

MINUTES

Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● July 10, 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)
- Lance Cherry (NM, Secretary)
- Judy Stokes Weber (NH, Treasurer)
- Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- Dan Dennison (HI, Board)
- Sara DiRienzo (WY, Board, Scholarships)
- Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- Heather Feeler (MO, Conference Chair)
- Mandy Futey (NJ, Board)
- Bonnie Holding (ME, Board, Scholarships)
- Micah Homes (OK, Past President, Ways & Means)
- Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)
- Blake Podhajsky (OK, Board, Awards)

Unable to Attend:

- Jeff Kurrus (NE, Board)

ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Minutes.

MOTION: Bonnie Holding, ME, moved to approve the May 8, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes. Blake Podhajsky, OK, 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

Kim Nix moved directly to Item No. 5.

ITEM NO. 5: Communications Report.

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

Membership

- Nothing new to report. Judy Stokes Weber is currently sending renewal notices/contest invoices to member states, organizations.

Communications

- Next issue of The Balance Wheel to go out July 16 to 503 subscribers. Auction items for the upcoming conference will be included and some additional conference details.
- 10 Facebook posts since May 8. Most topics were conference-related (registration, hotel, auction, BOD recruitment, etc.). Currently 492 likes (+7 from last report) and 487 followers.
- Updating website with conference information from Heather Feeler as it develops.

ITEM NO. 6: Treasurer's Report.

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer

We will start Fiscal year 2019 in a strong position thanks to a great showing in the Awards Program and continuing to keep active states active and reactivate those who have lapsed. Thanks to Scott Ball for his good work on that account. I am working with a CPA who will review and report out on our books for the last two years and I expect to be able to bring those reviews to the board meeting in July. Checking account activity for April, May and June is shown below.

APR					
	10176	4.2.18	Hosting4less	\$299.40	\$85,925.64 x
Deposit		4.2.18	NSSF 2019 dues	\$200.00	\$86,125.64 x
PP transfer		4.2.18	CA 2019 dues	\$195.30	\$86,320.94 x
	10178	4.5.18	Scott C Ball	\$1,250.00	\$85,070.94 x
	10179	4.5.18	Scott C Ball reimbursement		
			domain name registration	\$194.95	\$84,875.99 x
	10177	4.23.18	VTCommunity Bank -new acct	\$100.00	\$84,775.99 x
MAY					
Direct Deposi		5.4.18	TXParksWildlife 2019 dues	\$200.00	\$84,975.99 x balancec
JUNE					
Direct Deposi		6.5.18	TXparksWildlife 2019 awards	\$1,280.00	\$86,255.99 x
Deposit		6.5.18	CA late payment prev. awards	\$30.00	\$86,285.99 x \$1510.00
			FL current awards payment	\$1,480.00	\$87,765.99 combined
	10180	6.15.18	JSWeber (new checks VT and		
			UPS 2017 books to CPA review	\$129.02	\$87,636.97
PP transfer		6.14.18	AZ 2019 membership	\$195.30	\$87,832.27 x
PP transfer		6.14.18	MI 2019membership & awards	\$273.54	\$88,105.81 x
	10181	6.15.18	The Desoto Savannah 2019		
			conference hotel deposit	\$6,375.00	\$81,730.81
	10182	6.15.18	Missouri Cons.Heritage Found.		
			Scholarship payment	\$11,446.00	\$70,284.81
PP transfer		6.15.18	AZ awards	\$508.26	\$70,793.07 x
PP transfer		6.20.18	PAFishBoat dues**	\$195.30	
			transferred to Community Bnk		
			see that bank statement		
PP transfer		6.20.18	ND dues	\$195.30	\$70,988.37 x
PP transfer		6.20.18	2018 ND dues	\$195.30	\$71,183.67 x
PP transfer		6.20.18	HI dues and awards	\$312.66	\$71,496.33 x
PP transfer		6.21.18	SD dues	\$195.30	\$71,691.63 x
Deposit		6.8.18	Close MM, transfer balance	\$7,433.44	\$79,125.07 x
PP transfer		6.21.18	AFWA dues	\$195.30	\$79,320.37 x
PP transfer		6.29.18	AL dues and awards*	\$664.74	\$79,985.11 balanced
			* Not received yet by Northway Bank		
			** Erroneously transferred to VT ACI acct.		

TASKS AHEAD:

- (Completed) In process of moving account from NH to Vermont and obtaining new checks. Will take care in the timing of this to ensure continuity of business.
- (Completed) Plan to send out invoices at the end of June. Blake as soon as you are confident of the numbers, I would appreciate final numbers of AWARDS BY STATE quickly as there are a couple of states who must pay these expenses, or at least strongly prefer to pay them BEFORE June 30 and will be calling.
- (Completed) Ahead of invoicing there will be work to do on the website to change my contact info to:

Judy Stokes Weber
1085 Lake Road
Panton, VT 05491
Email – judystokesweber@gmail.com
Phone – 603-276-0016 (mobile) (this was incorrect in my April report)

- (Completed) Also new W-9's will be emailed to bill payer contact in each state to ensure smooth billing and payment processes. I have already notified the IRS of the change in place of business and established ACI as doing business in VT with the Secretary of State.
- (Completed) PayPal account will need to be amended with new bank and contact info, once I successfully navigate their tough policies and practices.
- (Not needed, phew!) Once that is done, code (available from PayPal) will need to change on website to facilitate proper transfer of funds when the website is used to pay invoices or to join ACI initially.

ITEM NO. 7: 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.

MO is working on the final details for the conference. As of today's date, 175 attendees have confirmed. Yesterday was final day to take advantage of the early-bird rates. Conference rates will go to full price today. The conference program is being finalized for print. Board member names and committee chairs will be added to the program. This year MO will focus more on networking opportunities with reception, getting to know you, icebreakers and affinity tables.

This year's Awards Banquet will not be formal. This year the theme will be an outdoor/wilderness picnic theme. Guests will be encouraged to dress more casual in their favorite outdoor clothing.

ITEM NO. 8: Awards Report.

Presented by Blake Podhajsky, Awards Chair

The plaques were finalized and sent for production today. The 85 plaques are scheduled for delivery to Heather Feeler, MO, on July 20. Blake will be putting a PowerPoint together for the program and may need assistance. Following this year's contest, judges were surveyed and provided valuable feedback that will be discussed in the future. Blake Podhajsky, OK, graciously agreed to continue his role as the ACI Awards Chair.

ITEM NO. 9: Auction Report.

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, Auction Chair

This year's auction items are really good and include; the New Mexico elk hunt, a baseball package and an Argentina Dove Hunt. Items are being shipped to Heather Feeler, MO. ACI members are encouraged to bring items to the auction. Jenifer Wisniewski will lead the charge to promote the auction items by word-of-mouth. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted. Shipping is still to be determined.

ITEM NO. 10: Futures Conference Report.

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

Georgia/South Carolina will host the 2019 ACI Annual Conference, July 7-12 in Savannah, GA at the DeSoto, Savannah.

The following states are slated to host future ACI Annual Conferences: 2020 New Mexico, 2021 New Jersey, 2022 Open, 2023 Pennsylvania, 2024 Michigan. The futures list now includes; Kansas, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming and Wisconsin have expressed interest.

ITEM NO. 11: Scholarship Report.

Presented by Bonnie Holding and Sara DiRienzo, Scholarship Co-Chairs

Letters were sent and this year's ACI Scholarship Recipients and all have responded. This year's recipients are:

- Benjamin Bohall (Nebraska Forest Service)
- Amy Bulger (Wyoming)
- Dan Dennison (Hawaii)
- Jessica Fisher (New Mexico)
- Mandy Futey (New Jersey)
- Karen Grimes (Iowa)
- Kaitlyn Ischinger (New Jersey)
- Keya Jackson (South Carolina)
- Brad Parsons (Michigan)
- Aubrey Pawlikowski (Georgia)
- Katie Purcell (Florida)
- Troy Swauger (California)
- Tim Tassitano (Virginia)
- Meagan Thorpe (Pennsylvania)
- Nicola Whitley (New Hampshire)

ITEM NO. 12: Lifetime Member Scholarship.

Presented by Kim Nix, President

This year Steve "Wildman" Wilson has been awarded the Lifetime Member Scholarship. Nominations for lifetime members shall be made at the business meeting. Kim Nix will ask Steve to consider being the auctioneer at this year's conference.

ITEM NO. 13: Ways and Means Report.

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

Nothing to report at this time.

ITEM NO. 14: New Business.

The board discussed the current board member description and qualifications. No action was taken. Kim Nix will be appointing the nominating committee and auditing committee at the conference. Sara DiRienzo (WY) expressed interest in serving on the nominating committee. If you are interested in serving on either committee please email Kim at Kim.Nix@dcnr.alabama.gov.

This year there will be four board vacancies to fill.

- Blake Podhajsky (OK) - Term Expires 2018
- Bonnie Holding (ME) - Term Expires 2018
- Joanie Straub (MO) – Resigned, Term Expires 2018
- Andrea Jones (MT) – Resigned, Term Expires 2020

The board discussed the potential development of a tagline for ACI. The initial suggestion included; ***Supporting Communication, Marketing, Education and Outreach Excellence.***

Kay Ellerhoff offered a suggestion to conduct a conference contest to be voted on it at the Business Meeting. Scott Ball suggested appointing a committee from the general members to work through the process, while earning ACI service credit. Further discussion will occur at the upcoming conference.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 29, 2018 at 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. CST.

The business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018 at 9 a.m. to CST.

ITEM NO. 15: Adjournment.

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m. MST.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lance Cherry".

Submitted by Lance Cherry, Secretary