

**Meeting of the Board of Directors
Western Field Ornithologists
August 22, 2009 – Conference Call**

**Draft Minutes for Conference Call Board Meeting
Thursday, August 2009, 2 PM Pacific Time**

Participants: Cat Waters, Dan Gibson, Dave Krueper, Ed Pandolfino, Jon Feenstra, Robbie Fischer, Dave Shuford, Elisabeth Ammon, Gjon Hazard, Dave Quady, Phil Unitt, Jon Dunn, Osvel Hinjosa, Carol Beardmore, Jay Withgott.

Minutes prepared by Elisabeth Ammon

Appended to the Agenda for the meeting were:

- Nominating Committee Report
- Minutes of the June 2009 meeting
- Old Business and reports from January and June 2009 Meeting
- Standing Committees & Committee Chair lists

Meeting Called to Order at 2:05 P.M.

Approval of minutes from June 2009 meeting.

Dave Quady moves, Dan Gibson seconds, approved to accept board minutes of June 10 meeting. Digest of minutes will be posted.

Agenda item 1:

Old Business. Status of donation letter to membership (Cat/Dan)

- Discussion: Letter is still not written.
- Status/Action: Plan to formulate a \$10.00 - \$12.00 fund raising campaign to benefit the endowment for publication of Western Birds or other specified projects/areas.

Old Business: Monetary support from WFO for special publications

- Discussion: Using fundraising campaign to raise money for these special publications; continuing question raised on how we set criteria for deciding which books.
- Status/Action: Status of potential Wyoming and New Mexico book prospect materials should be made available at the Boise meeting. Cost of publishing Birds of New Mexico is \$28 k. Cat called Sandy Williams.

Old Business: Tejon Ranch and potential for WFO members (field trips committee report) (Cat)

- Discussion: WFO's expeditions will involve only Conservancy lands
- Status/Action: Provide Board w/conservancy website information. Referred details to

Tom Ryan for planning expedition

[Tentative timeline: late spring 2010, focus on cavity nesters. Tom Ryan and field trips committee are working on logistics. Tejon Ranch was last largest privately held ranch. Several NGOs came together to get lands/easements on ~240,000 acres, with 40,000 acres developed (high-income). Ranch Conservancy administers lands. Largest Purple Martin colony in California, at least assumed.]

Old Business: Status of proposed Western Birds Issue dedicated to Robert Dickerman (D. Krueper) and progress on a special editor for the volume (Publications report) (Dave K)*

- Discussion: Dave Krueper has sent letter of interest to potential authors for issue. Has received some responses. Will have to re-solicit. Tentative publication for some time in 2010. Special editor has not yet been selected. Publications committee will support effort.
- Status/Action: Tabled until a special editor is found and interest increased.

New Business: First class mail and associate editors (Cat/Dan)

- Discussion: Dan suggested that associate editors of WB receive a first-class mailing of the journal, so they receive it sooner than 3-4 weeks after release. This would be a small gesture of appreciation to the editors. Robbie will look into it (~\$2 to Alaska, ~\$1.40 elsewhere)
- Status/Action: Motion approved w/ no dissent to send WB first-class to all editors and Dan sent out announcement and editors replied. Robbie will implement.

New Business : More advanced electronic presence (Member suggestion); Chairmanship of Electronic Communication Committee

- Discussion: Jon Feenstra suggests Facebook and Twitter presence, but so that it's not in conflict with main WFO page. Has made a draft Facebook page for WFO, but not yet made public. Advantage is that it has real time posting options, such as photos etc. during meetings. Other NGOs (Audubon etc.) are currently working on same thing. Fairly low maintenance. Jon will distribute draft Facebook materials.
- Status/Action: Jon has opened Facebook account and is working on Website photo policy and mission statement.
- Chairmanship/New Committee question tabled until Boise

New Business: Question of a relevant gift for volunteerism (Dave Quady, Cat)

- Status/Action: Tabled. Will be discussed in Boise.

New Business: Board attendance @ Boise meeting and call-in voting

- Discussion: Tom Ryan, Dave Shuford, Jon Dunn and Gjon Hazard cannot or may not attend Boise meeting.
- Status/Action: Do by-laws allow votes by call-in, email, or proxy.

Committee Reports/Committee Business

2:45 – 2:55 Publications committee report (Dave Shuford) -

- California State Bird List (Robbie)

Has been printed, just arrived. Will be available for purchase on WFO website. Robbie will market on listserv to county listers in Calif. List prices include shipping; quantity discounts. Guy McCaskie will store extra copies. Audubon, Cal Fish&Game will also be contacted etc.

Rare Birds of California book published on website? Dave Shuford for doing it, authors don't have a problem with it. But shouldn't interfere with sales – but perhaps it would help sales (?). Needs to be discussed in Boise. Possibly also the *California Bird Species of Special Concern*.

Status of proposal for using publications funds for donating to other worthy field ornithology books in the west (Cat reports on her conversations w/ Sandy)

- Status of Allen Press and our two books (Cat)

250 of “rare birds”, 1200 of “birds of special concern” left.

- Western Birds (Phil Unitt)

Draft of next issue will be sent around as PDF before Boise meeting. 40(4) submissions almost filled up for that issue.

- The Bob Dickerman issue of WB (Dave K.)

By-laws committee report (Gjon Hazard)

Not much movement, several phone calls between executive and by-laws committee members (Dan, Gjon, Dave K). Final language on some changes still needs to be added; Gjon will try to do that before Boise, but doesn't have much time before the meeting.

Meeting Committee Overview/Status of Idaho and California meetings (Debbie, Jay, Ed, Cat)

Boise: Debbie submitted the final agenda, abstracts, special announcements which was immediately posted. Everything is on target. Ed in charge of registrations: About 80 people registered as of now. All registration materials will be packaged before leaving for Boise, so all materials need to be submitted to Ed by Sep 1. Drivers of U vehicles need someone with chauffeur's license. Greg coordinating field trips. Additional promo of meeting in Idaho? Cat will pursue a few more options. Maybe we should send agenda around? Cat has email list that she's in the process of engaging to send links to website announcement of conference to interested parties, including membership.

Comb your hair for the group picture in Boise! Don't want to look disheveled on Facebook....

3:20 Adjourned

Treasurer's Report (Robbie) (will be delivered in Idaho)

Finance Committee Report (Dave K.) (will be delivered in Idaho)