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MINUTES OF THE 2004 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

1 September 2004

President T. Mörner welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 8:40 PM. T. Mörner thanked E. Addison for his exceptional work assisting in the accomplishment of several tasks over the past year. Highlights of the President's work this year included: two conference calls of Council, revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws; and attendance at the African and Middle East Section and Australasia Section meetings, which provided a closer link between the parent organization and sections.

Executive Manager's Report

E. Addison reported that he has worked about three-quarter time in his role as Executive Manager. He noted that Council maintains control of decision-making functions as defined in the Constitution and Bylaws and that his role is primarily as a consultant to Council.

Treasurer's Report

E. Addison provided the report for Treasurer C. Quist. Current assets as of 18 August 2004 are approximately $85,000 in a bank account, $71,000 in a money market account, $100,000 in certificates of deposit, and $366,000 in the Buttonwood account, resulting in a total of about $622,000. Revenue at approximately two thirds through the year is approximately $201,000 and is budgeted to reach about $265,000 this year and $272,000 in 2005. Publication production expenses are budgeted at $168,000 and $200,000 and total administrative costs are budgeted at $88,300 and $91,130 for 2004 and 2005, respectively. This is a conservative budget and no revenue from this conference or the auction has been included in the figures.

Vice President's Report

S. Wright reported that next year's conference will be in Cairns, Australia, 26 June through 1 July 2005. L. Skerrett will host the meeting. In addition to the brochure provided in registrants' packages this year, L. Skerrett will make a preview presentation at the banquet. The 2006 conference is planned for Storrs, Connecticut, and the Rocky Mountain area is being discussed for the 2007 venue.

The Vice President serves as the liaison with sections and committees and provided brief updates from the groups.

- Awards Committee—The committee has provided excellent nominees for the Distinguished Service Award and Emeritus Award.
- Nominations Committee—The committee provided an excellent slate of candidates for the Council openings and J. Gaydos, M. Peterson, and C. Jardine are the new Council members. J. Fischer, M. Drew, and S. Gibbs will be rotating off Council this year and were thanked for their service on Council. M. Pybus will be stepping down as chair of the Nominations Committee and duties will be assumed by D. Jessup. Next year, all officers and two council members will be rotating off, so the Nomination Committee has considerable work ahead.
- Section Committee—There is a desire by Council to increase interaction with the sections through the Section Committee this year.
- Student Activity Committee—The committee established student chapter guidelines and will place this information on the WDA Web site.
- Promotions Committee—The committee is planning a new display.
- Student Awards Committee—Student awards will be presented at the banquet.
- Online Publishing—The committee has made considerable progress and E. Williams will provide an update in the Editor's report.
- Membership Committee—Membership is up slightly this year.
- Public Awareness Committee—The committee has proposed a position statement on feral cats.

Secretary's Report

M. Wild reported that the Constitutional revisions passed by a vote of membership and that Council is now beginning work on revisions to the Bylaws. The Secretary also reviewed motions passed by Council since last year's meeting.

Editor's Report

E. Williams provided the Editor's report. Submissions to the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* were received from over 40 countries last year. The number of manuscripts submitted is on par with past years. About 50% of manuscripts are accepted for publication. Council has provided

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additional funding to get the *Journal* back up to date on timing of publication.

We will begin online publishing of the *Journal* with HighWire Press starting near the end September. Access to the first two online issues will be free, then an 18-mo blackout will be imposed on nonmembers. Allen Press will be responsible for online pdfs of issues since 1999 and Google is supporting putting older issues into pdf for online access.

An ad hoc committee chaired by T. Yuill has begun a search for the next *Journal* editor. The committee hopes to make a selection within the next 1–2 mo. The new editor will begin receiving manuscripts in July 2005 and assume full duties as editor in January 2006. E. Williams thanked the assistant editors, reviewers, and L. Smithson. She also recognized S. Little, who is stepping down this year, and M. Yabsley and M. Samuel, who are assuming new duties as assistant editors.

Supplement Editor's Report

P. Nol reported that issues of the Supplement are now posted on the WDA Web site. In the next year, the Information Committee will work to place education aids on the Web site as well. She thanked those who assist in preparing the Supplement, and invited all to submit information for inclusion.

Web Site Editor's Report

T. Mörner provided the report for M. Ziccardi. Due to difficulty with the server, individuals outside the USA have not been able to access the WDA Web site. Therefore, we will soon move the site to a new server so everyone will have access.

E. Addison added that we now have online services available, including membership renewal and an online membership directory. In the near future we will be asking for areas of expertise to include in the directory. Access to the directory has been difficult in the past, but should be resolved now so members are encouraged to use this new site. The initial password to the site is the membership number.

No other items of new business or old business were identified. President T. Mörner thanked W. Amand for excellent organization of this year's meeting and recognized J. Mazet, P. Yochem, and local help for providing an exceptional meeting. D. Jessup was thanked for acquiring funding for student attendance. A motion was made [Fischer/Greiner] to adjourn, and the meeting concluded at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret A. Wild,
Secretary

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