# Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society Fall Business Meeting

### Topsail Hill Preserve State Park Santa Rosa Beach, Florida October 4, 2012

#### **Final Minutes**

Attendees: Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Larame Ferry, Holly Ober, Larry Perrin, Maria Zondervan, John Humphrey, Hugh Boyter, Mike Milleson, Rose Godfrey, Eric Tillman

Absent: Alan Alshouse, Samantha Baraoidan, Arnold Brunell, Kristee Booth, Marsha Ward

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President <b>D. Gawlik</b> called meeting to order at 1:10 pm.	
Reading of the	J. Humphrey motioned to approve. L. Perrin seconded.	<ul> <li>Minutes approved.</li> </ul>
Spring Minutes		
Report of Treasurer	L. Ferry provided Treasurer's Report (Addendum 1).  She summarized meeting gains: National Bobwhite  Quail Committee Meeting – ~\$100 from merchandise sales; FLTWS Fall Meeting 2011 – ~\$100; SE Deer Study  Group Meeting – sold ~\$400 of merchandise; Prescribed Fire Course – ~\$200; FLTWS Spring  Conference – ~\$4,000; Pelican Island Wildlife Festival – sold ~\$900 of merchandise. ~ \$1,300 of merchandise purchased that will be stored in 3 locations statewide so will be close to whoever is available to attend events in the north, central, or south part of the state.  Discussion:  • Benefits/downsides of co-hosting a conference with another agency: The spring conference had richer content and good attendance due to the need of the FLEPPC audience to get CEUs, but collaborating during the planning process was frustrating to our organizers. It was recommended that we try to get a better idea of the CEU needs of our members. A. Willcox was in the process of creating a survey that would have assessed this; we need to come up with a different vehicle to take care of this since it's been a few years since members were asked what CEUS they most wanted.  • Summary of income and expenses – D. Gawlik noted that 'donations' was listed as a negative number whereas all other expenses were listed as positive. This will be revised by L. Ferry.  H. Boyter motioned to approve. J. Humphrey	Treasurer's Report approved.
	seconded.	

Report of		
Committees		
Audit	Nothing to report.	
Awards	Nothing to report.	
Certification	<del>                                     </del>	
Conservation	D. Gawlik for B. Bolt:	A. Brunell and B.
	D. Gawlik for B. Bolt: As a chapter we have endorsed Florida's Water and Land Legacy Conservation amendment. The reason for this amendment is because Florida Forever has been gutted. This amendment calls for taking 1/3 of taxes from real estate transactions. E. Myers explained that 100,000 signatures are needed in support of this by Nov 6, and then even more signatures at some point in time after that. D. Gawlik attended the Florida Wildlife Federation (FWF) meeting as an affiliate, where he learned about the RESTORE Act of 2012. This act (Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast State Act) was passed in June 2012 to create a Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund. Estimates of funding available through this program range from \$3.3 million to \$12 billion. There is still question of whether it would be administered by the department of commerce or department of interior. Some money will be spent to establish 5 research centers in the states affected by the oil spill. Brevard County contacted B. Scheick about feral cat issues. D. Gawlik asked M. Milleson to restore feral cat web page that existed previously, so that information is available to anyone with an interest in the issue. There was discussion of the most appropriate location for this information: perhaps under the conservation page.  A. Brunell recommended FLTWS host a meeting of county governments. There is an unfilled niche there, and it is in FLTWS bylaws to promote science-based natural resource management. Perhaps meetings offering CEUs would draw attendees from county agencies.	A. Brunell and B.     Bolt to write up     descriptions for     further     consideration on if     FLTWS should host     a meeting of county     governments.
	Discussion	
	<ul> <li>Would a workshop be the most appropriate venue? E. Myers believes some of these folks are already attending working group meetings on topics of interest to them.</li> <li>H. Boyter is concerned that we are spreading ourselves too thin, working at such a local level.</li> <li>A. Brunell and B. Bolt to write up descriptions for further consideration.</li> </ul>	

encouraging FLTWS to get involved with the issue of fighting for reinstating funding for the WMDs.  Education & D. Gawlik for J. Gless: Newsletter sent out in October.  Fundraising  L. Perrin reported that fundraising for upcoming spring conference will kick off in January/February.  Membership  D. Gawlik for P. Brouse:  NUMBER OF MEMBERS - There were 177 members at last count. Now we are at 166, with 87 members past due. He has been sending gentle reminders to encourage renewal of memberships. We lost the mailing list when we switched website hosts; M.	ng points
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	iip.
Milleson re-created it based on the membership list, so	
some contacts may have been lost. Old lists should be	
referred to for these older contacts. Perhaps low	
attendance at the current fall meeting is a result of	
these lost email contacts. Perhaps more emphatic	
prompting will be needed, because of these challenging	
economic times.	
Discussion:	
H. Boyter suggested it would be helpful to put	
together some talking points highlighting the	
benefits of being a member, and sending these	
out in email reminders to folks who have not	
renewed – he agreed to create a list.	
D. Gawlik recommended pulling out some	
statements from the bylaws when trying to	
reinstate members or draw in new members.	
L. Perrin brought up the fact that our	
membership represents only about 5% of the	
wildlife biologists in the state. <b>D. Gawlik</b> asked	
how low we want to allow the membership	
number to go before we make a big push to	
bump up the numbers.	
ACTIVITY OF MEMBERS - Original members were active	
in writing legislators, and these legislators responded	
personally: this is something that does not happen	
anymore. <b>H. Boyter and L. Perrin</b> reported they knew	
of someone who dropped his FLTWS membership	
because we were not active enough in lobbying efforts.	
D. Gawlik mentioned that later in the meeting we	
would be working on establishing conservation officers	
in response to this criticism. <b>H. Boyter</b> believes	
membership will increase if we become more vital in	
the policy arena.	
Nominations D. Gawlik for S. Rockwood: Committee is still looking	
and Elections for names for candidates. Names will be presented to	
the Executive Board at the Winter Board Meeting.	

	because we only have 4 software licenses installed on		"Squarespace"
	Website changes: Current website problematic		hosting
Website	M. Milleson reported:	•	New website
Mohsita	meetings already scheduled.		Manage 19 -
	potential dates under consideration conflict with other		
	then). <b>M. Zondervan</b> asked everyone to check if the		
	available then) or Apr 10-12 (2 of 4 hotels available		
	DATES - Tentative dates are April 17-19 (all 4 hotels		
	and make a decision after seeing them.		
	has no minimum). <b>M. Zondervan</b> will visit all 4 places		
	but food + beverages minimum differ (Captain Hiram's		
	government employees. All have similar room rates,		
	spa" in the name could be problematic for some		
	Permission for registration at a place with "resort and		
	by Hilton, and Crown Plaza Oceanfront Resort and Spa.		
	charges – Hilton Melbourne Rialto, Doubletree Suites		
	3 other places in Melbourne that have much cheaper		
	(expensive - \$1,000 for meeting space) in Sebastian, or		
	Other nearby locations include Captain Hiram's Resort		
	has few venues that could be used for the meeting.		
	LOCATION - There is a complication that Vero Beach		
	getting a logo created.		
	about a sea turtle symposium. <b>E. Myers</b> will work on		
	sparrow symposium and will follow up with <b>B. Bolt</b>		
	symposiums. <b>E. Myers</b> will work on a grasshopper		
	of conflicts'. It would be desirable to have ~3		
	'imperiled species conservation; managing in the face		
	face of conflict'. The theme agreed upon was		aitei Wal US.
	species management hurdles', and 'managing in the		a decision afterwards.
	'imperiled species conservation conflicts', 'imperiled		locations and make a decision
	conference. Potential themes given consideration were		visit potential hote
	for field trips that could be offered before and after the	•	M. Zondervan to
	show the film at the meeting. There are several ideas	_	logo creation.
	documentary; <b>E. Myers</b> invited them to potentially		spring conference
	are also a big issue in the region. Archbold is making a	•	E. Myers to work of
	Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrows, and RCWs. Sea turtles		symposium.
	theme, to expand beyond birds to include other species. Birds in trouble include Cape Sable Seaside		for sea turtle
	There was a suggestion to consider an 'imperiled'		regarding potentia
	Vero Beach that is interested in hosting a symposium.		up with <b>B. Bolt</b>
	grasshopper sparrow working group operating near	•	E. Myers to follow
	conservation. <b>E. Myers</b> indicated there is a		symposium.
	THEME & CONTENT – M. Zondervan suggested bird		sparrow
Committee	Spring Conference 2013:		up on grasshopper
Program	M. Zondervan reported:	•	<b>E. Myers</b> to follow
Chapter			
Student	Nothing to report.		
	from NWTF is known announcement will be sent out.		
	anywhere from \$0-500. Once the exact contribution		
	donation and National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)		

	specific computers that must be used to make changes to the site. Would like to switch to "Squarespace", which allows for quick updates to the site, and would be just slightly lower in quality (a few bells and whistles would be lost). A 'members only' area was not really possible with the old site, but will be possible with this new option. We can also have a forum on this new site to encourage commentary (could be public or private). There would be a link to the existing storefront, so there would be no problems with selling merchandise. This new option will cost \$180/year. In sum, it seems the cost might be similar or a slight increase over what was paid previously, but this option will make job easier and allow him to task other people with small updates.		approved.
	J. Humphrey motioned to approve. H. Boyter		
	seconded. <b>D. Gawlik</b> amended by stating approval will		
	be contingent on discussions with <b>P. Delaney</b> that no		
	additional limitations emerge. Motion approved.		
Old Business	Replacement Member at Large	•	M. Milleson to
	<b>D. Gawlik</b> welcomed <b>H. Ober</b> as replacement for <b>A. Willcox</b> as Member at Large.		check into creating a separate registration option
	Affiliated Meeting Support Working Group		for members on the
	E. Myers reported: Members of the working group		website.
	developed a goal of assisting with outside meeting	•	Mentoring program
	registrations to provide support, increase exposure, and gain a profit. They decided the members of the		supported.
	committee will be the president elect, treasurer,	•	Event insurance will be purchased for
	website chair, fundraising chair, and a member at large.		upcoming year.
	Job descriptions were outlined for the treasurer,		apoorting years
	website chair, fundraising chair, and member at large.		
	Fees will include a 7% per attendee flat rate, with a		
	minimum fee of \$250 for each meeting, plus many		
	other details. Merchandise selling will be expected at a table/booth as a perk for handling registration at all		
	events. Merchandise will be stored at 3 sites across the		
	state so it is conveniently located for any meetings that		
	arise. We will not advertise our willingness to serve in		
	this manner on the website or any other public		
	location: requests will come through word-of-mouth only. A draft agreement form was designed.		
	<b>L. Perrin</b> explained this is an important service because		
	agencies like FWC cannot accept cash payments for		
	registration. <b>D. Gawlik</b> reported that this service will		
	only be offered to groups who have a mission in line		
	with FLTWS. <b>E. Myers</b> clarified that 7% was decided		
	upon because 3% is required for the credit card transactions, which means there is only a 4% profit.		

**E. Myers** explained this should be a 'working group' rather than a standing committee, as there is no way to know how many meetings may be handled each year.

#### Insurance

**D. Gawlik** reported for **A. Alshouse**: **A. Alshouse** has been looking into insurance for both the board and the chapter for the past several years. 2 types of coverage: general liability for the chapter (covers property damage or injury, but excludes the board members) or board member insurance. It's also possible to get event insurance to cover individual events.

BOARD MEMBER INSURANCE - If you are a volunteer, you cannot be held liable, but you cannot be considered a volunteer if you ever been reimbursed by TWS for any type of expense. The types of issues board members could be held liable for are egregious, so it's unlikely any board member would be involved in these.

D. Gawlik thinks our risk as board members is low. E.

Myers and L. Ferry felt the board insurance was not needed. The cost would be \$700 each.

GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE – The maximum we could be sued for is the amount we have in our bank account (currently  $\sim$ \$40,000).

EVENT INSURANCE - The cost of event insurance would be similar if there were about 2 events per year.

#### Discussion:

- L. Perrin recommended waiting for national TWS to develop a policy, because our charges as a chapter would probably be very low – but national TWS is not close to providing insurance to state chapters.
- A. Alshouse prior recommendation was for both insurances (board and general liability).
   FWF recommended to D. Gawlik that we have waivers signed for all field trips, but don't bother with board member insurance.
- D. Gawlik suggested the option of simply using event insurance for the immediate future. J. Humphrey recommended event insurance only. H. Boyter recommended we follow national TWS lead by not purchasing board insurance. H. Ober agreed the board insurance was not needed as well, and the board insurance idea was dropped.

Motion to get event insurance for spring meeting and perhaps for some workshops as needed, and roll cost

into event registration fee. **J. Humphrey** motioned to approve only purchasing event insurance for this upcoming year, and then review as needed for future. **L. Ferry** seconded. Motion approved.

#### **Mentoring Program**

M. Zondervan reported on the Mentoring Program developed by M. Zondervan and B. Scheick. There is a desire to form a 'welcome committee' to communicate with new members. The committee would email a welcome letter and provide a contact to which future questions could be addressed, they would send personal reminders about upcoming meetings, and they meet the new member at meetings and introduce them to existing members. There already exists a list of members willing to serve as a mentor. An idea is to offer a one year free membership to make it easier for existing members to encourage other individuals in their agency to join without needing to push them to spend money. A new membership would be someone who has not been a member in the past 10 years. There would be no cost to the chapter for us to do this.

**E. Myers** and **L. Ferry** volunteered to serve on the welcome committee.

It was discussed that this program should be a role of the membership committee.

- **E. Myers** motioned to support the mentoring program. Discussion:
  - **E. Myers** indicated that there has been a problem with people paying membership rates for conferences when they are not truly members. She recommended each member be assigned a number (as is done with national TWS) that is requested when people register for conferences, so anyone without a number could not claim to be an existing member. M. **Milleson** indicated he would check into the feasibility of creating a separate registration option for members on the webpage. If this is not an option, there would need to be a manual checking service, so that when people show up at a conference, a list would indicate they should not be given a program until they pay the balance due.
  - It was suggested that P. Brouse could check with each person who tries to register at the membership rate without actually being a member: he could coax them to pay

Now Rusinoss	membership dues at that point, as opposed to trying to force people to pay the extra for registration to the conference.  • M. Milleson suggested P. Brouse send out reminder emails to alert members when dues will expire. It was suggested that list of conference registrants be sent to E. Myers, L. Ferry, and P. Brouse simultaneously, so P. Brouse would be notified if someone were trying to get the membership discount rate for a conference without deserving it. However, there is a problem that if a member renews through national TWS, it could take a few months before P. Brouse is notified. His email would need to be worded in such a way that it indicates his records show their dues are not current, and ask for clarification if they may have already paid through national.  • The vote was passed.	• Implementation
New Business	PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING COURSE E. Myers reported that the course will be March 18- 21. She will handle it since L. Ferry will be busy with the spring conference. E. Myers will look at old records to see the profit made in the past before determining how much to request from the course host. This workshop will probably be grandfathered in rather than applying the new meeting registration standards developed by the working group on Affiliated Meeting Support.  ENHANCING CONSERVATION CAPABILITIES OF FLTWS  D. Gawlik reported on the Implementation Strategy to Enhance Conservation Capabilities of FLTWS. In years past, FLTWS weighed in on conservation issues much more than it does now. Six mechanisms were identified for FLTWS to work on:  • First: develop a structure that allows us to broaden the base of expertise available to address conservation issues without burdening anyone heavily. The approach used will be similar to that used by editors of journals: have a conservation chair, and 5 associate conservation chairs with known expertise who will be tasked with finding other experts when needed. Each associate conservation chair will be tasked with 2 conservation issues per year.  • Second: do a better job of identifying issues.  • Third: develop a template that can be used to assign a priority ranking to each issue. A group will need to work on developing this hierarchy.  • Fourth: determine different ways we could make contributions (such as position	Implementation     Strategy teams to     provide follow up to     D. Gawlik.

	statements).  • Fifth: evaluate the relative effectiveness of each of these different types of efforts.  • Sixth: proactively improve the ability of members to communicate science, conservation, and management. Susan Jacobson is one local person who could perhaps assist with this.	
	D. Gawlik asked everyone present to pair up in break out groups to evaluate what is needed for tactics 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 in terms of time, money, individuals with relevant expertise, etc., to serve as a blueprint for him to push forward. Task 1 was tackled by L. Ferry and L. Perrin. Task 2 was H. Boyter and E. Tillman. Task 3 was M. Milleson and J. Humphrey. Task 5 was M. Zondervan and H. Ober. Task 6 was E. Myers and R. Mulholland.	
	One member of each of these pairs will send an	
Adiourn	electronic report to <b>D. Gawlik</b> after the meeting.	
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.	

### THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FLORIDA CHAPTER OCTOBER 2, 2012 TREASURER'S REPORT

#### **SECTION I. GENERAL SUMMARY**

Balance	10/2/2012	10/2/11	10/2/10
Bank Account	\$27,810.93	\$43,799.71*	\$20,922.02
Cash Account	\$ 147.23	\$ 134.00	\$ 118.00
Investments Account	\$24,672.50	\$21,273.88	\$22,445.00
Overall Total	\$52,630.66	\$65,207.59	\$43,485.02

<sup>\*</sup>Bank account balance is higher due to receiving funds for assistance with other organization's meetings (e.g., Section IV) and merchant services account issues. In the future, FLTWS plans to create a separate account for transactions on behalf of other organizations.

## <u>SECTION II.</u> NATIONAL BOBWHITE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 9-12,2011

Registrations	\$21,715.00 (100 registrants)
Sponsorship	\$ 8,200.00
Visit Tallahassee Grant	\$ 950.00
Silent Auction	\$ 1,698.00
Total	\$32,563.00
Expenses:	
Various (e.g., prints, hotel, transportation)	\$25,342.04
Credit Card Fees (\$963.37* - \$250)	\$ 713.37

Total \$26,055.41

\*Credit card estimates based on 3.99% transaction fee for credit cards processed.

Balance Returned to the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative = \$6,5087.59

Merchandise Sales \$ 94.00

## <u>SECTION III</u>. FLTWS FALL MEETING SUMMARY OCTOBER 11 – 12, 2011

Income:	•
mcomc.	

Registration \$ 625.00 (22 registrants)

#### Expenses:

Ехрепзез.	
Catering	\$ 442.50
Groceries	\$ 39.21
Approximate Credit Card Fees	\$ 16.95
Total	\$ 498.66

## $\underline{SECTION~IV}$ . SOUTHEASTERN DEER STUDY GROUP MEETING FEBRUARY 26 – 29, 2012

*Income*:

Total

 Registrations
 \$46,470.00 (325 registrants)

 Sponsors
 \$28,219.46

 Total
 \$74,689.46

 Expenses:
 Various (e.g., hotel, plaques, supplies)
 \$59,373.72

 Credit Card Fees (\$2,019.66 - \$250)
 \$ 1,769.66

Balance Returned to South Carolina Department of Natural Resources = \$ 13,546.08 (Seed money for next year's conference)

\$61,143.38

Merchandise Sales \$ 389.00

## <u>SECTION V. PRIVATE LANDOWNER PRESCRIBED FIRE COURSE FEBRUARY 28 – 29, 2012</u>

Income:

 Registration
 \$1,125.00 (25 registrants)

 Expenses:
 \$851.84

 Printing
 \$53.97

 Approximate Credit Card Fees
 \$25.14

 Total
 \$930.95

NET GAIN \$ 194.05

## SECTION VI. FLTWS & FLEPPC SPRING CONFERENCE APRIL 16 – 19, 2012

Income:

Registrations	\$19,180.00 (149 registrants)
Sponsors	\$ 6,350.00
Cancellation fees	\$ 50.00
Donation (kayak)	\$ 7.07
Additional dinners	\$ 180.00
Raffle	\$ 1,427.00
Canoe field trip	\$ 220.00
Total	\$27,414.07
Expenses:	
Logo redesign	\$ 75.00
Ocala Hilton	\$ 1,500.00
Speaker travel	\$ 324.70
Ice/beast feast	\$ 4.27

Ocala Hilton	\$1	4,098.19	
Program printing	\$	902.00	
Student Presenter Award	\$	200.00	
Presenter travel	\$	409.78	
Entertainment/Weeds	\$	200.00	
Office Depot (dinner dots)	\$	8.26	
Wal-mart/field trip expenses	\$	54.72	
Field trip expense/canoe	\$	220.00	
Approximate Credit Card Fees	\$	1,041.48	
Total	\$1	9,038.40	
TOTAL NET GAIN	\$	8,375.67	
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FLTWS NET GAIN (Split 50/50)	\$	4,187.84	(eacn)
FLIWS NET GAIN (Spiit 50/50)	Þ	4,187.84	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income:	Þ	4,187.84	(eacn)
· •	\$	414.14	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income:	·	ĺ	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales	\$	414.14	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction	\$ \$	414.14 369.75	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction	\$ \$	414.14 369.75	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income	\$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income  Other EPPC Income:	\$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75 783.89	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income  Other EPPC Income: EPPC Merchandise	\$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75 783.89 504.25	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income  Other EPPC Income: EPPC Merchandise EPPC Sponsor/Research and Grants	\$ \$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75 783.89 504.25 48.00	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income  Other EPPC Income: EPPC Merchandise EPPC Sponsor/Research and Grants Membership Dues (38 registrants)	\$ \$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75 783.89 504.25 48.00 1,140.00	(eacn)
Other FLTWS Income: FLTWS Merchandise sales FLTWS Silent Auction Total other FLTWS Income  Other EPPC Income: EPPC Merchandise EPPC Sponsor/Research and Grants Membership Dues (38 registrants)	\$ \$ \$ \$	414.14 369.75 783.89 504.25 48.00 1,140.00	(eacn)

## SECTION VII. FLTWS FALL MEETING OCTOBER 4 – 5, 2012

Income:

Registration \$ 897.00 (13 registrants, as of 10/2/12)

Expenses:

Catering	\$ 390.00
Lodging	\$ 720.00
Groceries	\$ TBD
Approximate Credit Card Fees	\$ TBD
Total	\$ TBD

### OTHER:

**NET GAIN** 

Merchandise Sales at the Pelican Island Wildlife Festival (March 2012) = \$892 Merchandise Purchased (March 2012) = \$1,311.70

### VIII. OTHER GENERAL BANKING SUMMARY – INCOME & EXPENSES (10/2/11 – 10/2/12)

**TBD** 

### **Income:**

Membership Dues	\$3,	,680.00
Merchandise Sales	\$2,	,761.00
Scholarship Sponsorship	\$	250.00
Gift Received	\$	200.00

### **Expenses:**

Expenses.	
Donations	\$1,884.40
Uncategorized	\$ 278.56
Affiliate Dues	\$ 100.00
Bank Charge	\$ 131.40
Corporate status	\$ 135.00
Credit Card Fees	\$1,390.62
Shipping/Postage	\$ 72.68
Outreach	\$ 100.00
Merchant Services Fees	\$2,553.41
Student Scholarship	\$2,000.00
Student Sponsorship	\$ 144.00
Web Services	\$ 279.15