

MINUTES OF THE 2008 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

7 August 2008

President C. van Riper III welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 11:40 A.M. About 60 individuals were in attendance. He thanked everyone for coming and supporting the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA). He also thanked the past presidents, officers, and Council members. Committee chairs were asked to stand and were thanked along with their committee members. E. Addison, the editors, and assistant editors were thanked for their hard work and contribution to the WDA.

Awards

C. van Riper acknowledged a number of recipients of awards that were presented during the Council meeting on Sunday. Awards were then presented to out going officers and editors. He introduced newly elected members of Council J. Powers as Newsletter editor, B. Schuler as website editor, L. Baeten as treasurer, P. Nol as secretary, C. Johnson and W. Boardman as council members-at-large, and T. Kelly as student council member.

Treasurer's report

C. Meteyer acknowledged assistance of the executive manager, Budget and Audit Committee, and 2006 Audit Committee. She reported that total expenditures in 2007 were \$279,765. As of 31 December 2007, total assets held within the investment account were \$956,616. Balance of cause-specific funds were: \$35,245 in the Carlton Herman Fund, \$53,770 in the Student Activities Fund, and \$70,023 in the Thorne-Williams Memorial Fund. These balances reflect additions made in April by Council of \$13,000 to the Student Activities Fund and \$15,000 to the Thorne-Williams Memorial Fund

C. Meteyer presented an overview of her 2005-2008 tenure as treasurer. Major achievements included: reimbursements to geographic sections, reconciliation of cause-specific funds, establishment of an investment strategy, consolidation of assets in investment to maximize returns, and completion of an audit of WDA business practices. Total assets increased from \$803,040 in 2005 to \$1,127,850 in June 2008.

- **Motion (Greiner/Addison):** Approve treasurer's report. *Passed unanimously.*

Editor's report

Newly selected editor J. Mills stood in for D. Stallknecht and E. Howerth and provided the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* editors' report. He introduced himself by providing a brief professional background. After a 1 year crossover period he will assumed *Journal* editorship in January 2010. One of his priorities will be bridging the

gap between biologists and the public health field. He welcomed membership collaboration, feedback, and support.

The four issues of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* published in 2007 (vol.43) included 54 full length manuscripts, 48 short communications, 11 book reviews, minutes for the 2007 council and business meetings, author index, and subject index. This volume included 820 pages. An “Avian Influenza” supplement was also published in July 2007 and contained 14 additional manuscripts (an additional 76 pages). During the last year (between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2008) the *Journal* has received over 265 manuscripts from more than 40 countries.

The January 2008 (Vol. 44 [1]) issue included 14 full manuscripts, 11 short communications, and 3 book reviews. The April issue (44[2]) included 19 full manuscripts and 17 short communications. The July issue (44[3]) will be mailed on August 14th and includes 15 full manuscripts, 19 short communications, and 3 book reviews. Manuscripts for the October (44[4]) issue are in the proof stage and the issue is on schedule. The 2008 volume will include 66 full manuscripts and 59 short communications for a total of 125 manuscripts (the largest volume ever). The page count is up and the editors anticipate just under 1,000 total pages.

Currently all manuscript submissions are online for review. During Fall 2007, all authors with pending manuscripts that were originally submitted in paper were notified that if revisions were not received within 6 months, the manuscript would not be further considered. At present there are no remaining paper files; this will greatly aid in the transition process with the new editor.

Newsletter editor’s report

J. Powers reported that transition to the new electronic format of the Newsletter on the website allowed for the redesign of the publication and ability to use color. She welcomed submissions to the Newsletter which will continue to be published four times per year.

Vice president’s report

L. Creekmore thanked committee chairs and members for providing the critical support that the Association needs to continue to grow. She invited all members to consider participating in a committee and to see her or C. van Riper to express their interest. The Time and Place Committee acknowledged the hosts of this year’s conference and their excellent work. In 2009 the conference will be held at Semiahmoo in northwest Washington, USA. In 2010 the conference will be in Iguazú National Park, Argentina during the last week of June. In 2011, the conference is planned for the U.S. mid-Atlantic region. Members were encouraged to check the WDA website for the most current information.

Past President’s report

S. Wright welcomed nominees for the offices of president, vice president, and council members-at-large for the 2009 election. He reported that a committee is reviewing and renegotiating the contract with the executive manager.

Executive manager's report

E. Addison reported that although WDA investment revenue and total assets are currently healthy, revenue may not continue at this high rate over time. Membership numbers continue to be stable to increasing primarily due to student member increases. A significant decline in subscribers to the *Journal* has occurred since 1986, yet cost of the *Journal* continues to rise with an increase in cost per page from \$120 to \$160 during that period.

President's report

C. van Riper highlighted some of the actions and direction that WDA has taken during his first-year term as president by reviewing a list of motions passed by WDA Council in 2008, including those passed during the annual Council meeting that was held on Sunday. A complete list of those motions is contained in the Minutes of the 2008 Wildlife Disease Association Meeting. Membership did not have any questions on the motions.

Old and new business

- Motion (Meteyer/Yuill): Thank the local organizing committee, including M. Pybus, B. Samuel, and A. Shostak, for hosting an exceptional conference.
Passed unanimously.

Closing remarks and adjournment

C. van Riper thanked participants for attending. A motion to adjourn (Yuill/Uhart) was made and passed and the meeting adjourned 12:30 P.M.

submitted,

Respectfully

Margaret A. Wild
Secretary