

**Western Field Ornithologists Board of Directors  
Conference Call Meeting  
Wednesday, December 05, 2012, 12:00-2:30 pm**

Draft Minutes prepared by Liga Auzins, *Rec. Sec'y.*

**Board Members present:** Ed Pandolfino, *Pres.*, David Quady, *Vice Pres.*, Robbie Fischer, *Treas.*, Liga Auzins, *Rec. Sec'y.*, W. David Shuford, *Past Pres.*, Kenneth P. Able, Daniel D. Gibson, Kimball L. Garrett, Ed Harper, Kurt Leuschner, Joyce Meyer, Dan Singer, Debbie Van Dooremolen

**Board Members absent:** Robert E. Gill, Osvel Hinojosa-Huerta, Frances Oliver, Brian Sullivan

**Guests:** Phil Unitt, *Editor, WB*

**MINUTES**

12:00pm **Meeting called to order, welcome, roll call**

Minutes from September meeting unanimously approved **via motion by Kimball and seconded by Dave Q.**

12:04pm **Next BOD Meetings:** Confirmed for 6 March 2013 and 5 June 2013 at noon Pacific Time

**Note:** All BOD members should check email and respond every two days or so when possible. If a BOD member plans to be out of town for an extended period of time they should send an e-mail noting this to Ed P, Dave Q and the appropriate Committee Chair.

**Motion:** To approve new roster of Committee Chairs, which is the same as last year with the exception of 3 changes: Dave S, new chair of Finance Committee; Dave Q, new chair of Nominating Committee; and Frances, new chair of Outreach Committee. **Motion made by Debbie, seconded by Dave S and passed unanimously.**

12:10pm **Field Trips and Expeditions Committee**

- Cuba 2013 is filled with a waiting list and details are being finalized. Expected profit: over \$6,000.
- Northeastern California July 24-July 1, 2013: Costs and revenue estimates are being prepared by Lena and Cat. Limited to 10-12 people including 1 scholarship recipient plus 4 leaders. Expected profit: around \$3,000.

**Motion:** New WFO policy will give current patrons and life members two week's advance notice to register for WFO Field Trips and general members one week's notice before we open field trips to non-members. **Motion made by Dave Q, seconded by Dan G and passed unanimously.**

2014 Trips: Eastern Montana in summer with leadership by Ed Harper.

- Calling on members who are professional tour leaders to see if they would be interested in leading a trip.
  - **ACTION ITEM:** Generate a list (with recommendations by all BOD members) of potentially qualified leaders from WFO membership and approach them with tour leadership possibilities by Committee Chair. **KURT will report at next BOD meeting on progress.**
- Field Trip policy and guidelines have been updated.

- **ACTION ITEM:** Kurt to send out to BOD updated trip policy and guidelines. Ken and Kurt will revisit possible need for a policy for financial aspect of trips.

#### 12:30pm Finance and Membership Committee

- Robbie reviewed the proposed Budget for 2013 which incorporated input from Committee other Chairs. The budget is stable due to monies from trips and conferences, as membership alone does not cover our costs. Possibility of increasing membership fees by June 2013.

**Motion:** Approval of proposed Budget for 2013 **Motion made by Dave Q, seconded by Joyce, and passed unanimously.**

Proposal for formalizing our general spending policy (attached). This should be reviewed annually by incoming President.

**Motion:** Approval of proposal for spending policy. **Motion made by Ken, seconded by Ed H and passed unanimously.**

- Financial Committee is setting aside a cash reserve for possible future contingencies.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Dave Q, Dan S, Dave S. and Ed will work on cash reserve needs based on potential "worst case" financial scenarios with recommendations at next BOD meeting.**
- Financial software is currently being researched. The situation is far more complicated than originally thought, so institution of this will be delayed.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Recommendation on software from Dan S, Cat for first quarter of 2013.**
- In order to address lapsed memberships, the renewal form has been revised to better identify our tiered memberships. This has initially had a good response.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Robbie will continue to send list of lapsed members to BOD who can than potentially follow up on these.**

#### 12:45pm Outreach Committee

- Follow up on ideas generated at the BOD Retreat in Petaluma last Sept.
- Streamlining our system of contacting members via e-mail when sending out newsletters, etc.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Frances will follow up on these ideas to develop membership.**
- Possibility of setting up a WFO list serve and/or revitalizing our Facebook page.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Frances will follow up on these ideas to develop membership.**
  - **ACTION ITEM: Robbie will list Jon Dunn's ABA's Roger Tory Peterson Award on the WFO Facebook Page.**

#### 1:10pm Conferences Committee

- 2013 Olympia, August 22-25, with a regular BOD meeting on Thurs., the 22<sup>nd</sup>
- **Report:** Our keynote speaker will be John Marzluff, an Univ. of Washington corvid researcher; Dennis Paulson will do a presentation and workshop; Kimball and Jon will do a workshop on fall warblers, Mike Donohue will do gull ID workshop; Heath Wakelee will do a wilderness first aid

workshop; Peter Pyle might do his molt workshop, etc. Joyce has a lot of field trips lined up already.

- 2014 Possibilities: San Diego or Pasadena probably
- **Discussion:** San Diegans seemed very receptive to this idea at the Petaluma conference. A new strategy for finding a competitive hotel: Through the Visitors Bureau we could have hotels bid for WFO. Tom Blackman, Hank Ingersoll, Kirsten Winter and Lori Hargrove, all of whom are instrumental in putting on the San Diego Birding Festival, are familiar with the existing structure. A San Diego meeting would be a great time to talk about the history of WFO.

#### 1:20pm **Awards Committee**

- The Swarth Award has received some suggestions for nominations, but we could use more. Tom Schultz's Sabine's Gull print will be part of the award, but we will not move on this until there is a recipient on the horizon. We continue to also look for service award recipients.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Need to recruit nominees for Swarth and Service Awards by All.**

#### 1:30pm **Publications Committee**

- **Digital Rare Birds of California (RBC)** on our website project is progressing and will be put on a website that will host all of our future digital publications and will be linked to the WFO, CBRC and Ca. Birds websites. This should be finalized in the next few months with the search mechanism being done last.
  - **ACTION ITEM: A digital copy will be available to BOD for preview shortly.**
- **Western Birds (WB)**
  - **ACTION ITEM: A subcommittee needs to be formed for developing the digital version of WB by Dave S. In conjunction with this goes the membership dues structure including access on online. REPORT ON STATUS DUE AT NEXT BOD MEETING.**
- Currently certain authors are being approached for *WB*.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Synthesize a strategy for recruiting potential authors for WB. REPORT ON STATUS DUE AT NEXT BOD MEETING.**
- Phil will have a semi-final proof of 43(4) by the end of today for BODs to review and should be back from printers before Christmas. This is the special 88 page Bob Dickerman volume. There are 11 papers accepted for volume 44, that being good for the first 2 issues of 2013. Also another 5 papers are out for review.
- A President's message will be included periodically in *WB* when events demand it, i.e. annual discussion of significant events.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Ideas for President's Letter in WB by January and send to Ed.**
- Due to hefty size of *Western Birds (WB)* 43:3, a paper and the book reviews were omitted. Dan Gibson will replace Kathy Molina who is stepping down as assistant editor. We thank Kathy for 14 years of exceptional service.
- Electronic Publications Subcommittee has been formed to investigate avenues of e-publication for *WB*.

1:45pm **Motion made by Ed H, seconded by Kimball and passed unanimously to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,

Liga Auzins,

Rec. Sec'y