

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● January 8, 2020 ● 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)
- ✓ Sara DiRienzo (WY, Secretary, Scholarships)
- ✓ Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- ✓ Judy Stokes Weber (VT, Treasurer)
- ✓ Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- ✓ Tim Akimoff (OR, Board)
- ✓ Patricia Allen (AFWA, Board)
- ✓ Jason Harmon (TN, Board)
- ✓ Micah Homes (OK, Ways & Means)
- ✓ Darrin Hill (OK, Board)
- ✓ Aaron Meier (NV, Awards)
- ✓ Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)
- ✓ Nadia Reimer (KS, Board)
- ✓ Ashley Sanchez (NV, Board)
- ✓ Craig Sanchez (NM, Board)

#### Unable to Attend:

- ✓ Kyle Martens (NE, Board)
- ✓ Blake Podhajsky (OK, Awards)

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

**MOTION:** Lance Cherry moved to approve the November 2019 board meeting minutes, with amendments. Craig Sanchez 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.

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

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

##### Communications

- Next issue of The Balance Wheel will be published Jan. 15 and emailed to 609 subscribers (610 last report)
- 602 Facebook likes (599 last report)
- 711 Facebook followers (708 last report)
- 11 Facebook posts since Nov. 6

##### Membership

- Have contacted remaining non-renewed and lapsed agency members, advising them of the importance of renewing/joining before Dec. 31 to be eligible for Awards Contest.

- Current member count:
  - 48 Agency-level
  - 1 Sponsorship
  - 1 Individual

The board discussed if job postings be for member agencies only. There was not determination made.

**ITEM NO. 6: Treasurer’s Report.**

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer

ACI has 48 “agency members” as of the end of December. A list will be provided to the Awards Chair to use in the drop down menu for eligibility for the awards program. Steady member Vermont has no current I & E leader and MA is unresponsive. These two would have brought us up to the 50 mark, our usual benchmark.

The Treasurer has filed ACI’s required annual report with the state of Wyoming where we were incorporated in 1984 and prepared IRS Form 1099s for Scott and Judy, reflecting their stipends.

We have not yet invested the designated portion of our cash on hand in a CD as voted on by the Board in September. There are products available and we will make a choice soon and conclude the necessary arrangements.

**Checking Account Register**

<b>NOV</b>				
		Delaney/Conference		
Deposit	11.6.19	Proceeds	\$5,683.61	\$116,121.83
		Delaney-NM Conf seed		
10235	11.8.19	money	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	\$111,121.83
Deposit	11.7.19	RBFF dues	\$200.00	\$111,321.83
Deposit	11.1.19	SC Dues and awards	\$1,280.00	\$112,601.83
		Membership in AFWA-		
10236	11.18.19	arrears	<b>\$250.00</b>	\$112,351.83
10237	11.20.19	2020 Membership in AFWA	<b>\$250.00</b>	\$112,101.83
<b>DEC</b>				
Deposit	12.11.19	Aquatic Res. Ed. Assn mem’ship	\$200.00	\$112,301.83
Deposit	12.31.19	Alabama dues and awards	\$800.00	\$113,101.83
	12.31.19	NH Acct.	\$1,400.00	
	12.31.19	VT Acct.	\$113,101.83	
		<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$114,501.83</b>	

Used to be AFWA members, but that lapsed. We are members again for 2020!  
 Forwarded conference money for NM to Delaney to help with conference details.

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

Presented by Lance Cherry, Vice President

Sponsorship links are now up on the website. If you have ideas for sponsors, point them our way. The more money we have, the more fun we can have!

We are finalizing speakers now. We might have an agenda for the next meeting. There will be a special Sunday locovore workshop with DJ Case.

Shuttles are updated on the travel portion of the website.

The board meeting is planned for Sunday, 4 p.m.

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

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, President and Auction Chair

Craig started to solicit donations including a handgun; a hunt for elk or deer in the works.

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

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

Checking in on the states on the futures list.

Future list:

2021 host: TN Wildlife Resources

2022: North Carolina

2023: Pennsylvania

2024: Michigan

2025: New Jersey

2026: Oklahoma

2027: Nevada

**ITEM NO. 10: Scholarship Report.**

Presented by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary and Scholarship Chair

Sara plans to work on the scholarship applications to make it available just before March 1 when registration opens. Scholarship applications will be open for two weeks.

**ITEM NO. 11: Awards Report.**

Presented by Aaron Meir, Awards Co-Chairs

Aaron and Blake are moving contest details over to the new platform and finalizing language for new categories. They are touching base with platform hosts on Friday. The platform will be up and running by the end of the month.

It's time to start recruiting judges. The contest needs around 100.

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

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

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

- ACI scholarship for R3 Symposium- Jennifer proposed connecting communications people to R3 folks via scholarships for ACI members to R3 symposium in May.

Lance, Nadia, and Craig voiced support. Nadia suggested requirements to share information and best practice. There would be an application like with the ACI Conference scholarships.

**MOTION:** Jenifer Wisniewski moved to offer 10 scholarships at \$600 each, \$6,000 total, for ACI members to attend the R3 Symposium in May 2020. Lance Cherry seconded the motion.

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

- ACI Facebook group- Is everyone one with doing a group for ACI and people will join? Many said yes. Jenifer will move forward with creating the group and invites.
- Increasing engagement with The Balance Wheel- Jenifer asked for ideas to make the topics more engaging. Scott's analytics show people are clicking and reading. Suggestions for Jenifer including more stories from her experience, more contributors, and sharing from our agency's content.
- Logo update – Lance is working to update the logo. The goal is to unveil at this year's conference.
- Re-election questions – When your board term expires you have to wait 1 year before rejoining. Alternatively, you could run for an office.

The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 10 a.m.**

#### **ITEM NO. 14: Adjournment.**

**MOTION:** Craig Sanchez moved to adjourn. Scott Ball 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 **10:50 a.m. MST.**

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*Submitted by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary*