

Western Field Ornithologists Board of Directors Meeting 11 August 2010

Draft Minutes prepared by Catherine Waters

Thank you all for your time today. The minutes of this meeting can be found below. Please note that because of time schedule conflicts, Old Business and New Business will not follow sequentially during the meeting format but will instead be mixed. Titles will be given as the agenda items change from one to the other.

Attendance:

Kimball Garrett

Debbie VanD

Jon Dunn

Gjon Hazard

Bob Gill

Dave Shuford

Jay Withgott

Dave Quady

Dave Krueper

Ed Pandolfino

Robbie Fischer

Elisabeth Ammon

Tom Ryan

Dan Gibson

Cat Waters

Absent:

Osvel Huerta-Hinojosa

Carol Beardmore

Item: **Accepting minutes from previous meeting**

- Discussion: There is a precedent for this (Dave Krueper)
- Resolution: Board agrees to table vote on accepting minutes of last meeting of the B.O.D. until the face-to-face meeting in October because minutes from previous meeting had not been sent out for review.

**New Business**

Item: **Arizona Meeting in 2011\***

- Discussion: Clarifying our choice of Arizona for the 2011 meeting in Arizona in light of attendance and the boycott of Arizona by various municipalities, groups, organizations, etc. Request to place this item on the agenda was based on concerns over the State's recent immigration vote. Ed Pandolfino asked that we discuss whether potential attendees might feel compromised about traveling to

Arizona. [\*it should be noted here that meeting planning was suspended until this item was discussed]

- Resolution: The Board consensus was that the meeting location of Arizona was decided on before the current situation arose. It was agreed that in a future newsletter that the meeting location selection process be explained so that how, where and when we hold our meetings is clarified for our membership. The Board voted to continue the plan to have the 2011 meeting in Arizona with no dissent.

Item: **Expedition report on Los Alamos/Sonora Joint Venture expedition** given by Dave Krueper.

- Report: The 5.5 day expedition was successfully conducted at 3 different altitudes with 22 participants. Temperatures ranged up to 114 degrees F. All expedition members contributed to the the data collection. All returned safely.
- Resolution/action: Papers will be given at the October meeting and a trip report will be submitted for the WFO website. Thanks to Dave Krueper and Carol Beardmore for planning another successful and project spanning the west.

#### **Old Business**

Item: **Update on *Birds of New Mexico*** (BONM) given by Dave Krueper/Robbie Fischer.

- Report: Challenge to the Board has generated approx. \$1,120. BONM is now nearly 50% complete and is expected to be finished by the end of 2011 and published in 2012. It is “on time.”
- Discussion: Board had a lively discussion of continuing fundraising for this book and fundraising in general. It was cautioned that we needed to weigh carefully how and when we ask for money.
- Resolution/action: BOD felt that an update on where the monies collected for BONM stand should be placed in the next newsletter as well as a (gentle) reminder to the membership about our primary mission in supporting publications throughout the west. Also suggested was a report to be given to our membership regarding status of and our fundraising in general at October meeting.

#### **Old Business**

Item: **Electronic Publication of Rare Birds of California** \*

- Report: Cat has been investigating electronic publication of the *first edition* of Rare Birds of California since the Board voted to electronically publish Rare

Birds at the September 2009 meeting in Idaho. Options for electronic publication are using a website versus a pdf. Determination of the “look” of the electronically published book. Overall costs of the project. She felt that it was too complex and important a project to be investigated by a single person.

- Discussion: It was noted that primary editor, Robb Hamilton, was in favor of electronic publication. And, it was noted that the CBRC has continued to put updates of sightings on the californiabirds.org website
- Discussion: The Board brought up various issues and potential obstacles in regard to publishing this book electronically.
- Resolution/action: Issue tabled to the Publications Committee with further discussion of a vehicle to electronic publication at the October meeting.

Item: **What to do w/ remaining California Bird Species of Special Concern copies.**  
900 copies remain.

- Discussion: Approx. 900 copies remain. For every single copy mailed we subsidize an additional \$3.00. Sales have slowed to 2 or 3 copies a month.
- Resolution/action: Ask key players who contributed \$ if they would like to receive more copies. Dave Shuford volunteered to ask the sponsoring organizations/companies. Also suggested was to hold back some books for the future. Have copies available at the meeting in October.

Item: **Directors and Officers Insurance/Liability (Cat or Robbie)**

- Discussion: Cat will send out copy of insurance to everyone. Solicited help of entire board in garnering possible insurance companies with lower rates for non profits. Our insurance costs with our current carrier, Chub, are now in excess of \$1,800.00 per year

3:40 - 3:45 Item: **Report on the Alan M. Craig Award (please read Dave Quady's e-mail report).**

- Discussion: Everything is in place and moving forward. Names mentioned for future are Tim Manolis. Virginia Johnson. Award life meeting registration or life membership. All agreed on award in concept using the Andy Birch artwork and a certificate for the Alan M. Craig Award.
- Discussion: **The Western Field Ornithologists (unnamed) award**, formerly the Grinnell-Alexander Award, for excellence in descriptive

ornithology/publications, etc. No cost has been agreed on. No candidates have been identified. No strong support for the award at this point.

- Resolution/Action: Dave Q made contact w/Tom Schulz who agreed to do a drawing for such an award. Tabled until October.

### **New Business**

3:46 Item: **Report on the Mike San Miguel donations** - Robbie

- Discussion: Announcement of ad hoc committee for Mike San Miguel donations. Use should be something that Mike felt strongly about. Mike's biggest priorities. Family's biggest priority. Committee members are Kimball Garrett (representing WFO), Jon Feenstra (representing the WFO membership), Mike San Miguel Jr. (representing the family)
- Resolution/Action: Send ideas and suggestions for fund to Kimball. Committee will report at annual Board Meeting.

3:50 - 4:00 Item: **Vote and discussion** on Pasadena Audubon's gift and whether (or not) to accept their generous gift of \$5,000.00.

- Discussion: Positive
- Resolution/Action: all voted yes

4:00 - 4:15 Item: **How to honor Mike @ meeting in PD (Cat)**.

- Resolution/Action: No resolution reached.

4:15 - 4:25 : Discussion of where we stand for Palm Desert (Deb VanD, Cat, etc.)

4:25 - Good-byes, Adjourn

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Western Field Ornithologists