

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Board Meeting

Drury Plaza Hotel, Nashville, TN ● July 24, 2022 ● 3:30 p.m. CDT

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

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

- ✓ Sara DiRienzo (WY, Vice President, Scholarships)
- ✓ Jenifer Wisniewski (TN, Immediate Past President, ACI Grants, Auction)
- ✓ Blake Podhajsky (OK, Secretary)
- ✓ Judy Stokes Weber (VT, Treasurer)
- ✓ Scott Ball (FL, Communications)
- ✓ Kay Ellerhoff (MT, Futures)
- ✓ Jason Harmon (TN, Board)
- ✓ Aaron Meier (NV, Awards)
- ✓ Linda DiPiano (NJ, Board)
- ✓ Ashley Sanchez (NV, Board)
- ✓ Joanne Martonik (RBFF, Board)
- ✓ Darrin Hill (OK, Board)
- ✓ Tim Akimoff (OR, Board)

#### Unable to Attend:

- ✓ Lance Cherry (NM, President)
- ✓ Patricia Allen (AFWA, Board)
- ✓ Fairly Mahlum (NC, Board)
- ✓ Micah Holmes (OK, Ways & Means)

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

- June 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION:** Judy Stokes Weber moved to approve the June 2022 ACI Board Meeting Minutes.  
Jenifer Wisniewski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Presented by Sara DiRienzo, Vice President.

- “We will miss Lance as he is not able to be here. Thank you Jason for all your hard work and record breaking attendance for the conference. We are all excited to be here.”

#### ITEM NO. 5: Treasurer’s Report.

Presented Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer.

- We are in good financial standing.
- Treasurer’s report attached.

**ITEM NO. 6: Communications Report.**

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair.

- One scholarship recipient could not make the conference. We will have eight recipients attending the conference.
- The keynote speaker and the awards presentation will be livestreamed.
- Communications report attached.

**ITEM NO. 7: ACI Grants Committee update.**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, ACI Grants Committee Chair, Immediate Past President and Auction Committee.

- One week ago we submitted final applications for four grants that were approved. They will equal about one-million dollars worth of grants.

**ITEM NO. 8: Auction Committee Update.**

Presented by Jenifer Wisniewski, ACI Grants Committee Chair, Immediate Past President and Auction Committee.

- Jenifer Wisniewski said "I hope you all brought your credit cards and money!"
- Auction is tomorrow night.
- Auction committee chair position is open as Jenifer Wisniewski is stepping down. Tim Akimoff (OR, ACI Board '23) expressed interest in potentially filling the position moving forward.

**ITEM NO. 9: 2022 ACI Conference Update.**

Presented by Jason Harmon, 2022 Conference Coordinator, Tennessee.

- Opening reception will be at the Country Music Hall of Fame.
- Conference has approximately 150 attendees registered.

**ITEM NO. 10: Futures Conference Report.**

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Host Chair

- Kay Ellerhoff said, "I want to say thank you for the flowers, phone calls and cards. It was very uplifting and a way to progress through this thing. I have not done very much because of a lack of energy and time. But I am thrilled to be here.!"

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

Presented by Aaron Meier, Awards Chair.

- The presentation is done and appears to work.
- Awards plaques have arrived.
- Aaron Meier said "I am hoping we can find someone to take over the awards program."

**ITEM NO. 12: Scholarship Report.**

Presented by Sara DiRienzo, Vice President and Scholarship Committee Chair.

- Nine scholarships were awarded.
- "People showed interest, but not a lot pursued it for what we are offering," said Sara DiRienzo.

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

Presented by Blake Podhajsky, Secretary.

- A Ways and Means committee recently met and discussed changes to the Articles of Incorporation (AOI), Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures.
- Committee recommends moving AOI article 9.C., "Salary of Officers", and move it to the Bylaws article 7.F.
- Any changes to the AOI must be voted on by the ACI membership at the business meeting.
- All other recommendations by the Ways and Means committee were discussed with the board. The board agreed to table discussions on recommended changes for future consideration.

**MOTION:** Jenifer Wisniewski moved to transfer article 9.C from the AOI to the Bylaws, and take it to a vote of the membership. Joanne Martonik seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Nels Rodefeld (former ACI President) of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation was in attendance. Rodefeld said, "I want to thank everyone for your efforts to keep the organization strong and healthy. To keep it going, you have to have people who are passionate and wanting to be involved."

**ITEM NO. 15: Adjournment.**

- With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm CDT.

**MOTION:** Jenifer Wisniewski moved to adjourn. Linda DiPiano seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.



---

*Submitted by Blake Podhajsky, Secretary*



ASSOCIATION *for*  
**CONSERVATION**  
INFORMATION, INC.

## Treasurer's Report Annual Meeting

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to report that ACI is in good financial condition, thanks to the collective work of the Membership director, Scott Ball, and board members. Awareness of ACI has increased through the work of the Grants Committee led by Jenifer Wisniewski and sponsorship of the annual R3 symposium. President Cherry and the board members will be growing ACI sponsorships as part of our active participation as members of the conservation community in the next year.

We have filed our regular and necessary annual reports with Wyoming where we were incorporated in 1984 and in Vermont where we are registered to do our business.

Our total Assets at June 30, 2022:

Checking Account Balance	\$ 81,666.72
TIAA Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$ 25, 323.00</u>
TOTAL	\$106,989.72

Here is the budget for your review and approval at the Board meeting.

### FY 2023 DRAFT ACI Budget

Beginning Balance Checking Accounts		\$81,667
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Dues, Awards	\$24,000	
Interest	\$0	
Conf Returns	\$0	
Total Income	\$24,000	\$24,000
<b>FY 2023 Assets Available</b>		<b>\$105,667 \$105,667</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Conference Advance	\$0	
Scholarships	\$15,000	
Award Plaques	\$4,000	
Online Awards Platform	\$4,800	
Webhosting/Security certificate	\$300	
Treasurer Stipend	\$5,000	

	Surety Bond	\$325
	Communication Manager Stipend	\$5,000
	Conference Travel	
	Reimbursements	\$6,000
	Professional Fees CPA Review	\$500
	Office Expenses	\$100
	Affiliate membership in AFWA	\$250
NEW!	ACI sponsorships/Exhibit materials	\$7,000

<b>FY 2021 Total Expense</b>	<b>\$48,275</b>	<b>\$48,275</b>
------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

<b>Estimated Checking Account Balance June 30, 2023</b>	<b>\$57,392</b>
<b>TIAA CD</b>	<b>\$25,323</b>
<b>Balance at End of FY 2021( June 30, 2021)</b>	<b>\$82,715</b>

**Budget with revisions from meeting information accepted by board on June 8, 2022**

**JSW**

6.15.22 President's additions for marketing

Here is the check register for the previous Fiscal Year, July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

### FY 2022 ACI Check Register

Transaction ID	Date	Description	Amount	Balance	
				86,144.53	
<b>JULY</b>					
10264	7.5.21	SC Ball Comm/Mem Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$84,894.53	ok
10265	7.5.21	WCP JSW Treas. Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$83,644.53	ok
Check	7.7.21	TX Parks and Wildlife 2022 dues	\$200.00	\$83,844.53	ok
10266	7.28.21	WCP Awards Force C.C. reimb JSW WCP	\$4,608.00	\$79,236.53	ok balanced
<b>AUG</b>					
Check	8.19.21	FL FWC 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$79,436.53	ok
PP Transfer	8.20.21	Westervelt Ecological Services donation	\$195.53	\$79,632.06	ok
PP Transfer	8.20.21	NJ F&W 2022 Dues and Awards	\$273.94	\$79,906.00	ok
PP Transfer	8.20.21	LA W & F 2022 dues and awards	\$391.55	\$80,297.55	ok
PP Transfer	8.22.21	NC Wildlife 2022 dues & awards	\$469.96	\$80,767.51	ok
PP Transfer	8.22.21	OR 2022 Dues and Awards	\$587.57	\$81,355.08	ok - 2 deposits
PP Transfer	8.22.21	NV Div Wildlife 2022 Dues and awards	\$1,175.63	\$82,530.71	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	GA DNR 2022 Dues & Awards	\$430.75	\$82,961.46	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	WA FishWildlife 2022 Dues & Awards	\$469.96	\$83,431.42	ok



PP Transfer	8.28.21	ME Inland Fish. & Wildlife 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$83,626.95	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	HI 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$83,822.48	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	KS 2022 Dues & Awards	\$626.77	\$84,449.25	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	TN Wildlife Res. 2022 Dues & Awards	\$1,606.87	\$86,056.12	ok
PP Transfer	8.28.21	OH DNR 2022 Dues & Awards	\$587.57	\$86,643.69	ok balanced
Check	8.31.21	MT 2022 Dues and Awards	\$1,040.00	\$87,683.69	ok
Check	8.31.21	ID 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$87,883.69	ok
PP Transfer	8.31.21	NY DEC 2022 Dues and Awards	\$391.55	\$88,275.24	ok
<b>SEPT</b>					
Check	9.1.21	Lower Loop NRD 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$88,475.24	ok
Check	9.6.21	CA 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$88,675.24	ok
PP Transfer	9.8.21	USFWS 2022 Dues and Awards	\$1,802.89	\$90,478.13	ok
PP Transfer	9.8.21	AFWA 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$90,673.66	ok
Check	9.8.21	AL 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$90,873.66	ok
PP Transfer	9.8.21	CAHSS 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$91,069.19	ok
Check	9.13.21	NH 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$91,269.19	ok
Check	9.13.21	UT 2022 Dues and Awards	\$840.00	\$92,109.19	ok
Check	9.16.21	OK 2022 Dues and Awards	\$1,880.00	\$93,989.19	ok
Check	9.20.21	TX 2022 Awards	\$1,440.00	\$95,429.19	ok
PP Transfer	9.20.21	PA Game 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$95,624.72	ok
Check	9.22.21	RBFF 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$95,824.72	ok
10267	9.22.21	Hosting 4 Less secure certificate	\$25.00	\$95,799.72	okbalanced
Check	9.29.21	MI 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$95,999.72	ok
PP Transfer	9.30.21	MI 2022 Awards(Brad Parsons)	\$38.71	\$96,038.43	ok
PP Transfer	9.30.21	WY 2022 Dues and Awards	\$587.57	\$96,626.00	ok
<b>OCT</b>					
10268	10.1.21	WCP Q3 Stipend Treasurer	\$1,250.00	\$95,376.00	ok
10269	10.1.21	Scott Ball Q3 Stipend Comms/Member	\$1,250.00	\$94,126.00	ok
Check	10.1.21	CT 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$94,326.00	ok
Check	10.4.21	NE 2022 Dues and Awards	\$1,560.00	\$95,886.00	ok
10270	10.11.21	CNA Surety Bond	\$320.00	\$95,566.00	ok
Check	10.14.21	NM 2022 Dues and Awards	\$1,480.00	\$97,046.00	ok
10271	10.14.21	VOID (used old name of company)			
10272	10.14.21	K2 Trophies and Awards LLC	\$4,022.43	\$93,023.57	ok balanced
Check	10.25.21	CA awards	\$640.00	\$93,663.57	ok balanced
<b>NOV</b>					
PP Transfer	11.5.21	VA Dues and Awards (2 invoices)	\$587.08	\$94,250.65	ok balanced
<b>DEC</b>					
PP Transfer	12.1.21	MO 2022 Dues and awards	\$1,802.89	\$96,053.54	ok

Check	12.21.21	IA 2022 dues and awards	\$240.00	\$96,293.54	ok
Check	12.21.21	SC 2022 Dues and awards	\$600.00	\$96,893.54	ok balanced
10273	12.29.212	Nevada ACI 2023 Conference seed \$	\$5,000.00	\$91,893.54	ok
<b>JAN</b>					
10274	1.2.22	WCP Treasurer Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$90,643.54	ok
10275	1.2.22	Scott Ball Comms Mnr/Memb Stipend	\$1,250.00	\$89,393.54	ok
PP Transfer	1.6.22	AREA 2022 Dues	\$195.35	\$89,588.89	ok
PP Transfer	1.6.22	KY 2022 Dues and Awards	\$313.23	\$89,902.12	ok
PP Transfer	1.18.22	SD Dues and Awards	\$313.23	\$90,215.35	ok
PP Transfer	1.21.22	ND Dues	\$195.53	\$90,410.88	ok
PP Transfer	1.21.22	CO Dues and Awards	\$1,136.43	\$91,547.31	ok
direct deposit	1.21.22	AZ Game and Fish	\$960.00	\$92,507.31	ok balanced
Check	1.22.22	MA Fisheries and wildlife Dues	\$200.00	\$92,707.31	ok
10276	1.22.22	ACI's AFWA Membership	\$250.00	\$92,457.31	ok
Check	1.22.22	FL Awards	\$920.00	\$93,377.31	ok
10277	1.24.22	Reimburse WCP File4Biz 1099 service	\$3.14	\$93,374.17	ok
Check	1.25.22	ASA Sponsorship	\$250.00	\$93,624.17	ok
<b>FEB</b>					
Check	2.5.22	AR 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$93,824.17	ok
10278	2.5.22	Reim WCP for WY annual report filing	\$52.00	\$93,772.17	ok
Check	2.19.22	Chuck Yoest TN Individual member	\$25.00	\$93,797.17	ok
Check	2.18.22	RI DEM 2022 Dues	\$200.00	\$93,997.17	ok balanced
10279	2.19.22	WY Game and Fish donation Hosafros	\$100.00	\$93,897.17	ok
<b>MAR</b>					
PP Transfer	3.14.22	WI DNR 2022 Dues	\$195.53	\$94,092.70	ok
Check	3.23.22	IN 2022 Dues and Awards	\$662.44	\$94,755.14	ok balanced
10280	3.24.22	Hosting4Less	\$299.40	\$94,455.74	ok
<b>APR</b>					
10281	4.5.22	WCPLLC TStipend jsweber	\$1,250.00	\$93,205.74	ok
10282	4.5.22	Scott Ball Comms/Membership Stipnd	\$1,250.00	\$91,955.74	ok
10283	4.14.22	CAHSS Sponsor R3 Symposium	\$2,500.00	\$89,455.74	ok balanced.
<b>MAY</b>					
		no transactions		\$89,455.74	ok
<b>JUNE</b>					
PP Transfer	6.7.22	Personal membership Regina Jackson	\$24.01	\$89,479.75	ok
10284	6.8.22	K2 AWARDS	\$2,093.08	\$87,386.67	ok
10285	6.13.22	REIM WCP JSW Conf airfare	\$881.95	\$86,504.72	ok
10286	6.13.22	VOID made out incorrectly			ok

10287	6.13.22	Reimb WCP -JSW ccard Awards Force annual fee	\$4,838.00	\$81,666.72	ok Balanced
-------	---------	---	------------	-------------	-------------

Sincerely,  
Judy  
Judy Stokes Weber, APR  
Treasurer ACI  
July 20, 2022

**Communications/Membership Report to ACI Board of Directors**  
Scott Ball – July 24, 2022

**Membership**

No changes to report since the June report.

As of 06/30/22, ACI has

- 49 Agency-level members, including...
  - 43 state agencies, representing 42 states
  - 1 federal agency
  - 6 NGOs
- 2 Individual members
- 4 Sponsor-level members

**Communications**

- Next issue of *The Balance Wheel* will be published Thursday, Sept. 15 and emailed to however many subscribers exist at that point (562 as of July 19). Now that we're having an in-person meeting, including 9 scholarship recipients, we'll have a fresh source of articles/authors for upcoming issues.
- 696 Facebook likes (+7)
- 831 Facebook followers (+8)
- 3 Facebook posts (June)
- The ACI Group Facebook page is one that allows members to post messages and ask/answer questions. We also re-post items from the main FB page there. It currently has 86 members (+2).