

Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Winter Executive Board Meeting

Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at FAU

Fort Pierce, Florida

January 29, 2013

Final Minutes

Attendees: Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Kristee Booth, Marsha Ward, Becky Bolt, Holly Ober, Laramie Ferry (on phone), Maria Zondervan (on phone).

Absent: Alan Alshouse, Samantha Baraoidan, Arnold Brunell.

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President D. Gawlik called meeting to order at 10:19 am.	
Reading of the Summer Board Minutes	E. Myers recommended approving minutes. K. Booth seconded. Motion approved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes approved.
Report of Treasurer	<p>L. Ferry provided Treasurer’s Report (Addendum 1):</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Ferry will handle registrations for the Prescribed Fire for Wildlife course. • L. Ferry asked about a discount for FLTWS members for the Prescribed Fire for Wildlife Course. E. Myers will look at providing a \$30 discount and how that would impact FLTWS profits, and will discuss with J. Schortemeyer. • D. Gawlik noted that we make a lot of money from merchandise sales and Spring Conference. • E. Myers noted that a reason for the increase in profits from the recent Spring Conference was that it was a joint conference. <p>E. Myers will be attending Pelican Island Festival, Bear Festival, and Panther Festival and promoting FLTWS/selling merchandise. She is looking for additional volunteers to assist.</p> <p>E. Myers noted that there will be a new FLTWS t-shirt for Spring Conference (Jim Wilson to make). E. Myers and L. Ferry will discuss any necessary merchandise purchases prior to Pelican Island Festival (March 2).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Myers to look at FLTWS member discount for Wildlife Fire Techniques course. • All – volunteers to staff FLTWS booth at festivals contact E. Myers. • E. Myers and L. Ferry to purchase merchandise (if necessary) prior to Pelican Island Festival in March. • Treasurer’s report approved.

	<p>D. Gawlik asked about the FLTWS mark-up on merchandise – E. Myers noted that it was approximately 50%. M. Zondervan asked about the upcoming Scrub Jay Festival in March at Jonathon Dickinson State Park – will FLTWS attend?</p> <p>K. Booth recommended approving treasurer’s report, seconded by B. Bolt. Motion approved.</p>	
Report of Committees		
Audit	Nothing to report.	
Awards	<p>Tim O’Meara email report: There was a nomination for the Paul Moler Herpetological Award: Dr. Richard Seigel. D. Gawlik presented the nomination letter. Motion to support nomination by E. Myers. Seconded by K. Booth. Motion approved. H. Ober asked how many nominations are typically received. D. Gawlik said 1/year at most.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Richard Seigel approved by Board as Paul Moler Herpetological Award recipient.
Certification	Nothing to report.	
Conservation	<p>B. Bolt reported:</p> <p>--FL Land and Water Legacy: FLTWS signed on as a cooperator group. The Legacy intends to get a proposal on the 2014 ballot to state amendment for funding for land conservation and management and restoration. B. Bolt would like a table at the spring conference to help with signatures. E. Myers suggested someone speak at the Spring Conference business meeting – B. Bolt to follow up.</p> <p>--B. Bolt to draft a letter of congratulations Indian Harbour Beach City Council applauding their efforts to control feral cats.</p> <p>--Private Lands Deer Management/FWC Rule Proposal: should FLTWS provide a response? FLTWS supports the Public Trust Doctrine. B. Bolt to gather info on proposed rule and send to Board to discuss action (prior to February FWC Commission meeting).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B. Bolt to follow up with FL Land and Water Legacy to see if someone would like to speak at Spring Conference business meeting. • B. Bolt to draft a support letter to Indian Harbour Beach City Council. • B. Bolt to follow up on proposed Private Lands Deer Management rule.
Education & Information	<p>J. Gless email report: Information of interest to members continues to be sent to M. Milleson for posting on the website. The Chapter newsletter, The Florida Wildlifer, came out October 2012. The next newsletter will be out March/early April 2013. If anyone has pictures from the Fall meeting, please send. The FLTWS Facebook site currently has 239 fans. News and events of interest continue to be posted to website/facebook page.</p> <p>Discussion:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Gawlik to follow up with J. Gless regarding newsletter issue date. • L. Ferry to send link to Fall Meeting 2012 pictures on Facebook to J. Gless.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Gawlik would like newsletter out prior to spring conference (March 1). D. Gawlik to follow up with J. Gless. • L. Ferry to send link to Fall Meeting facebook pictures to J. Gless. 	
Fundraising	M. Ausley email report: The fundraising committee is just beginning efforts to solicit donations and sponsorships for the Spring Conference. There is one sponsor on board already, and hope to add to the list beginning in February.	
Membership	Nothing to report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Gawlik to follow up with P. Brouse on membership committee chair responsibilities.
Nominations and Elections	D. Gawlik for S. Rockwood : The list of candidates will be provided to the Board soon (should be provided to the membership ten weeks prior to the Spring business meeting).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Rockwood to send Board list of candidates for upcoming election.
Scholarship	<p>H. Ober reported that there were 17 applications this year for the student scholarship (including some students from new schools than have applied in the past). Top 6 will receive sponsor-a-student support.</p> <p>The Scholarship Committee, which used to have 5 members, is down to 3, and they are looking for new members. D. Gawlik suggested asking for volunteers at the spring conference.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H. Ober to look for volunteers for Scholarship Committee.
Student Chapter	Nothing to report.	
Program Committee	<p>M. Zondervan reported: --Spring Conference Update: Save the date and call for papers announcements have been sent out. Notice that registration is open will be sent out soon (need to finalize menu choices – J. Humphrey working on it). There will be email blasts for reminders on registration, call for papers, etc. The band arrangements fell through, working on a replacement band.</p> <p>B. Scheick has been assisting with tracking down the founding members of FLTWS in order to invite them to the Spring Conference and be recognized (it is the 40 year anniversary of FLTWS). D. Gawlik suggested that one should speak (the first president if he attends) on behalf of the group at the beginning of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Zondervan to send out Spring Conference registration announcement. • B. Scheick to continue tracking down founding members of FLTWS for Spring Conference. • E. Myers and M. Zondervan to plan field trips and workshop for Spring Conference.

	<p>the banquet. Also something should be presented to attending first members at the banquet (for those not able to attend it should be mailed). All agreed, and that the movie (Wildlife Corridor Expedition) would be moved to the end of the banquet. E. Myers noted that they are working on the symposium, and that Ken Myer would be speaking at the plenary.</p> <p>M. Zondervan asked for input on field trips – should there be one on the morning of the first day and the last day or both/one? D. Gawlik suggested only the last day and have 2 options, one close and one farther away. E. Myers is developing a workshop idea which could possibly be on the front end of the meeting. M. Zondervan also requested help with field trip coordination. E. Myers to plan Kissimmee Prairie trip and workshop, M. Zondervan to plan St. Sebastian Preserve trip. E. Myers will provide details to M. Zondervan regarding lunch option for Kissimmee Prairie trip participants.</p>	
Website	<p>M. Milleson email report: The website is moving along quite well, and is now live at the same address as the old one (fltws.org). Member list will be on the member’s only section of the website within a few days – plan is for it to be dynamic, updating in sync with Google document. Received approval to join Google’s non-profit program, and it will house our FLTWS email address, and provide shared file storage, collaborative documents, and calendars. Instructions on access will be sent via email invitations. Request volunteers for “contact us” page of the website, or form should be removed and relevant email addresses left on the page (President, Membership Chair, etc.). Looking for content for the “Conservation” tab of the website. The old website host contract expires in June, and we need to be sure not to renew it.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Myers suggested that the “Contact Us” page of the website be removed, all agreed. • E. Myers suggested that there are links to documents on the “Conservation” page. B. Bolt to pick the top 5 current/big issues, write a blurb, and send to M. Milleson. New issues can be added as they come up. D. Gawlik noted that the Enhanced Conservation Strategy document should be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Contact Us” page of the website to be removed by M. Milleson. • B. Bolt to provide blurbs on top conservation issues to M. Milleson. • L. Ferry to assist M. Milleson with old website host contract termination. • D. Gawlik to provide Conservation Strategy document to M. Milleson for posting on Conservation page of website.

	<p>done soon and can be posted here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Ferry will assist M. Milleson with not renewing old website contract. 	
<p>Old Business</p>	<p><u>Mentoring Program</u> The mentoring program is now online. Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Myers asked if the Membership Committee chair should connect the new members with mentors. • D. Gawlik suggested expertise matches for mentors. E. Myers stated that going by location might be easier. • L. Ferry noted that mentoring responsibilities are primarily making initial contact and inviting new members to upcoming meetings, and D. Gawlik said that the email request to the mentors should spell out the responsibilities. • B. Scheick suggested that mentoring is more of a welcoming committee. E. Myers suggested contacting someone close, and then if needed, connecting them with others with similar interests. • D. Gawlik to follow up with P. Brouse on mentoring and how it will work with Membership Committee. • L. Ferry suggested S. Nagid head this up – E. Myers to follow up with S. Nagid. <p><u>Insurance</u> At the Fall Meeting A. Alshouse presented insurance options. 2 types: general liability for the Chapter (covers property damage or injury, but excludes Board) or Board member insurance. Event insurance is also possible to cover individual events. It was agreed to wait to see if TWS offers more economical insurance, and in the interim a motion was passed to purchase event insurance for the upcoming year.</p> <p>Directors and Officers Liability Insurance is now available through TWS for \$500-600 annually. It protects against allegations of mismanagement, as well as allegations of personal injury & publisher’s liability. It also includes employment practices liability, third party coverage, claims alleging mismanagement of your organization’s assets, and coverage for Breach of Contract Claims. You can also</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Gawlik to follow up with P. Brouse on mentoring program. • E. Myers to follow up with S. Nagid on her interest in heading up new member/mentor connections. • D. Gawlik to follow up with National TWS on obtaining general insurance for FLTWS (up to \$700). • Incoming FLTWS Board to consider insurance options.

	<p>purchase general liability insurance at \$500/annually under a separate contract.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we need general and/or Board insurance? General would cover meetings and field trips. D. Gawlik went through items that Board insurance covers to see if applies – all agreed that it seems unlikely that we need Board insurance. • All have concerns about field trips and think coverage is needed, although concerns over being sued for letters/libel were discussed. We have lowered risks for conferences/field trips in recent years, but that’s still the riskiest thing for FLTWS. • D. Gawlik mentioned that at TWC Conference national leader luncheon many sections/chapters were concerned and thinking about getting insurance. • All agreed that general liability seems more likely to be needed at this time. • All agreed that it will be good for the new Board to consider, but as of now, Board insurance is off the table. • E. Myers and H. Ober noted that it is a hassle to do event insurance, and general insurance would cover events plus more, and be a one-time purchase. • All agreed on general insurance purchase through National TWS. • It was noted that field trip waivers are not needed if we have general liability insurance. <p>E. Myers motioned to purchase general insurance through National TWS, and if it’s in effect prior to the Spring Conference, event insurance should not be purchased. Seconded by H. Ober. D. Gawlik to follow up with National TWS for insurance purchase, and use a cap of \$700 that was developed at the fall meeting for the purchase of event insurance.</p>	
New Business	<p><u>Outreach Events</u></p> <p>E. Myers discussed upcoming outreach events: --Pelican Island March 16 (S. Rockwood to volunteer) --Umatilla Bear Festival October (K. Booth to volunteer and ask for assistance from A. Brunell, B. Scheick, and C. Sekarak).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Booth to follow up on volunteers to attend Bear Festival. • D. Gawlik to follow up on North Central ACC.

	<p>--Ding Darling and Panther Festivals (E. Myers to attend).</p> <p><u>Revision Plan: Implementation Strategy to Enhance Conservation Capabilities of FTWS</u></p> <p>D. Gawlik discussed strategy, and the final information/review needed.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Gawlik will follow up on suggestions to identify a North Central Associate Conservation Chair. • "Solicit members" action under #1 was removed. • Expertise database: E. Myers will add categories to the FLTWS membership application to match TWS. H. Ober asked about FLTWS who are also TWS members, and how we can obtain the expertise info. Membership Committee Chair is responsible for maintaining this database. • Incentives: D. Gawlik to follow up on professional development CEU's with TWS. • Identifying issues: D. Gawlik to remind H. Boyter to write up something about the FL Conservation Coalition for Board to review at spring meeting/ by email. All agreed that the list for identifying issues is good. • Effectiveness: E. Myers noted that it looks like a lot of burden on the Evaluator. D. Gawlik recommended annual evaluation instead of quarterly. All agreed that we should wait a year and then decide on an evaluation process (phased approach to implementation). D. Gawlik will reference this in the strategy. • Long term measures: link to Legislators contact list will be provided. • Enhance: L. Ferry updates FLTWS Facebook page, and can give permission to others if needed. D. Gawlik, B. Bolt, and M. Milleson to work on hierarchical tree. • D. Gawlik will provide an email to vote on FLTWS joining the Florida Conservation Coalition and to vote on adopting the Conservation Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Myers to add expertise categories to membership application. • D. Gawlik to follow up with National TWS on professional development CEU's. • D. Gawlik to remind H. Boyter to provide info about the Florida Conservation Coalition for Board to review and then vote on FLTWS joining. • D. Gawlik, B. Bolt, and M. Milleson to work on hierarchal tree for conservation strategy. • D. Gawlik to provide info for email votes on FLTWS joining FL Conservation Coalition and FLTWS approving Conservation Strategy.
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.	

Addendum 1. Treasurer's Report.

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
FLORIDA CHAPTER
JANUARY 28, 2013
TREASURER'S REPORT**

SECTION I. GENERAL SUMMARY

Balance	1/28/13	1/28/12	1/28/11
Bank Account	\$26,889.86	\$67,018.39*	\$20,226.72
Cash Account	\$ 247.23	\$ 100.00	\$ 118.00
Investments Account	<u>\$25,790.40</u>	<u>\$23,793.94</u>	<u>\$23,932.08</u>
Overall Total	\$52,927.49	\$90,912.33	\$44,276.80

**Bank account balance is higher due to funds received for meeting assistance (e.g., Section II) and merchant services account issues. In the future, FLTWS will create a separate account for transactions on behalf of other organizations.*

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

Income:

Registrations	\$46,470.00 (325 registrants)
<u>Sponsors</u>	<u>\$28,219.46</u>
Total	\$74,689.46

Expenses:

Various (e.g., hotel, plaques, supplies)	\$59,373.72
<u>Credit Card Fees (\$2,019.66 - \$250)</u>	<u>\$ 1,769.66</u>
Total	\$61,143.38

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

**SECTION III. PRIVATE LANDOWNER PRESCRIBED FIRE COURSE
FEBRUARY 28 – 29, 2012**

Income:

Registration	\$1,125.00 (25 registrants)
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Expenses:

Catering	\$ 851.84
Printing	\$ 53.97
<u>Approximate Credit Card Fees</u>	<u>\$ 25.14</u>
Total	\$ 930.95

NET GAIN \$ 194.05

**SECTION IV. 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	\$14,098.19
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
<u>Approximate Credit Card Fees</u>	<u>\$ 1,041.48</u>
Total	\$19,038.40

TOTAL NET GAIN \$ 8,375.67

FLTWS NET GAIN (Split 50/50) \$ **4,187.84 (each)**

Other FLTWS Income:

FLTWS Merchandise sales	\$ 414.14
<u>FLTWS Silent Auction</u>	<u>\$ 369.75</u>
Total other FLTWS Income	\$ 783.89

Other EPPC Income:

EPPC Merchandise	\$ 504.25
EPPC Sponsor/Research and Grants	\$ 48.00
<u>Membership Dues (38 registrants)</u>	<u>\$ 1,140.00</u>
Total other EPPC Income	\$ 1,692.25

Total EPPC Income: \$ 5,880.09

SECTION V. FLTWS FALL MEETING
OCTOBER 4 – 5, 2012

Income:

Registration \$ 828.00 (12 registrants)

Expenses:

Catering \$ 415.00

Groceries \$ 49.72

Topsail Hill Preserve State Park \$ 655.50

Approximate Credit Card Fees \$ 33.03

Total \$ 1,153.25

NET LOSS - \$ 325.25

(For reference: 2011 Fall Meeting Net Gain \$126.34)

SECTION VI. PRESCRIBED FIRE TECHNIQUES FOR WILDLIFE
MARCH 18-21, 2013

Income:

Registration \$1,100.00 (4 registered)

SECTION VII. 2013 FLTWS SPRING CONFERENCE
APRIL 10-12, 2013

Expenses:

Hotel Deposit \$ 320.00

VIII. OTHER GENERAL BANKING SUMMARY – INCOME & EXPENSES (1/28/12 – 1/28/13)

Income:

Membership Dues \$3,494.00

Merchandise Sales \$2,596.00

Scholarship Sponsorship \$ 250.00

Gift Received \$ 200.00

Expenses:

Awards Given \$ 55.95

Charity \$1,500.00

Uncategorized \$ 278.56

Affiliate Dues \$ 100.00

Bank Charge \$ 137.40

Corporate status \$ 205.00

Merchandise Purchased \$1,491.70

Shipping/Postage \$ 78.51

Outreach \$ 150.00

Merchant Services Fees \$2,864.68

Student Scholarship \$2,000.00

Student Sponsorship	\$ 144.00
Web Services	\$ 511.15

EVENT MERCHANDISE SALES:

Southeastern Deer Study Group Meeting (2/12) = \$389

Pelican Island Wildlife Festival (3/12) = \$892

FLTWS & FLEPPC Spring Conference (4/12) = \$414

Panther Festival (11/12) = \$220
