



Minutes for NCNWT Board of Directors Meeting Sept. 20, 2015

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

Guests present were Vickie Bryant, Rita Plattenberger, Chris Kreh, Zac Morton, Brad Miller, Shawn Jenkins and Rudy Simeone.

The meeting was held at the New Hanover County Law Enforcement Training Center in Castle Hayne, NC.

8:45 am: Richard called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests.

He congratulated everyone on a great W.O.W. Event.

Ken opened with a prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Members reviewed the minutes of the June 13, 2015 Board Meeting. Henry motioned to approve the minutes. Ken seconded and the minutes were approved.

Treasurers report:

Henry gave the Treasurers report:

Checking Account Balance: \$26,086.79

Seed Account: \$27,642.84

Balance: \$53,729.63

Accounts Managed by Edgefield:

Superfund Account \$100,962.79

Outreach Account \$22,353.19

Capital Account \$63,000.00

Shooting Fund \$00.00

Balance Edgefield Acct. \$186,315.36

Total Funds Available \$240,044.99

Ken moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Richard C. seconded and the report was approved.

R D Report:

Zac also congratulated the ladies on a successful Women's event on Saturday. He estimated the ladies attending were 50% - 75% new members and first time attendees.

He reported that Superfund revenue is expected to surpass \$100,000 for the year. He said again that Shawn is doing an outstanding job with banquets and growing the western region. He reported Shawn had recently signed papers to start a new chapter in Gilford County.

He said the membership reports from Edgefield indicate NC is now in the top nine states in the country in memberships and we also surpassed one thousand Sponsor members putting us in the top six in the country in that category.

With that in mind, he said he and Shawn had been talking of the possibility of a State Sponsor Banquet with a timeline of August 2016. They have two 5 gun sets of Henry Golden Boys, each engraved with the five sub-species of wild turkeys. He suggested offering, as an additional incentive for local chapters, each Sponsor would receive a chance to win one set of the Henrys to be given away at the State Banquet. This would be an invitation only event with each sponsor offered the opportunity to purchase a box call for a predetermined price, suggesting \$250, which would be their ticket to attend as well as their chance to win the second set of Golden Boys.

Bill motioned to go forward with a State Sponsor Banquet. Ken seconded and the motion passed.

Bill volunteered to chair a committee to gather information for the event and report back at the December Board Meeting.

R B Report:

Brad shared information about an email he received from a NCWRC Commissioner requesting information on the effects of early season turkey hunting. He commented that this could possibly lead to some research and the opportunity for the NWTF to become involved. He said he was also asked to follow up with Dr. David Cobb, director of the NCWRC, and that he would do that and update the Board as more information becomes available.

He reported a Longleaf Pine Initiative agreement has been signed which will open another position in NC to work on Longleaf Pine and should be getting started pretty soon.

Brad also reported on the status of the SHSH accomplishments in NC this year saying to date there have been approximately 8100 acres conserved or enhanced, 5400 ac. from conservation

seed and 2700 ac. from Superfund projects. He reiterated our goal over the next ten years is 200,000 acres which averages 20,000 ac/ year. However, he was optimistic about possibilities for increasing those acreages in the future.

Turkey Project Leader's Report:

Chris gave a short overview of the Southeast Wild Turkey Working Group (SEWTWG) annual meeting he recently attended in Missouri. He explained how the SEWTWG is a sub-committee of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) and how the agencies across the country work together to more effectively manage our fish and wildlife resources. He said there are a couple of things going on in the group, one being the idea of Spring season timing and how two or three years ago they started working on a resolution to go back to the SEAFWA for them to make a position statement saying they are against earlier Spring season openings. But they ran into some difficulties and were forced to back off of that being an official resolution. Chris said that their fall-back position was still pretty good. The fall-back position is to put together what is called a "white paper." He explained a white paper backs down the language a little bit but still, once the group gets it finalized, will be something that a biologist, such as himself, if faced with an issue with Spring season, could point to and say, "this is where all of the specialists came together and looked at this issue and here are the kinds of things that come into play."

Chris said he expects the document to be completed soon.

Conservation Seed Report:

Howard said the seed program, over-all, is running pretty well. He suggested possibly moving the order dates up in an attempt to get the seed in closer to planting time. He also expressed pleasure in the way the last couple of seed orders flowed. He reported the approximate volume of remaining seed on hand to be 300 bags of milo, 20 bags of wheat and 200 bags of corn.

December Raffle:

Bonni reported there are approximately 20,000 tickets distributed at this time.

Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt:

Wynn conveyed her thoughts of the one day education sessions, saying they are wonderful and a good first step toward recruiting hunters, but she feels that we now need to encourage local chapters to go to the next step. She added, by having more hands-on events such as mentored

hunts for individuals we could offer more hunting opportunities. She also feels this would give us more guarantee as to the numbers of new hunters we are creating.

Wynn reported we received a \$1000 donation from the Ecology Wildlife Foundation (EWF). She suggested we may consider using those funds to help chapters fund a first time hunting event. Considerable discussion on the subject yielded a consensus that this could be an excellent incentive for chapters to take that next step.

Jeff moved to offer up to \$100 per chapter to help fund a first time hunting event, to a maximum of the \$1000 received from the EWF. Ken seconded and the motion passed.

The preliminary date for the 2016 State WOW event was set for 9/10/16.

Old Business:

Forest Service No-Till Drill: Tabled until December meeting.

New Business:

There was discussion about creating an award to recognize volunteers, namely from, but not limited to the local chapter level, for their service and dedication, their commitment and support over and above normal expectations. It was the consensus of the Board that these volunteers are the “backbone” of the organization and recognition is most certainly warranted.

Robert moved to create the Larry Smith Distinguished Volunteer Award. Ken seconded and the motion passed.

Robert volunteered to chair a committee with Carl and Ken to adopt the criteria for this award.

The NCWRC submitted eight (8) Superfund requests for habitat projects across the state:

1) Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands	\$ 884.62
2) The Sugar Creek Gap Tract of the Nantahala National Forest	\$2,500.00
3) Johns River Game Land, Loop Road Tract	\$ 805.00
4) The Hill Fields and Long Point region of the Croatan National Forest	\$2,409.90
5) DuPont forest.	\$ 1,250.00
6) Slip-on Pumper Unit – Bolivia Depot in Brunswick County	\$2,271.25
7) Four incendiary Sphere Launchers	\$2,906.20

8) Slip-on Pumper Unit – Troy Depot

\$2,271.25

Carl moved to approve funding for all eight (8) projects. Howard seconded and the motion passed.

Additional Superfund Requests:

USFS Proposal - Lower End Restoration Project in Cherokee County –Requesting \$33,540. Henry moved to table for more information and clarification until December meeting. Bill seconded and the request was tabled.

Audubon Project Proposal – Requesting \$20,000 It was determined this request did not meet NWTF criteria. The request was rejected.

Pisgah National Forest – Requesting \$20,000 This is a request for funding to purchase signage, podcast equipment and educational displays in the Grandfather Ranger District. Howard moved to reject the request. Bonni seconded. The request was rejected.

Wingate University Fund Raiser (Sporting Clays) – Tabled to gather more information.

The Board also entertained a motion from Bill to provide two thousand (2000) additional caps for the Turkey Hunting 101 campaign. Howard seconded and the motion carried.

Richard P. proposed the purchase of pull-up posters to display habitat work across the state. The estimated cost was \$140 each. Jeff moved to purchase 10 pull-up posters to be used across the state at banquets and other events/functions. Bill seconded and the motion passed.

12:20 Ken moved to adjourn. Bill seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Robert J. Smith, sec.