

## MINUTES

### Association for Conservation Information Business Meeting

Harvey's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, NV ● July 27, 2023 ● 8:30 a.m. PDT

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

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

- Attached

#### ITEM NO. 3: Opening Remarks.

Presented by Lance Cherry, President.

- "This membership meeting is about you," said Lance Cherry as he addressed the membership.

#### ITEM NO. 4: ACI Multistate Grant Update.

Presented by Joanne Martonik, Scholarship Chair on behalf of Jenifer Wisniewski, Grants Committee Chair.

- We submitted five proposals for grants. 1) photo/video clearinghouse, 2) YouTube Ads, 3) Air Rifle, 4) Practitioners Guide to R3 Marketing, and 5) R3 Marketing Campaigns.
- Current grants are 1) R3 Clearinghouse, 2) Social Listening 2.0, 3) YouTube Ads, and 4) R3 Marketing Campaigns.

#### ITEM NO. 5: Treasurer's Report.

Presented by Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer.

- "Thank you for being a member of ACI" said Judy Stokes Weber. "You are paying \$200 and that money pays for seed money for the conference, online awards platform, scholarships, and more. It's a membership organization."
- Proposed budgets provided to members and vote to approve is required.

**MOTION:** Lance Cherry moved to approve the treasurer's report and proposed budget. Dan Dennison seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### ITEM NO. 6: Communications Report.

Presented by Scott Ball, Membership Communications Chair.

- Scott Ball said "I work a lot with Judy on invoicing and reaching out to members. We have the most members currently than we have had in my entire time as membership chair."
- "I hope everybody subscribes to the Balance Wheel and I encourage you to tell your co-workers to subscribe," Ball said.
- Ball concluded, "thank you so much. It's my pleasure to have this job for the last 6-7 years. It's been a wonderful ride and I love you all."

**ITEM NO. 7: Awards Committee Report.**

Presented by Beth Quillian and Chris Martin, Awards Committee Co-chairs.

- 598 total number of entries. New awards program record.

**ITEM NO. 8: Invitation to Virginia for 2024 ACI Conference.**

Presented by Paige Pearson, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

- Letter from the Virginia Executive Director was read by Paige Pearson welcoming ACI to Virginia in 2014.
- Pearson said “I encourage you to get to the beach, visit the DC area and the mountains. We are excited to have you!” “We currently do not have a location or dates set yet, but stay tuned.”

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

Presented by Kay Ellerhoff, Future Conference Hosts Chair

- Conferences are scheduled out, informally, through 2028.

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

Presented by Joanne Maronik, Scholarship Committee Chair.

- Scholarship funds are available for people to come to the conference each year. The scholarships cover the cost of registration and four nights of lodging. In return, recipients are asked to write an article for the Balance Wheel.

**ITEM NO. 11: Ways and Means Report.**

Presented by Lance Cherry, President on behalf of Micah Holmes, Ways and Means Chair.

- Lance Cherry encouraged the membership to check out the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws on the ACI website. “We have spent several months cleaning up those documents,” Cherry said.

**ITEM NO. 12: Nominating Committee Report.**

Presented by Patricia Allen, Nominating Committee Representative.

- The nomination committee recommends the following:

President: Blake Podhajsky  
Vice President: Aaron Meier  
Secretary: Joanne Martonik  
One-year board term: Paige Pearson (Virginia)  
Three-year board term: Beth Quillian (Oregon)  
Three-year board term: Bobby Jones (Nevada)  
Three-year board term: Brent Drinkut (Indiana)

**ITEM NO. 13: Election of Officers and Board Members.**

- Blake Podhajsky nominated for ACI President. Vote by the ACI membership.

**MOTION:** Dan Dennison moved to approve Blake Podhajsky as ACI President.  
Linda DiPiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- Aaron Meier nominated for ACI Vice President. Vote by the ACI membership.

**MOTION:** James Pittman moved to approve Aaron Meier as ACI Vice President.  
Member from New Hampshire seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- Joanne Martonik nominated for ACI secretary. Vote by the ACI membership.

**MOTION:** Dan Dennison moved to approve Blake Podhajsky as ACI President.  
Linda DiPiano seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- Four board member nominations, as presented, nominated for ACI Board. Vote by the ACI membership.

**MOTION:** Joanne Martonik moved to approve four nominated members for the ACI Board.  
Aaron Meier seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

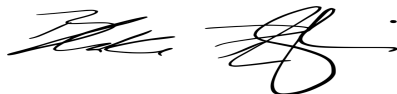
**ITEM NO. 14: New Business.**

- No new business.

**ITEM NO. 15: Adjournment.**

- ACI Business Meeting adjourned at 9:23 am.

**MOTION:** Scott Ball moved to adjourn. Patricia Allen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



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*Submitted by Blake Podhajsky, Secretary*

## ROLL CALL

### Association for Conservation Information Business Meeting

Harveys Casino, Stateline, Nev. – July 27, 2023 – 8:30 a.m. (PDT)

#### Board Members

- ☒ Lance Cherry, President (Council to Advance Hunting & the Shooting Sports)
- ☐ (Vacant), Vice President
- ☒ Blake Podhajsky, Secretary (Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation)
- ☒ Judy Stokes Weber, Treasurer (Vermont)
- ☒ Jenifer Wisniewsky, Immediate Past President (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency)
- ☒ Tim Akimoff (Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife)
- ☒ Patricia Allen (Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies)
- ☒ Ashley Sanchez (Nevada Department of Fish & Wildlife)
- ☒ Linda DiPiano (New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife)
- ☐ Fairley Mahlum (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Comm.)
- ☒ Joanne Martonik (Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation)
- ☒ Dan Dennison (Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources)
- ☒ James Pitman (New Mexico Department of Game and Fish)
- ☒ Sarah Southerland (Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation)
  
- ☒ Scott Ball, Communications/Membership Chair (Florida)
- ☒ Kay Ellerhoff, Futures Chair (Montana)
- ☒ Aaron Meier, Conference Chair (Nevada Department of Wildlife)
- ☒ Chris Martin, Awards Co-Chair (Wyoming Game & Fish Department)
- ☒ Beth Quillian, Awards Co-Chair (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife)
- ☐ Micah Holmes, Ways & Means Chair (Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation)
- ☒ Joanne Martonik, Scholarships Chair (Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation)

#### Agency-level Members

- ☒ Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
- ☐ Arizona Game & Fish Department
- ☒ Arkansas Game & Fish Department
- ☒ Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
- ☐ California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- ☐ Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- ☐ Connecticut DEEP Division of Wildlife
- ☒ Council to Advance Hunting & the Shooting Sports
- ☒ Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
- ☐ Georgia Department of Natural Resources



☐ Gulf of Mexico Alliance  
☒ Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources  
☐ Idaho Fish & Game  
☒ Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
☒ Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
☒ Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & ~~Tourism~~  
☒ Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources  
☐ Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
☒ Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
☐ Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
☐ Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
☐ Missouri Department of Conservation  
☐ Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
☒ Nebraska Game & Parks Commission  
☒ Nevada Department of Wildlife  
☒ New Hampshire Fish & Game Department  
☒ New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife  
☒ New Mexico Department of Game & Fish  
☐ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
☐ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
☐ North Dakota Game & Fish Department  
☒ Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife  
☒ Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
☒ Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife  
☐ Pennsylvania Game Commission  
☒ Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation  
☐ Rhode Island Department Environmental Management  
☐ South Carolina Department of Natural Resources  
☐ South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks  
☒ Tennessee State Parks & Tennessee Conservationist Magazine  
☒ Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency  
☐ Texas Parks & Wildlife Department  
☐ US Fish & Wildlife Service  
☒ Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
☐ Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department  
☒ Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources  
☒ Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife  
☐ Westervelt Ecological Services  
☐ West Virginia Department of Natural Resources  
☐ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

☒ Wyoming Game & Fish Department

**Supporting-level Members**

- ☐ American Sportfishing Association
- ☐ DJ Case and Associates
- ☒ Southwick & Associates

**Sponsor-level Members**

- ☐ National Bowhunter Education Foundation
- ☐ Thrill of the Outdoors

**Individual Members**

- ☐ Gina Jackson (Management Assistance Team)
- ☐ Chuck Yoest (Tennessee)

**Honorary Lifetime Members**

- ☒ Scott Ball
- ☐ Marianne Burke
- ☒ Kay Ellerhoff
- ☐ Nancy Herron
- ☒ Judy Stokes Weber
- ☐ Steve "Wild Man" Wilson