

**Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Spring Business Meeting**

**Ocala Hilton
Ocala, Florida
April 16, 2012**

Final Minutes

Attendees: Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Arnold Brunell, Alan Alshouse, Adam Willcox, Laramie Ferry, Kristee Booth, Stephen Harris. Additional members present.

Absent: Marsha Ward.

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President D. Gawlik called the meeting to order at 3:50 PM.	
Presentation	<p>Dr. Darren Miller, National TWS SE Section Representative, was the guest speaker. He spoke on TWS's background and activities, and celebrating 75 years of TWS. He discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the mission;• organizational structure;• strategic plan and its priorities;• critical issues and technical reviews;• developing the next generation of wildlife professionals;• student activities at TWS annual conference. <p>Other points about TWS discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• providing members information;• being a contributing member of AFWA;• Wildlife Society Bulletin (on-line only);• disease (AAWV/WDA MOUs);• CNRS Natural Resource Education Conference;• International Wildlife Management Congress in Durban, South Africa July 2012;• 7th Edition of the Wildlife Technical Manual;• Federal leadership in professional societies;• invasive species policy and education (feral cats, horses, hogs, pythons);• diversity in wildlife profession;• record membership this year.	
Reading of the Fall Minutes	H. Boyter motioned to approve, L. Perrin seconded. Motion approved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes approved.
Report of Treasurer	L. Ferry provided the Treasurer's Report (Addendum 1). E. Myers motioned to approve; A. Brunell seconded. Motion approved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treasurer's Report approved.
Report of Committees		

Audit	A. Alshouse reported that we are up-to-date on audit (conducted 11/11). The next audit will be completed at the end of the year.	
Awards	<p>T. O'Meara reported that he, Rosie Mulholland, Ron Masters, and Marty Main were on committee for the three FLTWS awards. Both the Citizen Conservation and Paul Moler awards had no nominees. The Herb Kale Award went to the only nominee John Ogden. The award was presented to him prior to the conference and a presentation is to be made at the banquet.</p> <p>The schedule for award process: notification at the end of October, and nominations due December 1.</p>	
Certification	Nothing new to report.	
Conservation	<p>B. Bolt and D. Gawlik reported:</p> <p>--FLTWS and our involvement with FWC: the Clackston Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival is no longer a snake round-up. FLTWS sent a letter to the Evans County Wildlife Club in support of ending the round-up.</p> <p>--FLTWS signed the Sportsman Letter to Obama about the Clean Water Act.</p> <p>More from the Conservation Committee will be discussed during Old Business portion of meeting.</p>	
Education & Information	<p>J. Gless led the discussion on the Chapter Newsletter: one in January, one to be released in May, and one later in the Fall. Comments, suggestions, and newsletter items are requested from members.</p> <p>L. Ferry updates the FLTWS Facebook page, and A. Alshouse gets news to send to the TWS SE Section Newsletter. He received a good response for the latest newsletter (10 articles). J. Gless will assist A. Alshouse in obtaining articles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-Send articles and other newsletter ideas to J. Gless.
Fundraising	L. Perrin reported there were challenges to fundraising for the combined conference this year – economy as well as the on-line sponsorship availability causing confusion with keeping money separate for each group. The economy is still down so this affects the willingness to be a sponsor, and high cost of registration could exclude some people who couldn't afford to pay for themselves when their agency/company won't support them. Think about sponsor benefits, levels, and website usage for future conferences. More people are always needed to fundraise. There could be an issue, if not handled properly, with splitting the money from the raffle and silent auction with a partner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising committee will review sponsor levels and benefits.
Membership	B. Scheick reported we have 170 members, but we used to have an average of 215-220 members for the last few years. He doesn't receive feedback as to why people don't renew their membership so he doesn't know why we lose members. He also doesn't know how well the reminders work. We have a membership	

	<p>database that is working well. We get 30 new people each year but don't retain them; think of ways to retain these new members since they may only sign up for the conference held near their location. Another theory for the loss is that the agencies used to pay the membership dues, but now they don't and also won't pay for travel/conference expenses. He has been using sharepoint to keep the database current with an assistant's help.</p> <p>One suggestion was made to consider having the FLTWS membership application appear on a meeting registration form on our website whether it's our meeting or a meeting we are helping with (i.e. deer study group meeting).</p>	
Nominations and Elections	<p>S. Rockwood reported that nothing will happen until Fall when a list of candidates will be created for the winter election period. A. Willcox is leaving for a new job in Tennessee; his Member-At-Large position will need to be filled.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board to fill member-at-large open position.
Scholarship	<p>H. Ober reported there were 14 applicants for the student scholarship. Stephen Harris, UF student and student chapter president, won the \$2000 award and will attend banquet to accept. Most applicants were from UF and UCF.</p>	
Student Chapter	<p>S. Harris, UF student chapter president, thanked FLTWS for the student rate for the conference and other assistance they have offered. The Beast Feast in February went well, made \$800 and 500 people attended. The Student Conclave was held in March and they placed 9th out of 24 teams. S. Baraoidan is the incoming new President.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Baraoidan new UF Student Chapter president.
Program Committee	<p>S. Nagid said the conference is going well so far. M. Zondervan agreed to be Program Chair for the next two years since S. Nagid will be gone. The Fall Meeting will be held in Panama City. 2013 Spring Meeting will be held in Vero Beach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Zondervan taking over as Program Committee Chair.
Website	<p>P. Delaney said the website is working well and keeps him busy. M. Milleson has been helping him. They provided examples of all the work they did this past year: for the quail meeting they set up a webpage, the deer study group required a lot of work but it went well as did the Private Landowners Fire Training, created Board and committee chair FLTWS email addresses.</p> <p>M. Milleson reported that he looked into a members' only section. It can be done two ways with our system: easy with one password for all members to use or give individual passwords – will require more research/work to do this. It was decided to use one password system.</p> <p>M. Milleson is now website chairman. P. Delaney will still assist.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss website usage for other groups. • M. Milleson is new Website Committee chairman. • M. Milleson to create the one password members only section.

Old Business	<p><u>TWS Sponsor-a-Student Campaign</u></p> <p>D. Gawlik led the discussion to give a complimentary national TWS membership to students. Test this with 4 students this year, scholarship committee to choose.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Zondervan asked why not give a FLTWS membership to a student too? Do we choose a graduate student? Undergraduate student? There was a question of students graduating and leaving the state. • L. Perrin suggested we could do this for new hires with a Florida company or agency to ensure they'd stay in Florida - provide membership to a young professional. Criteria needs to be created, suggestions were the following: one time only membership to new hires; put opportunity announcement on website rather than a selection process and blanket agencies and universities. • A. Brunell suggested this could be partnered with a mentor to assist them. • L. Perrin suggested the membership chair along with M. Zondervan and whoever else get together to finalize the options and report to the summer board meeting. <p><u>Enhancing Conservation Capabilities of FTWS</u></p> <p>D. Gawlik suggested a structure of a Conservation Chair (B. Bolt) and several other people in different regions to commit to at least two conservation/environmental issues per year. The regional reps would do the research, documentation, and report back to B. Bolt to finalize the handling of the issue for us. This new process would help bring issues to the committee, filter the issues to decide what and how to respond, and do the research for ease in FTWS response.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B. Bolt added that we also have letters or responses needed asap (especially from FL Wildlife Federation). These are needed too quickly for the Chapter to respond at times so individual members can respond and speak for themselves on the issue. • H. Boyter suggested FLTWS be a member of the Florida Conservation Coalition (FCC). The benefit would be to raise our visibility and they would filter conservation issues for us. • D. Gawlik asked H. Boyter to write up something about the Florida Conservation Coalition for the Board to review and address at the summer Board meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad hoc committee of B. Scheick and M. Zondervan to make recommendations about mentoring and sponsoring students by summer board meeting. • H. Boyter to prepare info on FCC for Board to address at Summer Board meeting. • B. Bolt to work with others for issue assignments.
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New Business	<p><u>Ad Hoc committee on FLTWS involvement with other organizations' meetings</u></p> <p>E. Myers reported that a lot of time was put in on these efforts, and then ended with us paying an organization \$250 to help them put on their conference. She suggested the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if meeting/conference is < 100 attendees then we won't ask for money • if meeting/conference is 100-300 attendees we get 7% of the registration fee • if meeting/conference is 300-1000 attendees we get 9% of the registration fee • if meeting/conference is > 1000 attendees we get 11% of the registration fee <p>The committee is comprised of the Treasurer, President-elect, website and fundraising committees. The proposal is FLTWS would get recognition, sell merchandise, and get a percentage for larger meetings for assisting with the meeting/conference.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad Hoc committee to decide on FLTWS involvement with other organizations' meetings
Adjourn	D. Gawlik adjourned the meeting at 6:20 PM.	

Addendum 1. Treasurer's Report.

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
FLORIDA CHAPTER
APRIL 13, 2012
TREASURER'S REPORT**

SECTION I. GENERAL SUMMARY

Balance	4/13/2012	4/13/11	4/13/10
Bank Account	\$61,031.82	\$22,525.73	\$22,343.80
Cash Account	\$ 123.23	\$ 118.00	\$ 118.00
Investments Account	<u>\$24,556.00</u>	<u>\$25,009.61</u>	<u>\$22,461.80</u>
Overall Total	\$85,711.05	\$47,653.34	\$22,461.80
Balance as of 4/13/12			\$85,711.05
Balance as of 4/13/11			<u>\$47,653.34</u>
Net Change			(+) \$38,057.71

Net Change after Southeastern Deer Study Group Meeting Adjustments [SEDSG (Section IV)]
\$38,057.71 – \$13,546.08 (SEDSG funds) = (+) \$24,511.63

Allocation of Assets

Checking Accounts	\$61,031.82
Morgan Stanley Endowment Fund as of 4/13/2012	\$24,556.00
Petty Cash	<u>\$ 123.23</u>
TOTAL	\$85,711.05

**SECTION II. NATIONAL BOBWHITE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 9 – 12, 2011**

Income:

Registrations	\$21,715.00 (100 registrants)
Sponsorship	\$ 8,200.00
Visit Tallahassee Grant	\$ 950.00
Silent Auction	<u>\$ 1,698.00</u>
Total	\$32,563.00

Expenses:

Various (e.g., prints, hotel, transportation)	\$ 25,342.04
Credit Card Fees (\$963.37* - \$250)	<u>\$ 713.37</u>
Total	\$ 26,055.41

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

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

Merchandise Sales \$ 94.00

SECTION III. FALL MEETING SUMMARY
OCTOBER 11 – 12, 2011

Income:

Registration \$ 625.00 (22 registrants)

Expenses:

Catering \$ 442.50

Groceries \$ 39.21

Approximate Credit Card Fees \$ 16.95

Total \$ 498.66

NET GAIN \$ 126.34

SECTION IV. SOUTHEASTERN DEER STUDY GROUP MEETING
FEBRUARY 26 – 29, 2012

Income:

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

Total \$ 61,143.38

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

Merchandise Sales \$ 389.00

SECTION V. PRIVATE LANDOWNER PRESCRIBED FIRE COURSE
FEBRUARY 28 – 29 2012

Income:

Registration \$1,125.00 (25 registrants)

Expenses:

Catering \$ 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	\$19,630.00 (144 registrants)
<u>Sponsors</u>	<u>\$ 6,400.00</u>
Total	\$26,263.00

Expenses:

Logo design	\$ 75.00
Hotel deposit	\$ 1,500.00
Speaker travel	\$ 324.00
Groceries	\$ 4.27
<u>Approximate Credit Card Fees</u>	<u>\$ 936.15</u>
Total	\$ 2,839.69

NET GAIN

TBD

Merchandise Sales Pelican Island Wildlife Festival (March 2012) = \$892

Merchandise Purchased (March 2012) = \$1,311.70

SECTION VII. DETAILED SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES (4/13/11–4/13/12)

Banking Summary
4/13/2011 through 4/13/2012

Category Description	4/13/2011- 4/13/2012
INCOME	
Fall Meeting 11 Income	625.00
Gift Received	200.00
Membership Dues	3,920.00
Merchandise Sales	2,595.00
NBTC Meeting Income	32,563.00
Prescribed Fire Course	1,890.00
Private Landowner RX Fire Course	1,125.00
Refund	75.85
Reimbursement	1,264.65
SEDSG Meeting Income	75,724.46
Spring Conf 11 Income	3,925.00
Spring Conf 12 Income	25,215.00
TOTAL INCOME	149,122.96

EXPENSES	
Uncategorized	178.57
Affiliate Dues	100.00
Bank Charge	81.65
Charity	1,384.40
Computer	56.00
Corporate status	135.00
Credit Card Fees	2,657.92
Fall Meeting 11 Expense	506.71
Fire Course Expense	2,280.00

Banking Summary
4/13/2011 through 4/13/2012

Category Description	4/13/2011- 4/13/2012
Postage	92.30
Other Overhead	48.58
TOTAL Overhead	189.50
Private Landowner RX Fire Course Expense	905.81
Registration	169.50
SEDSG Expense	60,408.72
Shipping	21.00
Spring Conf 12 Expense	2,336.19
Student Scholarship	-250.00
Web Services	187.70
TOTAL EXPENSES	110,611.64

TRANSFERS	
FROM FL TWS - Wells Fargo	100.00
FROM Petty Cash	56.00
TO FL TWS - Wells Fargo	-56.00
TO Petty Cash	-100.00
TOTAL TRANSFERS	0.00

OVERALL TOTAL	38,511.32
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MORGAN STANLEY
ENDOWMENT FUND PERFORMANCE

Spring 2008 \$23,000 (original investment)

Fall 2008 \$16,651.02

2009 \$14,601.83

2010 \$ 22,312.06

2011 \$24,618.92

2012 \$24,556.00