

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● September 4, 2019 ● 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. MST

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

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

- ✓ Lance Cherry (NM, Vice President)
- ✓ Sara DiRienzo (WY, Secretary, Scholarships)
- ✓ Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- ✓ Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- ✓ Judy Stokes Weber (VT, Treasurer)
- ✓ Tim Akimoff (OR, Board)
- ✓ Patricia Allen (AFWA, Board)
- ✓ Jason Harmon (TN, Board)
- ✓ Darrin Hill (OK, Board)
- ✓ Micah Homes (OK, Ways & Means)
- ✓ Kyle Martens (NE, Board)
- ✓ Aaron Meier (NV, Awards)
- ✓ Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)
- ✓ Blake Podhajsky (OK, Awards)
- ✓ Ashley Sanchez (NV, Board)
- ✓ Craig Sanchez (NM, Board)

#### Unable to Attend:

- ✓ Jenifer Wisniewski (TN, President, Conference Co-Chair, Auction)
- ✓ Nadia Reimer (KS, Board)

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

**MOTION:** Kyle Martens moved to approve the July 7, 2019 board meeting minutes. Sara DiRienzo seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION:** Kyle Martens voted to approved the July 10, 2019 Business meeting minutes with amendments. Jason seconded the motion.

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

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

Presented by Lance Cherry, Vice President  
Why aren't you fishing now?

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

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

##### Membership

- Have contacted all Agency-level members, and non-member states for Online Directory updates (some more than once). All but 17 have responded.
- Per Judy's report, we have 35 agency-level members.

## Communications

- Next issue of The Balance Wheel will be published Sept. 16 and emailed to 618 subscribers (570 last report)
- 7 of 10 scholarship authors have submitted their TBW articles by the 8/31 deadline. Will be sending gentle reminders to the others.
- 592 Facebook likes (554 last report)
- 699 Facebook followers (551 last report)
- 26 Facebook posts since July 1
- New single-day website visit record: 494 on 7/17/19. (Previous record: 404 after 2018 conference)

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

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer and Kyle Martens, Auditing Committee

**CD investments with the checking account funds:** As you may recall from the July board meeting ACI's annual budget was estimated at \$45,000 for 2020. We could invest \$15,000 per year, reviewed and agreed upon each year by the board for a specified term that did not tie it up for too long in case there comes a time when some other use for funds is preferred. Please discuss and determine if the board has a recommendation for me to carry out as far the amount, term and or interest rate.

**Surety bond:** This is an insurance policy, also called a dishonesty bond, to insure the resources of an organization against misdeeds of a treasurer. The ACI Bylaws require the purchase of \$30,000 in coverage. I suggest we up this to a number more in line with the actual value of our resources. The current dishonesty bond is for \$50,000 and the annual premium is \$257. An increase in coverage to \$75,000 would increase the annual premium to \$320. And, an increase to \$100,000 would increase the annual premium to \$359. We currently pay have \$276 annually for \$50,000 of coverage.

**Fiscal Year 2020 "Agency" Members (35):** ASA, AFWA, CA, CO, CS Foundation, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IA, KS, ME, LL Natural Resources District, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA Game, TN, TX, USFWS, UT, VA, WI, WY.

We started Fiscal Year 2020 in a strong financial position thanks to an ongoing team effort. We will hear about returns from the excellent Georgia-S. Carolina conference in November.

As of 8.31.18 we have a balance in our checking account of \$112,528.68  
Transactions since July 1 appear below.

### JULY

10222	7.1.19	JSW T Stipend payment	\$1,250.00
10223	7.1.19	SCB M Stipend payment	\$1,250.00
Deposit	7.1.19	NE Dues and Awards	\$1,520.00
PP Transfer	7.1.19	OH Dues and Awards	\$312.66
PP Transfer	7.1.19	NJ Dues and Awards	\$586.50
Deposit	7.2.19	ID Dues	\$200.00
Deposit	7.2.19	Lower LOOP NRD Dues/Awards	\$280.00
Deposit	7.12.19	TN dues and awards	\$960.00
Deposit	7.12.19	NH Dues	\$200.00
PP Transfer	7.12.19	NV dues and awards	\$938.58

		Congressional Sportsmens Foundation	\$195.30
PP Transfer	7.12.19		
PP Transfer	7.15.19	WV dues	\$195.30
		Scott Ball Conference reimbursement	\$1,423.34
10224	7.15.19		
10225	7.15.19	Judy Weber Conf reimburse.	\$1,500.00
Deposit	7.16.19	Texas awards	\$1,440.00
10226	7.16.19	Blake Podhajsky Conf travel	\$1,606.33
Deposit	7.18.19	Maine Dues and awards	\$360.00
Wire Transfer	7.18.19	Awards Force (new platform)	\$5,650.00
Wire Fee	7.18.19	Awards Force Wire Transfer	\$20.00
10227	7.18.19	K2 Awards	\$2,770.10
PP Transfer	7.31.19	S3 Sponsorship	\$488.70
 <b>AUG</b>			
Deposit	8.1.19	New Mexico dues and awards	\$1,400.00
Deposit	8.1.19	California Dues	\$200.00
Deposit	8.1.19	Florida FW Commission Dues	\$200.00
Deposit	8.1.19	Wisconsin DNR dues& awards	\$400.00
		Georgia DNR Dues and awards	\$880.00
10228	8.3.19		
10228	8.5.19	Conference Scholarships	\$8,160.72
PP Transfer	8.22.19	USFWS Dues 2020 and 2021	\$390.90
PP Transfer	8.22.19	USFWS awards payment	\$1,095.06

**MOTION:** Kyle Martens moved to direct the treasurer to invest 25,000 in interest-bearing CD for 12 months. Sara DiRienzo seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION:** Kyle Martens moved to increase the required surety bond to \$75,000 to provide corresponding protection for the actual checking account balance. Blake Podhajsky seconded the motion.

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

**ITEM NO. 7: 2020 ACI Annual Conference (New Mexico)**

IT IS GOING TO BE EPIC. Working on other hotel options. Get ready for a great train ride. Lance is working with Judy on the conference financial operations.

**ITEM NO. 8: Auction and Sponsorship Report.**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, President and Auction Chair  
 No updates.

**ITEM NO. 9: Futures Conference Report.**

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

2021 host: TN Wildlife Resources!  
2022: North Carolina  
2023: Pennsylvania  
2024: Michigan  
2025: New Jersey  
2026: Oklahoma  
2027: Nevada

Oregon/Washington co-host idea floating around....

Kim Nix sent a thank you note to ACI, and was very honored to be nominated for and receive the lifetime membership.

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

Presented by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary and Scholarship Chair  
Contacted two scholarship recipients about holding over their scholarship until the next year.

**ITEM NO. 12: Awards Report.**

Presented by Blake Podhajsky, Awards Chair  
ACI is signed-on with the new awards contest platform, Awards Force. Blake and Aaron completed training on the platform; it will be an easy transition.

The six category evaluation teams are working to develop recommendations about the contest categories. Everything is on the table from descriptions and scoring to eliminating or adding categories. The groups are set to provide Blake with feedback with enough time to bring recommendations to the board in November.

Blake and Aaron are developing a system for dividing the contest duties.

**ITEM NO. 13: Ways and Means Report.**

Presented by Micah Holmes, Board Member and Ways and Means Chair  
Nothing to report.

**ITEM NO. 14: New Business.**

- The new slogan announced at conference and the Balance Wheel, but still needs to be incorporated into the logo. Lance aims to have some mock-ups to present at the next meeting.

The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019 at 10 a.m.**

**ITEM NO. 15: Adjournment.**

**MOTION:** Darrin Hill moved to adjourn. Blake Podhajsky 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 **10:43 a.m. MST.**

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*Submitted by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary*