

Association for Conservation Information
Special Called Board Meeting (conference call)
10/23/15

Call to Order: President Micah Holmes called the meeting to order.

Roll Call (Kim Nix): Micah Holmes (President, OK), Robin Cahoon (Vice President, UT), Judy Stokes Weber (Treasurer, NH), Kim Nix (Secretary, AL), Phil Bloom (IN), Kathy Garza-Behr (OH), Regina Knauer (MO), Aaron Meier (NV), Blake Podhajsky (OK), Lance Cherry (NM), Jenifer Wisniewski (GA) and Kay Ellerhoff (Futures, MT).

Unable to attend: Jane Gustafson (NE), Don King (Immediate Past President, TN) and Michael Gray (KY)

2016 Conference: President Micah Holmes announced that that because of issues within the Missouri Department of Conservation, Regina Knauer has expressed her apologies that they cannot commit to hosting the conference in 2016.

Micah asked Kay Ellerhoff for an update on ACI's options for a conference host in 2016. Kay said she has talked with Aaron Meier and Nevada has graciously agreed to move their hosting duties up from 2017 to 2016.

Aaron Meier said an RFP to work with Cindy Delany to handle conference administration has been developed. He will decide on an exact location of either Reno or Lake Tahoe as soon as possible, but Nevada will host the 2016 conference.

Because the ACI bylaws state that the membership votes on the conference location, Micah recommended changing the bylaws so that a contingency plan can be put in place for this year and any future years. He outlined two action items that need to be voted on: 1. Change bylaws to create contingency plan; 2. Vote on conference location.

Kay suggested that instead of a bylaw change, the board could ratify the change in location and then the membership could vote on it at the annual conference. Micah expressed concern that we would already be at the conference before this vote could take place and he would rather have it taken care of beforehand since the board has authority to make changes to bylaws.

Regina Knauer made a motion to add phrasing to change the bylaws as outlined in Article 4, C. below; Jenifer Wisniewski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE 4 – Annual Meeting (*addition in bold*)

C. A written invitation for future conferences must be submitted to the Association's Board of Directors prior to the annual conference for its consideration and presentation to the membership during the annual business meeting, at which time a simple majority vote by members present will be necessary for accepting any conference bid. **If the host state is unable to fulfill the role of conference host, the board of directors has the authority to select another host state to fulfill this role.**

Robin Cahoon made a motion to move the 2016 conference location to Nevada. Lance Cherry seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Kay Ellerhoff said that a host site for 2017 is still open and she will be talking to several states who have expressed interest. Regina Knauer said that Missouri would like to serve as host in 2017 since they are unable to in 2016. Phil Bloom said that Indiana also has an interest in hosting in 2017.

Micah asked Kay to have discussions with representatives of Missouri, Indiana and any other state that might want to host between now and the December board meeting. She should be ready to make a recommendation at the December meeting.

Vice President: Micah asked Robin Cahoon to update her status on the board since she has been in her new position for several months. Robin said she will not be able to stay on the board with her new job, but she hopes to continue her membership. She is willing to act as vice president until new officers are elected at the 2016 conference.

Treasurer: Judy Stokes Weber reported that renewals are steadily coming in. She is ready to send the \$5,000 advance to Nevada for the 2016 conference when they need it.

Adjournment: Robin Cahoon made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Kim Nix seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Kim Nix, Secretary