



Minutes for NCNWTF Board of Directors Meeting January 22, 2017

Members in attendance were Richard Plattenberger, Carl Dixon, Wynn Smith, Bonni Stephenson, Ken Moore, Tony Stallings, Tony Quarino, Howard Rumpfelt, Perry Bryant, Brent Phillips, Jeff Park, Bill Collart, Greg Ward, Ted White, Henry Smith, Richard Conley and Robert Smith.

Guests in attendance were Chris Kreh, Larry M. Smith, Zac Morton, Lynn Lewis-Weis, Chris Coxen, Roger Reynolds, Greg Queen, Steven Stroud, Daniel Hilburn, Sharon Phillips, Chris Adams, Shawn Jenkins Cindy Capps, Jennifer Robertson, Denver Holder, JoEtta Holder, Rudy Simeone, Karen Baskin and Luke Gibson.

The meeting was held at the Clam Digger Inn in Atlantic Beach, NC.

9:00 am: Richard called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. He thanked everyone for a great job with the leadership conference and awards banquet.

He also recognized Lynn Lewis-Weis, Regional Field Supervisor, and our new biologist for North Carolina and Tennessee, Chris Coxen.

Ken opened with a prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Members reviewed the minutes of the September 10, 2016 Board Meeting. Jeff moved to approve the minutes. Ken seconded and the minutes were approved.

Treasurers report:

Henry presented the Treasurers report as follows:

Checking Account Balance: \$42,962.26

Seed Account: \$10,943.74

Balance: \$58,906.00

Accounts Managed by Edgefield:

Superfund Account \$172,244.86

Outreach Account \$6,012.04

Capital Account \$54,903.42

Balance Edgefield Acct. \$233,160.32

Total Funds Available \$292,066.32

Ken moved to approve the report. Perry seconded and the report was approved.

Henry reported on the 2016 December Month of Prizes Raffle. He expressed a huge thanks to all whom sold tickets saying, "This is our largest raffle to date with the sale of approximately 19,000 tickets for a gross income of approximately \$95,000." He indicated there should be a net profit of at least \$30,000 after expenses.

He spoke briefly of plans for the 2017 Raffle, again guaranteeing one hundred prizes including some upper quality guns on Christmas Day, a side by side ATV, a four wheeler, gun safe and other great prizes. He expects tickets to be out soon. He thanked Bonni for calling all of the winners and handling the ticket distribution.

Bonni volunteered to handle the tickets again for 2017.

R D Report:

Zac started by thanking everyone for a great Awards Banquet. He expressed gratitude to the Board for allowing the RD's to present quality awards in recognition of the excellent work the chapters do saying, "There are a lot of things chapters do to help support our mission and we try to draw attention to those chapters that go above and beyond." He expressed their appreciation for the partnership we share with the NCWRC and to Chris Kreh for his support. He also reiterated the importance of the strength of that relationship and the sound decisions being made based on science saying, "The NWTF has always made decisions based on science. Science doesn't have emotions, science is facts."

Zac said it was too early for a Superfund update but indications are good for another banner year.

Regional Biologist Report:

Chris Coxen, new regional biologist for NC and Tenn, introduced himself as a native North Carolinian. He attended NC State University graduating with a degree in wildlife biology and later moved to New Mexico where he attended Grad school. Returning to NC he and his wife now reside in Ashville.

Chris gave an update on a project that the Board approved funding in 2016, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation access project in Maggie Valley. The project is to acquire 2400 acres of huntable public access adjacent to the Smokey Mountains. He said the funds approved last

year have not yet been used. However he expects it to be used this year to complete the acquisition of the fifth and final parcel allowing the project to be closed out.

Chris stated he is actively looking for potential habitat projects. He has been working with the wildlife biologist for the Forest Service in the Croatian and Uwharrie National Forests. One such project is in the western part of the Croatian that is cooperatively managed by the NCWRC and the National Forest. The project is to restore a 150 acre formerly agricultural field back to wildlife habitat.

Chris asked for help from the Board identifying potential projects across the state especially in the Uwharrie which is located in the central region of the state.

He also spoke of unrestricted funds received from Duke Energy to be used in NC, SC, IN and FL. The funds will become available for projects this year and should contribute tremendously to the Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. initiative.

Lynn Lewis-Weis added, "This new funding model is really exciting and will allow us to take projects already in progress and ramp them up. And we hope to do this in NC to up our Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. goals and objectives."

Seed Subsidy Report:

Howard encouraged members to go onto the website and place their orders for seed early. He reminded everyone that round-up ready corn is limited to 5 bags per Sponsor member and 2 bags per regular member. He was very optimistic about the availability of corn due to quantities on hand in cold storage.

He said there should be soy beans and winter wheat available also. There is no limit on these varieties.

Howard reminded everyone that "Chufa" must be ordered from Edgefield. The State Chapter does not handle chufa! However, the State Chapter does subsidize one bag of chufa per member.

He recommended members go on-line to nwtf.org to order chufa.

December Raffle:

Bonni said the tickets and a calendar will be out very soon.

Save the Hunt Report:

Wynn spoke of initial plans for the WOW event to be held September 9-11 in Chatham County. She asked for ideas of topics and activities for the event. She expressed gratitude for the number of volunteers including some non-Board members on the planning committee.

Dixie Deer Classic:

Richard conveyed the need for all the help we can get for the event. He also noted there will be an abbreviated Board meeting on Sunday morning.

2017 NC Superfund Budget:

Henry presented the proposed budget as follows:

Hunting Heritage Fund (5 Star)	\$ 100.00	
Wildlife Legislative Fund USSA (5 Star)	\$ 100.00	
4-H Shooting Team Program (5 Star)	\$ 2,000.00 (amended) \$3,000.00	
Habitat Enhancement (NCWRC & USFS)		Special projects
WITO (5 Star)		Outreach fund with
Wheeling Sportsmen (5 Star)		balance coming from
Jakes (5 Star)		Superfund
Education Boxes (5 Star)	\$ 1,500.00	
Local Chapter Scholarships (5 Star)	\$ 4,500.00	
State Chapter Scholarship (5 Star)	\$ 2,000.00	
Strut and Putt, Website, Mailing	\$ 4,500.00	
Seed Subsidy	\$ 5,000.00	
Travel	\$ 6,000.00	
Misc. Projects/Equipment	\$ 20,000.00	
Turkey Hunters Care	\$ 2,500.00	
Capital Fund	\$ 26,000.00	15% of 2016 Superfund income
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Total	\$ 74,200.00 (as amended) \$75,200.00	

Ken moved to increase the 4-H Shooting Team Program funds to \$3000. Bill seconded and the motion passed. The funds will be distributed in six (6) \$500 grants.

Jeff moved to accept the 2017 Budget Of \$75,200 as amended. Ken seconded and the Budget was approved as amended.

2017 Board Meetings:

March 5, 2017 DDC

June 11, 2017 Montgomery Co. @ Roger Renolds' Home

September TBD

January 21, 2018 State Conference TBD

New Business:

Gregory Queen, Little River Chapter, requested \$4000 to fund an archeological survey on a 53 acre track in the Uwharrie National Forest. New governmental protocol requires an archeological survey on all National Forest land that has not previously been surveyed before further soil disturbance occurs. The NCWRC currently maintains approximately 200 acres of wildlife openings in the Uwharrie. Due to budget constraints, the USFS is unable to complete the survey on the remaining 53 acres at this time. This funding will allow the NCWRC to continue control burns, cultivation and maintenance of this habitat.

Richard Conley moved to approve the funding. Henry seconded and the motion was approved.

Richard Conley, Smokey Mountain Chapter, requested funding for seed and fertilizer to re-establish wildlife food plots and openings in the Tusquitee Ranger District.

Henry moved to table the request until the March Board meeting to allow time to gather additional information on seed and fertilizer cost. Ken seconded and the motion was tabled.

Richard Conley reported the superfund request approved in September to provide funding for tractor accessories for the USDA Forest Service in the Nantahala National Forest impacted 182 acres of wildlife habitat in 2016.

11:00 am: Ken moved to adjourn. Howard seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Robert J. Smith, sec.