



Minutes for NCNWTf Board of Directors Meeting June 11, 2017

Members in attendance were Richard Plattenberger, Carl Dixon, Wynn Smith, Ken Moore, Henry Smith, Greg Ward, Brent Phillips, Howard Rumfelt, Tony Stallings, Tony Quarino, Bill Collart, Ted White and Robert Smith.

Members not present were Richard Conley, Jeff Park, Bonni Stephenson and Perry Bryant.

Guests present were Zac Morton, Shawn Jenkins, Chris Coxen, Chris Kreh, Sharon Phillips and Rudy Simeone.

The meeting was held at the Allen Brothers' Farms in Bladenboro, NC.

9:00 am: Richard called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests. He extended the Board's sincere appreciation to Ron and Joe Allen for the hospitality and fine meals provided during our visit.

Ken opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Members reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2017 Board Meeting. Ken moved to approve the minutes, Bill seconded and the minutes were approved.

Treasurers report:

Henry presented the treasurer's report as follows:

Checking Account Balance: \$21,419.84

Seed Account: \$9,625.24

Balance: \$31,045.08

Accounts Managed by Edgefield:

Superfund Account \$210,928.10

Outreach Account \$9,422.52

Capital Account \$80,903.42

Balance Edgefield Acct. \$301,254.04

Total Funds Available \$332,299.12

Ken moved to approve the treasurer's report, Greg seconded and the report was approved.

R D Report:

Zac compared the superfund contributions from one year ago, June 1, 2016, of \$89,472 to the contributions as of June 8, 2017 of \$137,469, roughly a \$47,000 increase. He said he and Shawn forecast an additional \$15,000-\$20,000 will be generated by December 31, bringing the 2017 year end superfund total contributions to \$160,000-\$165,000.

He also reported the sale of the Tony Quarino box calls, to date, have contributed \$8680 to the Outreach Fund. He forecasts an additional +/- \$2000 before year end with box #60 to be sold at the Sponsor banquet.

Zac reported on the progress of plans for the 2017 state sponsor banquet to be held August 26th at the Ramada Inn in Burlington. He said everything was in order with the facility and caterer. The box calls have been ordered. The guns have not been ordered but they would be quality guns, comparable to last year, including two five gun sets of Remington Firearms. Plans also include a banquet package, a live auction, a small silent auction and a few games.

Zac and Shawn spoke briefly on the 2018 Leadership Event, volunteering to do a session on Chapter Development. Shawn volunteered to work on procuring a facility in the Salisbury area.

Zac informed the Board of an event, Partnering for Success Workshop (R3), scheduled for September 15-16, 2017 in Augusta, GA and Edgefield, SC. The event will feature representatives from Pheasants/Quail Forever, NWTF, Ducks Unlimited, Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports, and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources sharing ways we can join forces to meet the demand of declining hunters. Zac encouraged the Board to facilitate sending representatives to the event. It was agreed to send 3/4 representatives, provided there are members interested in attending.

Lastly, Zac shared with the Board an opportunity to participate in a new military program for service members. "Warriors Within" is designed to help military members prepare for returning to civilian life. Terri Campbell, President of the New River Longbeards (NRL) chapter in Jacksonville, brought this to Zac's attention and asked if he thought other local chapters may possibly partner with them to take part in an up-coming Warriors Within event. Terri and others from the NRL chapter have helped the State Chapter in the past at the Dixie Deer Classic with helping kids build JAKES box calls. Terri saw the Warriors Within event as an opportunity to help those whom have given so much for our country, while also recognizing a tremendous exposure for the NWTF. She suggested they would like to help interested brave men and women attending this event build a turkey call and teach them the basics of turkey calling and turkey hunting.

The Board agreed this would be a very deserving program to support. As calls are something we use at various events, it was the consciences of the Board to purchase a supply of box calls engraved with the NCNWTF logo to have on-hand for this and other events as the need arises.

Zac agreed to price calls and report back to Richard. Whenever a price is confirmed Richard will send out an email and poll the Board for final approval to purchase the calls.

Shawn reported the Red Clay Longbeards Chapter's 2017 banquet will be their last. He followed with positive news in that he is currently working with folks in McDowell, Burke and Rutherford Counties to establish new chapters. He spoke confidently of having at least one new banquet on the books before the September Board meeting.

R B Report:

Chris Coxen presented a slid-show including a map he had put together to show areas across the state where habitat projects have been funded. He said over five thousand acres have been managed over the last couple of years with another eighteen hundred acres so far this year and he feels like by the end of this fiscal year it may reach two thousand acres. He suggested this map would make an excellent banner for the RD's to display at banquets.

Chris gave a brief update on the Maggie Valley Acquisition Project in Haywood County for nearly 2400 acres of game lands to be managed by the NCWRC. He indicated negotiations had slowed due to land-owner priorities but he feels like the acquisitions should be finalized sometime next year.

Chris expressed the importance of a request for cooperative funding for the NC Prescribed Fire Council Meeting, September 6-7 in Asheville. This meeting is a joint effort with the Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists. This year's theme is "Advancing controlled burning after the 2016 historic wildfire season." A field trip will include a visit to the WRC Green River Game Lands and will include discussions about oak woodland and shortleaf restoration, as well as a trip to the Table Rock Fire. Meeting discussions will revolve around fire efforts on vegetation and bolstering prescribed burning capacity on private lands via Prescribed Burn Associations and private contracting.

This request was presented during the March Board meeting and was tabled for collection of additional information. Chris reiterated the importance of this funding saying, "The NWTF will offer support of the Council, which is actively working to increase the amount of prescribed fire put on the ground to mitigate future negative wildfire impacts like we had in fall 2016. All of which supports our Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. goals."

Henry moved to fund \$500 for the Council meeting this year and monitor the results to possibly consider funding tools and equipment in the future. Howard seconded and the motion was approved.

Turkey Project Leader Report:

Chris Kreh, NCWRC Upland Game Bird Biologist, presented an informative overview of the 2017 Reported Spring Harvest.

This spring's turkey harvest was a record high, with a total of 18,919 birds reported.

Youth season harvest was 1,183 turkeys.

The top five counties for Total Harvest were Rockingham, Halifax, Northampton, Pender and Duplin.

Chris pointed out, although the turkey harvest in 2017 was a record for the entire state, not all counties saw increases. In fact, turkey harvest has declined considerably in some traditionally strong areas in the last few years. He also noted, Jakes comprised only 12% of the reported harvest. The percentage of jakes in the harvest is typically higher and over the past decade has ranged from 15% to 20%. The low percentage of jakes in this year's harvest may be reflective of poor reproduction during the summer of 2016.

Next Chris gave a brief update on the 2017 Goggling Chronology Project, saying there were 51 acoustic recorders distributed across the state. Each unit recorded for 2.5 hours/day, starting 30 minutes before sunrise, February 25th through June 4th. He indicated it may be January 2018 before all data is analyzed and a report is written.

Chris shared with the Board, a letter he received from Jimmy Capps, Wildlife Biologist, NC Wildlife Services APHIS USDA. The letter was in reference to a proposal for the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services to trap and relocate problematic Eastern wild turkeys from civil and military airports within the state of North Carolina, to reduce the risk of aircraft wildlife strikes. Chris will be staying in touch with Mr. Capps and keep the Board up to date on the progression of this proposal.

Conservation Seed Program:

Howard Rumfelt reported two truckloads of Round-Up Ready corn had been delivered, one to Lexington and one to Hyde County, with only about one and two thirds pallets surplus left in Lexington. He said he had ordered a truckload of Milo and it had also been delivered and distributed with only about three and one half pallets surplus remaining.

Howard said there were orders for 191 bags of soy beans. He indicated that typically we move a truckload of soy beans. There is a question as to whether the soy beans are Round-Up Ready.

Due to cost difference and availability of Round-Up Ready seed, the Board agreed to order the soy bean blend (typically not Round-Up Ready).

Howard and Henry stressed the importance of those collecting funds for the seed getting the money sent to Henry in a timely manner.

December Raffle:

Wynn reported in Bonni's absents that there had been about 3000 tickets distributed since the DDC. Bonni had also reported getting a lot of positive feed-back from the Shooting teams that are benefitting from the funds they receive from this program.

Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt:

Wynn started by congratulating Ken Moore and the Pitt County Chapter on their tremendously successful JAKES turkey hunt. They had over 200 youth hunters participate in the event.

She encouraged members to get more kids afield by taking them squirrel hunting, rabbit hunting or dove hunting. Any of these will increase our numbers and move us further toward our Save the Hunt goals.

Wynn announced plans for the 2018 Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. event. Plans are for an all ladies deer hunting boot camp in December in cooperation with the Land Trust of Central NC. The event will take place on their land. She also said Brenda Valentine has agreed to come to the event and spend the weekend with the ladies. More details will be available as time draws closer.

WOW Weekend:

Wynn shared the following information on the WOW.

The 2017 WOW weekend will be September 8-10 at the Chatham County Wildlife Club in Bear Creek, NC. Registration opens 6/15/17 with a cost of \$150 or Chapter Sponsorship (Box Call sales) or for those who would like to attend just for the day, \$75.

Accommodations will be at the Days Inn in Siler City.

Bobby Trantham will be preparing the meals.

Website:

Wynn announced the completion of the newly designed website. She asked everyone to please go online to the new site and check for any corrections or changes that may be needed and furnish feedback before it goes live.

Old Business:

Richard Conley had presented a request for \$5000 for seed, lime and fertilizer to replant food plots on the Tusquitee Game Lands during the March Board meeting. The request was tabled to collect more information. After further review, Henry moved to approve up to \$5000 for seed, lime and fertilizer for the project. Ken seconded and the motion was approved.

Richard Plattenberger announced he had received applications for \$500 Grants from five shooting teams. Two teams from Cabarrus County, one team each from Monroe, Forsyth County and Sampson County.

Henry moved to approve the five grants. Ken seconded and the grants were approved.

12:00 pm- Ken moved to adjourn. Tony Stallings seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Robert J. Smith, sec.