (TN, President, Conference Co-Chair, Auction)
- ✓ Lance Cherry (NM, Vice President)
- ✓ Dan Dennison (HI, Board)
- ✓ Sara DiRienzo (WY, Secretary, Scholarships)
- ✓ Judy Stokes Weber (VT, Treasurer)
- ✓ Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- ✓ Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- ✓ Mandy Futey (NJ, Board)
- ✓ Darrin Hill (OK, Board)
- ✓ Micah Homes (OK, Ways & Means)
- ✓ Kyle Martens (NE, Board)
- ✓ Kim Nix (AL, Past President)
- ✓ Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)
- ✓ Blake Podhajsky (OK, Awards)
- ✓ Nadia Reimer (KS, Board)
- ✓ Craig Sanchez (NM, Board)
- ✓ Amanda Stroud (SC, Conference Co-Chair)

#### Unable to Attend:

- ✓ Jason Harmon (TN, Board)
- ✓ Bonnie Holding (ME, Scholarships)
- ✓ Jeff Kurrus (NE, Board)

#### ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Minutes.

**MOTION:** Kim Nix moved to approve the Nov. 7, 2018 Board meeting minutes, with amendments. Jenifer Wisniewski seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** Voice vote taken. All present voted in the Affirmative. **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### ITEM NO. 4: Opening Remarks.

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, President  
Happy New Year! Officially in TN now.

#### ITEM NO. 5: Communications Report.

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

Reminding folks to renew membership by end of calendar year to be eligible to enter into the ACI contest. Sent reminder letters to eight states that had not renewed as of early December. Sent “we miss you” letters to six lapsed states, urging them to join/re-join by 12/31, including reminders of dues-exempt options. Received exemption application from Louisiana; promise of application from Illinois. New Individual member: Gina Main (AFWA). Next issue of The Balance Wheel scheduled for Jan. 15. We have 601 subscribers (-6 from last report). All 2018 scholarship recipients have met their

obligations! Five Facebook posts since Nov. 15. Expect that number to climb as we approach awards season. Facebook account has 545 likes (+6 from last report).

**ITEM NO. 6: Treasurer's Report.**

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer

Fiscal Year 2019 "Agency" Members number 46 at this time. We expect to receive additional payments that are currently in process from a few additional states and organizations. We will work with Blake as he sets up the Awards Program dropdown menu of members to facilitate entry to states who are members in good standing. For those "in process" awards program eligibility can be adjusted following receipt of dues and awards payments. Our current assets total \$114,298.13.

**ITEM NO. 7: 2019 ACI Annual Conference (Georgia/South Carolina).**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, Conference Co-Chair

Finalizing accommodations and meals. Feelers out for keynote speakers. Registration opening at the end of the month. Scott will update the website to reflect registration is coming soon on our website. Excursions include dolphin-viewing trip, walking tour or historic site visits.

**ITEM NO. 8: Awards Report.**

Presented by Blake Podhajsky, Awards Chair

Focusing on getting the new contest open. Goal is to open by the end of the month; around Jan. 28. Adjusting photography and video categories. When finalized it will need to be reviewed and approved by the board. Blake will e-mail the proposed changes to board and then we can discuss over e-mail or host a special call. Deadline to submit March 15. Will need category group chairs again; volunteer and suggest to Blake!

**ITEM NO. 9: Auction Report.**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, President and Auction Chair  
Nashville trip again this year!

**ITEM NO. 10: Futures Conference Report.**

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

Colorado Parks and Wildlife would like to host ACI; Kay in discussions about when they could host.

Futures list:

- 2020 New Mexico
- 2021 New Jersey
- 2022 North Carolina Resources Commission
- 2023 Pennsylvania Game Commission
- 2024 Michigan.

**ITEM NO. 11: Scholarship Report.**

Presented by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary and Scholarship Co-Chair

On track for next conference. Bonnie and Sara will review applications and have ready with registrations. The board discussed outreach to states who haven't been to the conference with the potential to set aside scholarships for those states entice attendance. Judy and Scott estimated that seven or eight states would be eligible. Sara and Bonnie to follow up with Scott and Judy for potential targeted engagement. Illinois and Washington were initial target ideas.

**ITEM NO. 12: Ways and Means Report.**

Presented by Micah Holmes, Board Member and Ways and Means Chair

No updates.

**ITEM NO. 13: New Business.**

**Tagline survey-Mandy Futey, NJ, Board.** “Where outdoor communicators connect” still in the lead. The board discussed potential changes to the tagline. “Conservation” was suggested instead of “outdoor” but that repeats a word in our name, which we wanted to avoid. Jenifer suggested taking the three choices to the business meeting at the conference for final discussion and decision.

The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 10-11 a.m. MST.**

**ITEM NO. 14: Adjournment.**

**MOTION:** Darrin Hill moved to approve to adjourn. Alix Pedraza seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** Voice vote taken. All present voted in the Affirmative. **Motion carried unanimously.**

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at **10:27 a.m. MST.**

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*Submitted by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary*