

MINUTES OF THE 2005 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

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MINUTES OF THE 2005 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

28 June 2005

President T. Mörner welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. Highlights of the President's work this year included two conference-call meetings with Council (November and April) and passage of the revised Constitution and Bylaws. Revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws were made based on review and compilation of motions passed by Council over the last several years. A quorum of Council was not present for the meeting in Cairns, Australia, but Council met, discussed issues, and proposed motions. Those motions will go out to the full Council by email for consideration and vote. Two other priority items for action include work by the Long-term Vision Committee to develop a plan for continued membership and financial stability in response to information obtained at the Allen Press Emerging Trends Seminar (April 2005) and a decision by Council on pricing of multiple-site on-line access to the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* by institutional members.

T. Mörner announced the incoming officers and council members: President, Scott Wright; Vice-president, Mike Miller; Secretary, Margaret Wild; Treasurer, Carol Meteyer; and Council members, Marguerite Pappaioanou and Marcela Uhart. He also gratefully acknowledged Editors David Stallknecht and Buffy Howerth for assuming responsibility for the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* in January and thanked them for doing an excellent job.

Treasurer's Report

E. Addison provided the report for Treasurer C. Quist. The Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) remains financially stable, with assets of \$772,435 compared to \$690,166 last year (Mize Houser's figures for 31 March 2005). Assets have increased markedly over the last few years. This trend is fortunate given the issue of longer-term uncertainty posed in the Allen Press Emerging Trends Seminar. So far in 2005, WDA has spent approximately \$142,000 of the estimated \$306,000 budget. Membership figures show a plateau in numbers.

Vice-president's Report

S. Wright reported that Richard French would be our contact for the 2006 conference in Storrs, Connecticut hosted by the University of Connecticut, Department of Pathobiology in

conjunction with the Mystic Aquarium. W. Karesh will serve as program chair. The conference is tentatively planned for the second week of August. Hosts are planning a meeting with a reasonable registration cost, ample lodging, and relatively easy access for air travel through Hartford, Connecticut.

The 2007 conference is planned for August at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado. The Time and Place Committee is seeking input on a location for the 2008 conference. The committee will also be considering the general format and planning approach for conferences in the near future.

Secretary's Report

M. Wild reported that the Teller Committee received 194 votes during the election for officers and Council members. This was the first year for electronic voting for those with email accounts on file. Electronic voting went well and the vast majority of ballots (176) were received electronically. M. Wild reviewed the 24 motions that were passed since the 2004 Council meeting. These motions are contained in the Minutes of 2005 WDA Council Meeting.

Editor's Report

D. Stallknecht provided the Editors' report. The *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* was 3 mo behind schedule for going to print in January, and it is still 3 mo behind; however, they are on track to start catching up. The new Editors' office is now fully operational and processes are running smoothly. The goal is to pick up 1 mo/issue so that by January or April 2006 the *Journal* will be back on schedule. Members can assist in getting the *Journal* back on schedule by submitting good articles for publication and performing requested reviews in a timely manner.

Supplement Editor's Report

P. Nol thanked everyone for their submissions over the last year. Submissions are up this year and she encouraged everyone to continue with this trend.

Web Site Editor's Report

E. Addison reported the Web Site Editor M. Ziccardi is doing an excellent job. M. Ziccardi is starting to enrich the site and welcomes ideas on how to make the site even better.

E. Addison also reported that on-line services through the Allen Press business office are working well and thanked S. Starr for his assistance. Access numbers will be sent out to members again to assure that they have the information needed to use the site. Additionally, HighWire Press has provided excellent service for online *Journal* access. HighWire Press fees are increasing 1.5%, but overall costs are lower than budgeted (about \$13,000 vs. the estimated \$30,000). In the future, differential fees for on-line-only *Journal* access will be pursued. This would be particularly useful for access internationally.

Committee Reports

T. Mörner provided a brief summary of some of the committee work. Highlights included the following: the Awards Committee has identified a very deserving recipient for the Emeritus Award this year; the Nominations Committee provided an excellent slate of

candidates for the election of officers and Council members; the Student Awards Committee has obtained many submissions for all the awards, particularly, the student presentation competition; and the Carlton Herman Fund Committee sponsored an excellent presentation at the conference by Peter Hudson.

T. Mörner reiterated that WDA continues to look for ways to add value to membership, particularly for section members. The work to incorporate sections more closely into WDA will remain a high priority. T. Kuiken suggested given the increased international focus, perhaps Council should consider holding conferences outside of the USA more often.

No other items of new business or old business were identified. President T. Mörner thanked those in attendance. A motion was made (Kreeger/Cornish) to adjourn, and the meeting concluded at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret A. Wild,
Secretary