

Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Winter Board Meeting  
 Glattig Jackson Offices, Orlando, Florida  
 29 January 2008  
 FINAL

Attendees: Jay Exum, Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Blair Hayman, George Tanner, Steve Rockwood, Stefanie Nagid, Maria Zondervan , Rainer Shaw, Becky Bolt

Absent:

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President <b>Jay Exum</b> called the meeting to order at 9:55 am.	
Reading of the Summer Board Minutes	<b>B. Hayman</b> recommended <u>approving minutes with editorial revisions</u> . <b>D. Gawlik</b> seconded. Motion approved.	Motion Approved
Report of Treasurer	<p><b>M. Zondervan</b> distributed report (see attached). Current working budget: \$29,464.64</p> <p>Discussed the expense exceeding income at Fall meeting. Few attendees, but useful at the Miami conference site. Discussed credit card fees→\$1000/year processing. Every time card is run three fees/transaction: they take a %, processing fee and then they run monthly. It is time consuming to match up the cc bills with the corresponding receipts.</p> <p>Then do we want to remove cc totally? <b>S. Rockwood</b> does the convenience outweigh the costs? <b>D. Gawlik</b> and <b>S. Rockwood</b>, the convenience is worth the cost.</p> <p>Rockwood commented that although we spent a lot and lost at fall mtg, we still made \$\$</p> <p>Ideas to reduce fee or cover expenses: <b>R. Shaw</b>—set a minimum limit. Maybe add extra cost to merchandise. What about Pay pal? <b>S. Nagid</b>==state employees cannot use paypal. <b>S. Rockwood</b>: Maybe discuss with Morgan Stanley?</p> <p>G. Tanner: what about a charge to use cc? <b>B. Bolt</b>: increase the cost on merchandise—0.50-1.00? <b>D. Gawlik</b>: is it worth adding this cost? <b>M. Zondervan</b> can we amend old budget reports? There is a discrepancy between the end of 2006 and the beginning of 2007? <b>J. Exum</b>: we will let the auditors, work it out and decide what to do.</p> <p>George motion to approve report SN seconded. Motion Approved.</p> <p><b>J. Exum</b> discussed transfer to Morgan Stanley. <b>M. Zondervan</b> question of audit, does it need to be completed before proceeding? Rockwood doesn't think it is necessary. <b>M. Zondervan</b> does not want to allow treasurer to write checks to herself. <b>M. Zondervan</b> wants to pursue the use of a credit card within the Chapter so that there is less check writing. Discussion regarding costs and sharing of one card vs. multiple cards held by select board members. It is easier to monitor expenses through an itemized credit card statement. Multiple card holders may be easier to accomplish through Morgan Stanley and there are no checks, Morgan Stanley can wire money to other institutions.</p>	<p>➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> research credit card costs vs. benefits (members convenience) , is it worth adding cost to merchandise to cover credit card fees</p> <p>➤ Budget report approved</p> <p>➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> to decide on single vs. multiple credit cards vs. wiring money, refer to Morgan Stanley for expense information guidance</p> <p>➤ <b>J. Exum</b>: treasurer no longer able to write checks to themselves.</p>
Report of Committees		
<i>Audit</i>	No report	➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> contact <b>A. Alshouse</b>

		regarding the audit process.
<i>Awards</i>	<p>Board unanimously agreed with Bolt's nominations for the Paul Moler Herpetological Conservation Award. The individuals nominated have done a large amount of work for Gopher tortoise conservation. There were no other nominations submitted for this award or Herb Keller award. Boards decision: <b>J. Exum</b> <i>motioned to giving the Paul Moler Herpetological Conservation Award to Perran Ross, Joan Berish and Greg Holder for Gopher Tortoise conservation. <b>S. Rockwood</b> motion to approve, second from <b>B. Hayman</b>. Motion approved.</i></p> <p>Discussion regarding where and when to give this award, at the Miami Nat'l Conference or at the Spring 2008 Conference (see conference specifics under Program report). Bolt concerned about cost for recipients. Gawlik commented that 2008 Spring mtg primarily a planning meeting for Miami, combined with the required Board mtg. There will need to be plans made for the Spring mtg to include an awards ceremony if this is chosen. Bolt recommended the Spring mtg. due to cost and logistics of getting the three recipients and Paul Moler to attend. S. Nagid recommends Bolt (O'meara) contact three recipients and poll where and when they would rather attend and accept. Since the Chapter usually pays for food and accommodations of recipients, this will be offered if they need it.</p>	<p>➤ Motion approved for <u>Paul Moler Herpetological Conservation Award</u> recipients</p> <p>➤ <b>B. Bolt</b> contact T. O'meara regarding whether the award recipients and Paul are available for the Spring mtg—night of Mar 25<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<i>Budget</i>	Discussion regarding the members and duties of this committee: originally for the Vice President and secretary together to plan spring conferences. Currently, this committee is in the by laws, headed by treasurer. Report under treasurer.	➤
<i>Certification</i>	No report.	➤
<i>Conservation</i>	<p><b>B. Bolt</b> nothing new to report, interested in working with Florida Wildlife Federation. No recommendation for the ARC (?). <b>J. Exum</b> discussed the Chapter's involvement—through <b>C. Sekerak</b>, a last minute involvement. The Chapter needs someone to become fully involved. <b>S. Nagid</b> volunteered to present the Chapter with ARC b/c relates to current restoration position she is in with FFWCC—although she requested guidance from Chapter. <b>B. Bolt</b> said we need someone to know the process and let the Chapter know when we should become involved, she recommends <b>S. Nagid</b> be involved if <b>J. Exum</b> agrees?</p> <p><i>Florida Forever</i> (FF)—since <b>Hugh Boyter</b>'s retirement, Chapter needs a member replacement. There is a listening mtg Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Discussed the possibility of <b>S. Nagid</b> attending, listening and reporting important issues back to the Board for future discussion. Since the Chapter's Goal 5 of Strategic plan—serve as objective tech experts to influence policy, this is an important venue to hear related policy issues. <b>S. Rockwood</b> suggests discussing Chapter's participation in this process with <b>Manley Fuller</b>.</p> <p><b>S. Nagid</b> will coordinate with <b>B. Bolt</b> on committee needs—they decide on the issues. <b>S. Nagid</b> emphasized the importance of being involved with Florida forever and listen about the issues—land acquisition.</p> <p><i>Florida Wildlife Federation</i> (FWF): Chapter paid affiliate dues for FWF and <b>G. Tanner</b> attends the FWF mtgs. <b>J. Exum</b> will begin forwarding the FWF letters to <b>B. Bolt</b>, so she can determine further issues Chapter should be involved with.</p> <p><i>Gopher tortoise</i> issues: <b>B. Bolt</b> discussed final mgt plan: it will be submitted to FWC for final approval. Many stakeholders have added input to mgmt plan, which is why taking so long. Supposed to be completed by end of Feb. Plan sets up relocation criteria, funds for mgt, and there has to be net gain in benefits.</p>	<p>➤ <b>S. Nagid</b> will represent the Chapter at the Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> Florida Forever Listening Mtg, and report back to <b>B. Bolt</b>.</p> <p>➤ <b>J. Exum</b> discuss with <b>Manley Fuller</b> the Chapter's involvement with FF after <b>S. Nagid</b> progress report</p> <p>➤ <b>G. Tanner</b> adds <b>B. Bolt</b> to FWF list Serve/ mailing list</p>

	Gawlik mentioned the USFWS planning possible downlisting of woodstorks, Bolt currently unaware of this issue. Gawlik mentioned the recovery plan—the pop numbers were based on nesting numbers, not net loss of habitat.	➤ <b>D. Gawlik</b> email woodstork downlisting info to <b>B. Bolt</b> ,
<i>Education</i>	No report.	➤
<i>Information</i>	<p><b>S. Stiegler</b> submitted report to <b>J. Exum</b>. Webteam restored Chapter website on Dec. 10, 2007. Team decided to use Sharepoint due to multiple content manager capabilities and the chapter’s use of .pdf files. All information from previous website is COMPLETELY LOST, therefore all needed content must be supplied to the webmasters via email. E-commerce and the Chapter Member bulk e-mail address are now available.</p> <p>Board viewed new website and discussed the look and content. Gawlik commented on the need for info about the Miami mtg., and membership renewal. Look at Chapter’s accomplishments over the last five years, it all comes through the website. Need a link to add contents, announcements, date/event on the site.</p> <p>1) <i>What does the Chapter need?</i></p> <p>National Conference information <u>Front and Center</u> with links to National TWS websites conference info.</p> <p><b>Ecommerce:</b> Membership renewal, merchandise, conference registration</p> <p><b>Membership information</b>—include national as well as state membership;</p> <p>Membership roster with work contact information—public</p> <p><b>Workshop advertisements</b> (Fire Workshop)</p> <p><b>Calendar of events</b>—maybe a list of current events—line items</p> <p><b>Remove useless buttons</b></p> <p><b>Contact us</b>—board members, committee chairs</p> <p><b>Awards information</b>—nominations needed, who won</p> <p><b>Scholarship information</b>—nominations, etc</p> <p><b>Election information (ROCKWOOD)</b></p> <p><b>Vendor and sponsorship information</b></p> <p><b>Jobs</b>—available info, needs to be updated</p> <p><b>Pictures!</b></p> <p>2) <i>Do we like what we have or do we link into Nat’l website?</i> Maybe refer to Nat’l site—the information they list.</p> <p>3) <i>Do we hire someone to design webpage or just have members send in info to webteam?</i> <b>B. Hayman</b> and <b>R. Shaw</b> the ad hoc <u>Website Committee</u> under Information. <b>B. Hayman, Shaw</b> and <b>J. Exum</b> to assist with updating content, especially as it relates to the Nat’l conference. Add <b>B. Hayman</b> as an administrator so she can directly manage content.</p> <p><b>J. Exum</b> recommends setting aside time at the Spring mtg to evaluate the website with membership present and someone from the webteam there to change things in real time.</p> <p><b>S. Stiegler</b> called in to mtg at 1:52pm. <b>J. Exum</b> discussed current standing—getting current info to Webteam. <b>B. Hayman</b> discussed the difficulties associated with sending info to web team, when sender may not know who the web master is. <b>M. Zondervan</b> mentioned that the “Webmaster” or whoever is responsible be aware that this address needs to be monitored frequently. <b>S. Stiegler</b> commented that the Webteam can set up with a forwarding roll that makes responsible party (or multiple people) aware of new info.</p>	<p>➤ <b>B. Hayman</b> and <b>R. Shaw</b> work with <b>S. Stiegler</b> to update website—especially the Nat’l conference info, <i>Prior to Spring mtg</i></p> <p>➤ <b>B. Hayman</b> discuss with Web team regarding administrative privileges. Need to add <b>B. Scheick</b> to administrator list.</p> <p>➤ <b>S. Stiegler</b>, set up a webmaster link on the site with a forwarding roll that makes responsible party (or multiple people) aware of new info.</p>

<i>Membership</i>	<p><b>B. Scheick</b> submitted report. 336 members in 2007 and 89 current members. Current membership numbers should increase after we have the ability to renew via the website and after the Spring mtg. Already sent out one mass reminder and will send another before the Spring mtg.</p> <p>Due to the website issues and delays in obtaining the member list and conference registration list from Spring 2007, the second member survey for non-respondents has not been submitted.</p> <p>Trying to evaluate membership trends over time (see graph in addendum). Due to inconsistency in data, this is a difficult task. Looking for information from the current or past Board members regarding this information (i.e. which years was membership included in registration).</p>	<p>➤ <b>Board or committee</b> members who have information on membership renewal contact <b>B. Scheick</b></p>
<i>Nominating and elections</i>	<p><b>S. Rockwood</b> Nominated <b>Arnold Brunell</b> and <b>Kristee Boothe</b> for president elect.</p>	<p>➤ <b>S. Rockwood</b> need to get election info out to members ASAP</p>
<i>Program</i>	<p><b>D. Gawlik</b> reported that more members wanted Spring mtg held in Miami. Discussed local hotels that may be less expensive and recommended dates: Mar 19-20, Mar 26-27, and April 2-3. <u>Board agrees with Miami, on Mar 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>.</u> What hotel? <b>D. Gawlik</b> research other hotel prices compared to the Hyatt, keeping in mind chapter needs for meeting space and social functions; decide what we need regarding food and beverages. <b>D. Gawlik</b> recommends a light cocktail gathering for awards ceremony and dinner on own. <b>B. Bolt</b> suggested offsite location for entire event. <b>R. Shaw</b> suggested Mary Brickell square, having the reception outside then go to surrounding restaurants for dinner. <b>J. Humphrey</b> may know of a good offsite location to hold function, <b>S. Rockwood</b> will discuss issue with him and give information to <b>D. Gawlik</b>. <b>S. Nagid</b> commented that if reception greater than &gt;\$25/person, then don't use.</p> <p><b>M. Zondervan</b> discussed early registration vs. onsite, recommend having different costs.</p>	<p>➤ <b>S. Rockwood talk to J. Humphrey</b> regarding surrounding bars to hold reception, discuss decision with <b>D. Gawlik</b></p> <p>➤ <b>D. Gawlik</b> compare different hotels (costs)</p>
<i>Scholarship</i>	<p><b>M. Zondervan</b> reported this is the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the student scholarship. Discussed the progression of the applicant pool, and this year Chapter had six applicants that qualified. Committee <u>recommends Michelle Tishler senior at UF to receive the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary Student Scholarship.</u> <b>B. Bolt</b> made motion, <b>R. Shaw</b> and <b>Tanner</b> seconded. <b>M. Zondervan</b> recommends increasing budget for student scholarship. Discussion involving how much to increase and/or how many scholarships to award: increase amount on 1 or half between 2, include graduate students? <b>B. Bolt</b> recommends that if we increase we contact the other current contributors (NWTF and UF) for increase.</p> <p>Some discussion regarding possible increase of student presentation awards.</p> <p><b>S. Rockwood</b> reminded Board to stay on target with Strategic Plan—our need to save money for endowment fund and eventually the executive director. Plan the money used for students accordingly.</p> <p><b>M. Zondervan</b> will invite student recipient to receive scholarship at the Spring mtg.</p>	<p>➤ Motion approved</p> <p>➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> make final recommendati on regarding increasing scholarship amount or recipients</p>
<i>Student Chapter Report</i>	<p><b>R. Shaw</b> reported that March 1<sup>st</sup> is Beast Feast at UF Forest Teaching Unit, looking for donations of meat, pythons, iguanas? Gawlik mentioned that ENP has large amount of dead pythons on ice.</p> <p>Chapter completed the air potato roundup in G'ville on Sat, 1/26/08. There is a Road cleanup scheduled in March (no date yet). Nat'l conference committee with Adam Wilcox—looking for volunteers to help through emails thus far. How to get students to Miami, lodging costs are a concern. Chapter is looking for fundraising options, currently helping with a pancake breakfast.</p>	<p>➤ Need donations for Beast Feast</p> <p>➤ Need assistance with Nat'l Conference student</p>

	Bolt looking to Biology Dept. (Ross Hinkle) at UCF for starting a student Ch there.	activities
OLD BUSINESS		
2008 National Conference	<p><b>S. Nagid</b> discussed FWC commitment to attend, look for written acknowledgement from <b>T. Breau</b> as how many slots will be paid for and get a list of recommended people. Discussions regarding whether Chapter is limiting FWC to the number of people they send, but determined that this would be the best way to guarantee needed FWC employees attend.</p> <p><b>S. Stiegler</b> commented that <b>T. Breau</b> knows FWC budgets decreased, but still committed to sending FWC employees (40-50?) to conference. Refer to previous letters on shared site for Miami Conference.</p> <p><b>S. Rockwood</b> reported planning is going well. <b>Sandra Staples</b> resigning from TWS, she agreed that if we raise more than the \$90K then the Chapter can use money for the Conference. We have <u>Nat Reid</u> as plenary speaker, <u>Hiassen</u> unavailable. Trying to finalize conference budget—completed by end of Feb. Farwell BBQ—awaiting sponsorship from county commissioners for location and transportation costs. It looks promising now.</p> <p>Field trips are coming together—info up on the Nat'l website? <b>D. Gawlik</b> reported that committee still needs some 12 passenger vans—add to agency need letters. Board members who are looking to their agencies for vehicles: <b>M. Zondervan, G. Tanner, E. Myers</b></p> <p>Merchandise committee receiving good SWAG; Students, photography, and A/V committees doing well.</p> <p><b>L. Perrin</b> submitted full report. The committee has 19 established individuals, but looks to entire membership for assistance. So far they have 200 potential sponsors listed on SharePoint site, these include money and merchandise contributions. However, there are still a few vendors obtained through the Tucson mtg that have not been contacted—seeking member volunteers to help make contact. Still looking for an attractive “weekend get-away” package, any ideas, contacts or assistance is appreciated.</p> <p><b>M. Zondervan</b> mentioned using rental car agencies for sponsorship, if they are not already listed.</p>	<p>➤ <b>J. Exum</b> send out <u>reminder letters</u> to state agency heads who agreed to commit employees. Also ask for vehicle assistance (vans—12 passenger)</p>
Update on Funding Task Force and Investment Strategies		<p>➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> initiate Chapter account set-up with Morgan Stanley, per instructions from the summer board mtg (Refer to minutes)</p>
Spring 2008 Conference	Refer to Programs committee report	
Website	Refer to Information committee report	
NEW BUSINESS		
Greening the 2008 Miami Conference	<p><b>J. Exum</b> discussed the Letter he sent to Hutchins.</p> <p><b>J. Exum</b> discussed Carbon credits, how he come up with \$5—calculated the air miles from major airports/state into Tucson mtg for 15,000 registrants. Didn't</p>	<p>&gt; <b>J. Exum</b> and <b>R. Shaw</b></p>

	<p>calculate impact from driving to conference and impacts from onsite conference. So assuming only half of the people volunteer to pay, then covers potential carbon impacts. <b>R. Shaw</b> mentioned that he knows individual in G'ville who can determine what the carbon impact of the event will be.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Should we charge for them; should it be <u>mandatory</u>, or voluntary?</li> <li>2. How much should we charge? X%--based on carbon impact calculations</li> <li>3. Do we set ecological parameters for its implementation? SN no pine forest plantation—need full restoration on site.</li> <li>4. Should we implement it in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Florida? TNC has two sites: Apalachicola Bluffs and another in LA</li> <li>b. The US?</li> <li>c. Where there is the best bang for the buck?</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>J. Exum</b> will work with <b>R. Shaw</b> to contact Gainesville individual to determine impacts and then determine what would be the suggested cost for a mandatory cost—included in the registration cost</p> <p><b>S. Rockwood</b> made motion to Recommend that <u>Nat'l accept a mandatory registration fee to offset carbon impacts, not to exceed X% of registration fee (based on calculated impacts JE). The Florida Ch will determine what project and provide details of the project at the conference site. S. Nagid and R. Shaw</u> seconded. Motion approved.</p>	<p>contact G;ville individual to receive cost recommendations from estimated conference impacts</p> <p>&gt;Motion approved</p> <p>&gt; <b>J. Exum</b> contact Mike Hutchins with Nat'l regarding the Board's recommendation for carbon offset</p>
Florida Wildlife Federation	<p>Florida Forever—see Conservation Committee report</p> <p>Surface water withdrawals—not discussed</p>	➤
Teaming with Wildlife Fly-In	<p><b>J. Exum</b> reported from TWS Nat'l, <b>Laura Bys</b>(?)sent info—they requested Chapter participation—support for continued funding for state wildlife grants. <b>Chris Wynn</b> volunteered to go, if Chapter could support. <b>J. Exum's</b> initial response to Wynn's request: discuss with Board, but maybe FWF or FWC could contribute? There was no response from Wynn.</p> <p>Exum requested recommendations as to how to proceed. Rockwood debated the expense vs. issue--Chapter not that involved with state wildlife grants. Rockwood recommends that <u>Chapter provide up to \$250 matching funds for him to attend, but must be matched by other entity</u>; Zondervan seconded. Motion approved.</p>	<p>➤ Motion approved</p> <p>➤ <b>J. Exum</b> contact <b>Wynn</b> with stipulations</p>
Member Survey	<p>Mentioned under membership report. <b>S. Nagid</b> suggested that <b>B. Scheick</b> contact the Human Dimensions working group whose job it is to conduct surveys. <b>B. Scheick</b> should discuss increasing the effectiveness of our survey (reaching non-respondents) with this working group.</p>	<p>➤ <b>J. Exum</b> remind <b>B. Scheick</b> to follow up survey for the non-respondents</p> <p>➤ <b>B. Scheick</b> contact the Human Dimensions Working Group for assistance</p>
FSECC Florida State Employees Charitable Campaign	<p>Discussion regarding the need to complete annual audit before submitting application. Audit is needed and now maybe Morgan Stanley can provide the audit. <b>S. Rockwood</b> sent application to <b>J. Exum</b> (new and old applications). <b>M. Zondervan</b> will check with MS regarding the audit. <b>S. Nagid</b> volunteered Becky Kueppers as an accountant, if needed, who may be available to conduct independent audit</p>	<p>➤ <b>M. Zondervan</b> complete application and submit (copy <b>Exum</b>)</p>
Review By Laws	<p>Chapter needs to review By laws pursuant to the goals and objectives of the 2006 Strategic Plan. Revisit the presidential elections—currently Nat'l and other Chapters have VP automatically become president. <b>D. Gawlik</b> discussed moving</p>	<p>➤ <b>S. Nagid</b> and <b>S. Rockwood</b></p>

	the President-elect time period to VP. <b>B. Bolt</b> concerned about the time commitment, and the difficulty in getting nominations for a long period of time. Develop committee, headed up by <b>S. Nagid</b> to review by laws and revisit presidential elections. Committee will recommend changes to the Board, who will make decision and then allow members a 45 day review and response period.	co-chair committee with <b>J. Exum</b> ➤ <b>D. Gawlik</b> notify members of this process prior to the Spring mtg
Member at large duties	Define tasks for “members at large” one serve on Information Committee to assist with maintaining website updates—especially after Board mtgs and conferences.	➤ <b>J. Exum</b> define tasks for Members at Large to complete
Meeting adjourned	Meeting was adjourned at 1608.	

Addendum

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY  
FLORIDA CHAPTER  
WINTER BOARD MEETING  
January 29, 2008  
TREASURER'S REPORT**

**SECTION I. GENERAL SUMMARY (1/1/07-12/31/07)**

Balance as of 12/31/2007	\$ 29,464.64
Balance as of 1/1/2007	\$ 20,570.96
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Net Change	\$ 8,893.68

**SECTION II. 2007 FALL MEETING SUMMARY**

*Expenses:*

Meeting Facilities at Hyatt & Catering	\$ 5,733.76
Credit card Processing Fees	\$ 180.51
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Total	\$ 5,914.27

*Income:*

Registration (27 regular; 9 students)	\$ 2,025.00
Memberships	\$ 10.00
Merchandise and Misc.	\$ 70.00
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Total	\$ 2,105.00

**NET LOSS** **-\$ 3,809.27**



**SECTION III. DETAILED SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES (1/1/07–12/31/07)**

*Expenses:*

2007 Spring Conference	\$ 10,414.97
2007 Fall Meeting	\$ 5,914.27
Contributions/Student Scholarship	\$ 1,200.00
Merchandise	\$ 2,040.51
Web Services	\$ 392.35
Overhead	\$ 217.98
FWF Membership	\$ 100.00
Fire Course Expenses	\$ 5,328.15
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>\$ 22.00</u>
Total	\$ 25,630.23

*Income:*

2007 Fall Meeting	\$ 1,982.91
2007 Spring Conference	\$19,771.33
Membership	\$ 1,730.00
Merchandise	\$ 73.67
<u>Fire Course</u>	<u>\$ 9,111.00</u>
Total	\$ 32,668.91

**NET GAIN** **\$ 7,038.68**

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

## FL-TWS Members per year

