

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● January 9, 2018 ● 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT

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

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

- Kim Nix (AL, President)
- Jenifer Wisniewski (GA, Vice President & Auction)
- Judy Stokes Weber (NH, Treasurer)
- Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- Dan Dennison (HI, Board)
- Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- Heather Feeler (MO, Conference Chair)
- Mandy Futey (NJ, Board)
- Bonnie Holding (ME, Board, Scholarships)
- Blake Podhajsky (OK, Board)
- Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)

#### Unable to Attend:

- Lance Cherry (NM, Secretary)
- Micah Homes (OK, Past President, Ways & Means)
- Andrea Jones (MT, Board)
- Jeff Kurrus (NE, Board)
- Aaron Meier (NV, Awards)
- Sara DiRienzo (WY, Board, Scholarships)

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

**MOTION:** Dan Dennison moved to approve the November 14, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes. Bonnie Holding seconded the motion.

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

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

Presented by Kim Nix, President

President Kim Nix moved directly to Item No. 5. Nothing was discussed.

#### ITEM NO. 5: Nominations for Vacant Awards Chair Position.

Presented by Kim Nix, President

Blake Podhajsky was named to the Awards Chair position. Assistance with group chairs and judges was requested of the board.

**ITEM NO. 6: Spirit Award.**

Presented by Kim Nix, President

Currently all 30 plaque slots are filled on the Spirit Award. President Kim Nix shared Lance Cherry's suggestion to place two winners on each plaque so we can double space provided. Currently there are 30 winners. This solution will allow for a total of 60 slots.

**MOTION:** Judy Stokes Weber moved to approve the recommendation and to reimburse the individual covering the cost upon providing receipt to ACI. Jenifer Wisniewski seconded the motion.

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

**ITEM NO. 7: Communications Report.**

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

**Membership**

- New Agency-level members (or returning after several years): Idaho, New York, Wisconsin, Council to Advance Hunting & the Shooting Sports.
- New member via 2017 conference sponsorship: Fresh Air Educators, Kalkomey.
- New Individual member: Emily-Jo Wiggins (Mississippi) – was not solicited

**Communications**

- Next issue of The Balance Wheel to go out Jan. 15 to 529 subscribers.
- Still striving to collect TBW articles from many scholarship recipients.
- As of Jan. 3, posted to ACI Facebook page 7 times since September meeting. Expect an uptick with approach of the Awards Contest. Currently 460 likes.
- Renewed ACI website domain for 5 years.

**ITEM NO. 8: Treasurer's Report.**

Provided by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer and presented by Kim Nix, President

**Agency membership:** Alabama, Aquatic Resources Education Association, American Sportfishing Association, Arizona, Arkansas, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Colorado, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Connecticut, Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports (new), Florida, Fresh Air Educators (conf sponsor), Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho (new), Iowa, Kalkomey Enterprises (conf. sponsor), Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, National Shooting Sports Council (conf. sponsors), Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (new), North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, PA Fish and Boat, PA Game, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (conf sponsor), South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin (by waiver), Wyoming. (48) Membership payments expected shortly include: Indiana, Kentucky, Nebraska Forest Service, and New Mexico. (52)

- **Sponsorships:** Southwick Associates (Supporting Sponsor - \$250)
- **Associate Membership:** Dinger Associates
- **Individual memberships:** Emily-Jo Wiggins, Mississippi (new)

**FY 2019 memberships** paid ahead: US Fish and Wildlife Service, RBFF (overpaid in 2017 due to conf sponsorship inclusion)

<b>OCT</b>						
	10170	10.10.17	Scott Ball Quarterly	\$1,250.00	\$67,986.15	x
	10171	10.10.17	C.N.A. Surety (Bond)	\$257.00	\$67,729.15	x
Deposit		10.10.17	Vermont Dues & Awards	\$280.00	\$68,009.15	x
	10172	10.11.17	Omni Solutions Group	\$2,700.00	\$65,309.15	x
Deposit		10.12.17	GA 2017 Conf Reg fee	\$350.00	\$65,659.15	x
Deposit		10.12.17	ID dues/AZ Dues&Awards	\$1,080.00	\$66,739.15	x
PP transfer		10.12.17	WV Dues	\$195.30	\$66,934.45	xbalanced
<b>NOV</b>						
PP transfer		11.14.17	VA dues	\$195.30	\$67,129.75	x
PP transfer		11.16.17	FWS 2 years dues & awards	\$703.86	\$67,833.61	x balanced
<b>DEC</b>						
PP transfer		12.6.17	AFWA dues	\$195.30	\$68,028.91	x
PP transfer		12.6.17	Oregon Dues	\$195.30	\$68,224.21	x
PP transfer		12.8.17	Washington dues & awards	\$664.74	\$68,888.95	x
PP transfer		12.12.17	Council to Advance HSS due	\$195.30	\$69,084.25	x
Deposit		12.12.17	S. Carolina dues & awards	\$600.00	\$69,684.25	x
Deposit		12.12.17	Emily Jo Wiggins Indiv mem	\$25.00	\$69,709.25	x
			Visitor Ed. Center Dir			
			Fish Hatchery - PO Box 100			
			Enid, Mississippi 38927			
PP transfer		12.13.17	Dinger Assoc., Assoc. memb	\$48.60	\$69,757.85	x
Deposit		12.18.17	Florida Dues	\$200.00	\$69,957.85	x
PP transfer		12.18.17	S. Dakota dues	\$195.30	\$70,153.15	x
Deposit		12.19.17	Michigan Dues	\$200.00	\$70,353.15	x
Deposit		12.19.17	N. Carolina dues and awards	\$400.00	\$70,753.15	x balanced
Deposit		12.29.17	Iowa Dues and Awards	\$320.00	\$71,073.15	

**ITEM NO. 9: 2017 ACI Annual Conference Wrap-Up (Indiana)..**

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer

Judy Stokes Weber spoke with Jessica Sparger. We expect to receive the check for \$14,000 soon, which typically is in the 10-12 thousand dollar range. It was recommended we continue scholarships and the awards program to generate these wonderful returns to ACI.

**ITEM NO. 10: 2018 ACI Annual Conference (Missouri).**

Presented by Heather Feeler, 2018 Conference Chair

The 2018 ACI Annual Conference will be July 29 through August 2, 2018 at the University Plaza Hotel in downtown Springfield, MO. The room rate will be \$89 per night and includes breakfast for two. The theme for the conference will be “Connecting The Dots”.

- Registration tested and ready to go by end of month.
- Working on sponsors.
- Have a draft agenda for speakers along theme.
- Working on taking credit cards on site.
- Total of 5 speaker spots at 45 minutes.
- Breakouts for groups will have 4 different sessions at 2 different times – video, marketing, social, magazine concentrations.
- Kim suggests doing the 5 minutes of fame again to feature state stories.
- Getting to know you icebreakers and facilitate getting to know everyone.
- Sponsorships – do they include ACI memberships? Missouri is NOT including memberships in any of the sponsorship packages.
- Will focus on getting draft agenda posted.

**ITEM NO. 11: Auction Report.**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, Auction Chair

Nothing to report at this time.

**ITEM NO. 12: Futures Conference Report.**

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

The following states are slated to host future ACI Annual Conferences: 2018 Missouri, 2019 Georgia/South Carolina, 2020 New Mexico, 2021 New Jersey, 2022 Open, 2023 Open, 2024 Michigan.

Good news, futures list has grown, Washington has interest in futures and California is very interested!

**ITEM NO. 13: Scholarship Report.**

Presented by Co-Chairs, Bonnie Holding and Sara DiRienzo

Nothing to report at this time.

**ITEM NO. 14: Ways and Means Report.**

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

Nothing to report at this time.

**ITEM NO. 15: New Business.**

The board tabled discussions on the vacant board position.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 10 a.m. MDT.

**ITEM NO. 16: Adjournment.**

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 pm MDT.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lance Cherry", is written above a horizontal line.

*Submitted by Lance Cherry, Secretary*