

MINUTES

Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Conference Call ● March 4, 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)
- ✓ Sara DiRienzo (WY, Secretary, Scholarships)
- ✓ Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- ✓ Judy Stokes Weber (VT, Treasurer)
- ✓ Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- ✓ Patricia Allen (AFWA, Board)
- ✓ Jason Harmon (TN, Board)
- ✓ Micah Homes (OK, Ways & Means)
- ✓ Darrin Hill (OK, Board)
- ✓ Kyle Martens (NE, Board)
- ✓ Blake Podhajsky (OK, Awards)
- ✓ Nadia Reimer (KS, Board)
- ✓ Ashley Sanchez (NV, Board)

Unable to Attend:

ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Minutes.

- ✓ Lance Cherry (NM, Vice President)
- ✓ Kim Nix, (Immediate Past President)
- ✓ Tim Akimoff (OR, Board)
- ✓ Aaron Meier (NV, Awards)
- ✓ Alix Pedraza (SC, Board)
- ✓ Craig Sanchez (NM, Board)

MOTION: Darren Hill moved to approve the January 2020 board meeting minutes, with amendments. Jason Harmon 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)

Off to a great start. TN rocking for 2021.

ITEM NO. 5: Communications Report.

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair

Membership

- With the beginning of the Awards Contest, Scott has concluded actively recruiting new members for now. However, Judy is pursuing a new lead for Massachusetts.
- Updated member count
 - 49 Agency-level
 - 1 Sponsorship
 - 1 Individual

Communications

- Next issue of The Balance Wheel will be published March 16 and emailed to 606 subscribers (609 last report)
- 611 Facebook likes (602 last report)
- 720 Facebook followers (711 last report)
- 11 Facebook posts since Jan. 6

ITEM NO. 6: Treasurer's Report.

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer

ACI has 49 "agency members" as of the end of February. A list was be provided to the Awards Chair to use in the drop down menu for eligibility for the awards program. Indiana is a new member.

The treasurer has completed and obtained signatures to open a CD at TIAA online bank. As of this writing we are waiting for a secure email info from the bank to transfer our information. Once the account is approved and set-up we will wire the necessary funds. The rate dropped from 2% to 1.8%. Rate will hold until Friday. Judy was directed to move forward with the CD for \$25,000. Thank you Kyle for this idea.

Checking Account Register

JAN					
10238	1.2.20	Scott Ball Comm Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$112,047.13	x
10239	1.2.20	WCP Treasurer Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$110,797.13	x
Deposit	1.7.20	AZ dues and awards	\$360.00	\$111,157.13	x
Deposit	1.17.20	Michigan Dues and Awards	\$600.00	\$111,757.13	x
PP Transfer	1.20.20	AFWA 2021 dues	\$195.30	\$111,952.43	x
PP Transfer	1.20.20	GA 2021 dues	\$195.30	\$112,147.73	x
PP Transfer	1.20.20	ND 2021 dues	\$195.30	\$112,343.03	xbalanced
FEB					
Electr.		VT Secretary of State (Cert			
Transfer	2.7.20	CD)	\$25.00	\$112,318.03	x balanced
		NH Acct.	\$2,084.80		
		VT Acct.	\$112,318.03		
		Total Assets	\$114,402.83		

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

Presented by Lance Cherry, Vice President

Lance wrote in his absence: As a quick update on the conference, everything is falling into order. The agenda was recently posted and I will be opening the registration anytime now. In fact, my hope is to make it live Monday, so it will be open when you all meet.

Excited about the locovore event!

Will there be breakout session on the train trip on Tuesday?

Nashville: Conference hotel confirmed in the next week.

ITEM NO. 8: Auction and Sponsorship Report.

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, President and Auction Chair
Nothing to report.

Any new ideas for auction items? Kay recommended thinking about trips.

GET CREATIVE!

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

We will offer up to 12 scholarships, after feedback from the board. The application will be finalized this week. The application period begins on March 9, 2020, and ends at 5 p.m. Pacific Time on March 23. Applications submitted before or after those dates will not be considered. Applicants will be notified of their results by e-mail by April 1, 2020. Alix and Kyle to help review applications.

ITEM NO. 11: Awards Report.

Presented by Blake Podhajsky and Aaron Meier, Awards Chairs
30 entries so far in the contest. This isn't unusual; the biggest push is yet to come.

We've received many good comments on the new platform.

70 judges from first set of emails. Our goal is to get to 100 judges.

Overall, keep at it!

ITEM NO. 12: Ways and Means Report.

Presented by Micah Holmes, Board Member and Ways and Means Chair
No report.

ITEM NO. 13: New Business.

- ACI scholarship for R3 Symposium: 6 people awarded, 25 applications. Great representation heading to that symposium! ACI will be a sponsor at the R3 symposium and will get recognition and space in the brochure.
- ACI short surveys: Matt Harlow from DJ Case is sending out short surveys. Blake is going to try to integrate into the contest platform to get more surveys.
- TBW engagement: Let's try putting the complete content of one or two articles in the Balance Wheel, Will aim for the president's message to put the whole thing in the email.
- Where are we at with the tagline?: We have logo options. We will vote as a board before the next call for the logo.

The next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 10 a.m.**

ITEM NO. 14: Adjournment.

MOTION: Jenifer Wisniewski moved to adjourn. Darren Hill 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 **10:45 a.m. MST.**

Submitted by Sara DiRienzo, Secretary