

## MINUTES OF THE 2009 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Two Council meetings were held: August 2 and August 5

### 2 August 2009

The first 2009 annual Council meeting of the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) was called to order by President C. van Riper at 1:20 pm Pacific Standard Time in the Semiahmoo Resort, Blaine, WA USA.

Members of Council present at this meeting were C. van Riper (WDA President), L. Creekmore, (WDA Vice-President), L. Baeten (WDA Treasurer), P. Nol (WDA Secretary), S. Wright (WDA Past-President), T. Kelly (WDA Student Member Representative), T. Work (WDA Council Member at Large), B. Elkin (WDA Council Member at Large), C. Kreuder-Johnson (WDA Council Member at Large), S. Gibbs (WDA Council Member at Large), D. Gavier-Widén (WDA Council Member at Large), P. Duff (Chair European Section of WDA), E. Ågren (Chair Nordic Section of WDA), J. McLelland (Chair Australasian Section of WDA), J. Sleeman (Chair Wildlife Veterinarian Section of WDA), B. Schuler (Editor WDA Website), J. Powers (Editor WDA Newsletter), J. Mills (Editor Journal of Wildlife Diseases), D. Stallknecht (Editor Journal of Wildlife Diseases), E. Howerth (Editor Journal of Wildlife Diseases). Also present were R. Patenaude, E. Greiner, M. Artois, T. Creekmore, L. Measures, C. Gillin, K. Mansfield, M. Drew, T. Yuill, and E. Addison (Executive Manager).

C. van Riper expressed appreciation to all the current Council members, Committee Chairpersons, former Council members, and the Executive Manager for all of their outstanding efforts.

- **Motion: (Nol)** Approval of the minutes of the April 20, 2009 teleconference call. *Passed unanimously*

### Treasurers Report-L. Baeten:

The WDA's assets were at a high of \$1,041,848 in August 2008. In November WDA investments bottomed out at \$812,000, and then ended the year at \$842,704. Looking at Jacobson and Schmitt Advisors' (JSA) record, the composite stocks were down 39% which were comparable to the S and P 500 and the DOW. Composite bonds had a gain of 5% so that balanced out some of WDA's investments. The WDA has experienced a 6.3% annualized overall gain in investment revenue since 1995, a testament to the efficacy of the Association's advisors at Buttonwood, now JSA. In 2009, WDA had excess cash in the bank. A CD of \$25,000 at 2.5% interest was purchased at the Douglas County Bank (DCB) and \$55,000 was placed in the investment account. Due to the investment environment, the assets in the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Memorial Fund (TBF), the Carlton Herman Fund (CHF), and the Student Activities Fund (SAF) decreased in value since 2007. In 2008, the TBF received \$8,093

in donations, Council allocated another \$15,000 and following expenses total assets at year end were \$64,952. This fund is managed by a joint committee with members of the WDA and the American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians (AAWV). The CHF received \$95 in donations and at year end contained \$25,982. The SAF had a year end balance of \$50,881 following \$505 in donations, auction funds, and expenses. The 2008 annual meeting netted \$5,958 with \$11,046 auction shared with AAWV. The WDA share of the auction funds totaled \$10,087.

HighWire Press will charge an increase of 3% for their services. Council decided not to increase fees in 2010. The current audit processes were explained by E. Addison. The WDA had previously used Mize Houser for accounting, but it is currently being done internally at Allen Marketing and Management (AMM). AMM is using "obsolescent accounting". This means that credit does not appear until services are rendered even though money is there. As a result, comparison between financial reports for 2008 and previous years is difficult. After this transition year, Council will readily be able to compare year to year. This will be made clear in the reporting so that there is no confusion in future years.

Finally, L. Baeten explained that at the end of 2008, WDA had \$169,451 in the checking account. The funds in the WDA checking account at DCB at the end of June 2009 were \$159,733. That exceeds the limit that WDA is expected to maintain but that will eventually be resolved since there will be significant expenses associated with the 2009 and 2010 conferences. The WDA is also changing from Buttonwood to Fidelity with JSA, who are opening up their own office as financial advisors. WDA is also moving to a larger bank according to AMM's advice.

In summary, WDA expenditures in 2008 totaled \$286,318. These expenditures included \$115,836 for printing four issues of the journal and \$17,700 for online journal publishing. The WDA total operating revenue for 2008 was reported as \$297,958. There was an additional \$27,376 in investment revenue from interest and dividends. This resulted in net revenue of \$39,016 for the year.

According to second quarter figures, expenses in the first half of 2009 were \$94,222. This figure is about \$4,000 more than in the first half of 2008. The total revenue of \$183,928 for the first half of 2009 is only about \$2,500 less than during the same period in 2008. As of June 30, 2009 the total assets held within the investment account at JSA were reported at \$949,207.

- **Motion (Wright/Work):** That the 2008 year-end financial report for the WDA as provided by AMM and including total revenue of \$325,334, total expenses of \$286,318, net income of \$39,016 and total current assets of \$1,015,187 be accepted. (*Passed unanimously*).

C. van Riper expressed appreciation to the officers during the smooth transition period. The chairman of the awards committee handed out certificates of appreciation to Committee Chairs,

Assistant Editors to JWD, Newsletter and Website Editors, and Council Members completing their terms; recipients not present will receive their certificates later or by mail: Committee chairs: P. Nol (Teller Committee), T. Creekmore (Awards Committee) B. Schuler (Website), J. Powers (Newsletter), L. Creekmore (Time and Place), T. Kelly, L. Baeten (Budget and Audit Committee), B. Elkin (Auction Committee), M. Drew (Information Committee), and Shelli Dubay (Membership and Promotions Committee); Assistant Editors for JWD: L. Measures, D. Gavier-Widén, T. Work, E. Ågren. All members of council moving off this year: D. Gavier-Widén, B. Elkin, L. Creekmore, J. Sleeman, and T. Work.

L. Creekmore expressed thanks to all of the WDA committees and members thereof and requested a round of applause on their behalf.

### **Secretary's Report and Teller Committee's Report-P. Nol:**

For the 2009 election of officers and Council members, a slate of candidates was approved by Council via email vote, online ballots were available for voting from 26 March to 1 June, 2009. The Teller Committee received 208 electronic ballots and 7 paper ballots. Results are as follows: Lynn Creekmore and Dolores Gavier-Widén are the new President and Vice-President, respectively. Kristin Mansfield and Colin Gillin are the new Members at Large on Council. The Secretary also oversaw voting on excellent candidates for the Distinguished Service Award and Emeritus Award.

Minutes were prepared from the 2008 Council meeting and published in the April 2009 issue of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* (JWD). Minutes from a Council conference call held on 22 December, 2008 were prepared and approved by Council. Since the last Council meeting held in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in August, 2008, eighteen motions had been approved by Council either during conference calls or through electronic voting:

- **Motion (Sleeman/Nol):** Approve minutes as written for the WDA Council Meeting in Edmonton, Alberta, CA. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Powers/Creekmore):** To approve 2009 budget of the Wildlife Disease Association as written. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Work/Wright):** Approve \$550 for Wildlife Disease Association Information Committee to assess the quality of the slides, to find out who owns them, if the slides are associated with cases, and to examine the cost benefit of either selling them or making them available free to the membership. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Work/Baeten):** That the WDA Council work with the AAWV on the proposed memorandum of agreement concerning joint meetings and pass an agreed upon version. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Work/Baeten):** That the WDA Sections Committee be renamed the International Committee and that revised committee guidelines be developed. *Passed unanimously.*

- **Motion (Mills/Work):** That institutional subscriptions of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* not be permitted as a source of inter-library loans to other institutions. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion (Mills/Baeten):** That request for use of *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* articles for distance educational purposes be considered on a case by case basis with the intent being to promote both education and the long term viability of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Howerth/Sleeman):** That the mark-up on author reprints for the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* under the new system introduced by Allen Press remain the same as used under the former system. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Baeten/McLelland):** That the WDA may purchase event liability insurance for the annual conferences up to \$3,000 without prior approval by Council. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Nol/Creekmore):** That the 2009 WDA Emeritus Award be presented to Milt Friend and that the 2009 WDA Distinguished Service Award be presented to David Stallknecht and Elizabeth (Buffy) Howerth. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Wright/Nol):** That Council approve the renewal of the agreement between the Wildlife Disease Association and the consultant Ecolink Science to provide Executive Manager service to the Wildlife Disease Association. This agreement will begin 1 January 2009 and end 31 August 2012. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion (Wright/Nol):** That Council amend the 2009 budget and approve increasing compensation to Ecolink Science by \$6,000.00 per annum for Executive Manager services to the Wildlife Disease Association. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion (Sleeman/Wright):** That Council approve the formation of a new standing committee consisting of the President, immediate past President (chair), Treasurer, and a member of Council to negotiate agreements with consultants, meet annually with consultants, and serve an ombudsman role if needed. The chair of the committee will develop guidelines and responsibilities of the committee for Council approval. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion (Kreuder-Johnson):** Approve minutes as amended for the December 22, 2008 teleconference. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Work/McLelland):** That, for 2010, there be no increase in annual WDA membership fees for associate, student and regular members as well as institutional subscription fees. *Passed unanimously.*

- **Motion (McLelland/Duff):** That the 2012 conference of the Wildlife Disease Association be held in Lyon, France. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Work/Sleeman):** That conferences will be considered joint conferences only when the WDA Council formally identifies them as joint and that fees for registration at joint conferences will be the same for the societies meeting jointly. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion (Work/Sleeman):** That notwithstanding special arrangements at joint conferences, the higher conference registration fees for non-members at WDA conferences generally will be the same as the price of annual student or regular WDA memberships as appropriate. *Passed unanimously.*

#### **Journal of Wildlife Diseases Editor's Report-D. Stallknecht, E. Howerth, and J. Mills:**

The four issues published in 2008 (vol.44) included 66 full length manuscripts, 62 short communications, 8 book reviews, minutes for the 2007 council and business meetings, author index, and subject index. This volume included 1,076 pages; this is most pages published in a single year (page numbers have ranged from 830 to 932 from 2003-2006). Between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009 JWD has received over 274 manuscripts from more than 32 countries. The January 2009 (Vol. 45[1]) issue included 17 full manuscripts, 13 short communications, and 3 book reviews. The April issue (45[2]) included 23 full manuscripts, 13 short communications and 3 book reviews. The July issue (45[3]) has been mailed and includes 19 full manuscripts, 19 short communications, and 3 book reviews. Manuscripts for the October (45[4]) issue are in the proof stage and the issue is on schedule. This issue will include the manuscripts from presentations at the "Ecology and Management of Wildlife Diseases" conference in York, England during November 2007. The 2009 volume will include 79 full manuscripts and 65 short communications for a total of 144 manuscripts (the largest volume ever). More than 1,200 total pages are anticipated. Pages will continue to increase and there will therefore be a greater need to streamline to increase efficiency and keep page costs down.

The Editors acknowledged all hard work of the assistant editors: E. Ågren, C. Atkinson, T. Bollinger, T. Cornish, P. Elzer, K. Frölich, D. Gavier-Widén, F. Gulland, T. Kreeger, D. Ley, S. McMurry, L. Measures, D. Miller, M. Miller, M. Pybus, J. Root, C. Rupprecht, M. Samuel, T. Work, and M. Yabsley. Charles van Riper III was replaced by Tonie Rocke as book review editor. Mike Miller acted as editor for manuscripts that have been submitted during the "Ecology and Management of Wildlife Diseases" conference in York, England during November 2007. Christina Stallknecht, JWD editorial assistant, continues to do a wonderful job and is looking forward to working with the new editor.

- **Motion (Baeten/Creekmore):** Thanks to D. Stallknecht and E. Howerth for their exceptional years of service. *Passed unanimously.*

#### **Website Editor's Report-B. Schuler:**

The website has been improved and will be updated next week. A graphics design consultant has been hired to review the logo and the header on the website. The design will change every half year. Numbers of website hits are being counted. There has been an increase of hits now that newsletter is on the website. Any suggestions for the website, its design, and any contributions are welcomed.

C. van Riper emphasized the importance of the website to the Association.

**Newsletter Editor's Report-J. Powers:**

Six issues of the WDA Newsletter have been distributed in electronic form and it is primarily found on the WDA website. Blast emails come out when the Newsletter is available. Materials from entire membership will be solicited via blast email as well one month before the newsletter is due to come out. From this time forward, only new information will be displayed in the Newsletter and repeat information will be located on the website and be represented by a link in the Newsletter. The Morbidity and Mortality reports from USGS/National Wildlife Health Center will continue to be included in the Newsletter. More OpEd pieces and discussion forums have been discussed.

**Executive Manager's Report-E. Addison:**

The Website and the Newsletter Editors need contributions! The WDA is almost totally reliant on page charges, subscriptions, and memberships. Membership numbers must remain high. There have been huge drops in subscriptions, down approximately \$30,000/year. There are large turnovers in memberships every year. Paying members are maintaining steady numbers. Investment revenues are not very reliable and therefore the WDA cannot rely on investment revenues to keep the association's budget in the black. The WDA foresees a deficit next year. Not only is the WDA's investment revenue down but net revenue is significantly down as well. There is great need to promote the JWD more effectively and find new sources of revenue. Council needs to do this and play a bigger role in Journal management. Council must work on the "delivery" of the Journal in addition to its quality and production. C. van Riper talked about the fact that the WDA sends its executive manager to HighWire Press meetings in order to learn about how other journals are managed. The WDA Council can take advantage of this information to make appropriate management and financial decisions regarding the JWD. P. Duff inquired as to what other journals do in similar positions. E. Addison explained that some of the journals have very good advertisements on websites and/or in journals. Perhaps Council should investigate that. This situation is critical in the long term. Council must come up with solutions and strategies if the WDA and JWD are to do well in the long term. If one provides open access to the journal and that journal provides for 80% of the revenue, then it is imperative to create another source of revenue.

D. Stallknecht emphasized that the WDA does not have a lot of options, so Council needs to acquire outside sources of funds. E. Addison stated that the WDA should be finding sustaining

members in the form of agencies and societies. Journal of Wildlife Diseases editors should not be doing this. Council must be proactive with this.

T. Work used the Sea Turtle Symposium as an example whose proceedings are published by NOAA. The JWD could put logos on the journal of the agencies that sponsor publications. T. Work asked if we should form a special committee to focus on this topic considering how important the Journal is. C. van Riper mentioned that the endowment committee is starting to address this.

**Auction Committee-B. Elkin (Chairperson):**

The Auction Committee is a fairly new committee. Auctions are planned by local organizing committee. The Committee would like to put together a document as guideline for future auctions and this year's auction will be used as a model. C. van Riper thanked the Auction Committee for its efforts reiterating that the object of this committee is to clarify how to conduct auctions and how to handle auction proceeds so that we have definite long term direction for future auctions.

**Awards Committee-T. Creekmore (Chairperson):**

The Awards Committee oversaw the nominations for the Distinguished Service Award and Emeritus Awards and the recipients of these awards will be announced during the banquet. There have been many more awards and certificates being distributed lately than in past years. The Committee is looking for new ideas for awards.

**Budget and Audit Committee-L. Baeten (Chairperson):**

There is no additional information in addition to the Treasurer's report.

**Executive Manager Review Committee-S. Wright (Chairperson):**

The WDA successfully negotiated a new agreement with Ecolink Science. Through this we also approved more formalized arrangements with consultants to ensure better communications and negotiations to occur between the WDA and its consultants. C. van Riper added that this agreement will set the stage for relationships with new editors as well.

**Endowment Committee-T. Yuill (Chairperson):**

There is a desire to create a WDA endowment. A change of strategy is needed to gain endowments. The WDA needs to put together specific packages (case studies) that can be explored and developed with people who are interested in supporting that case or opportunity. This is usually done by development officers who do this professionally, and although this work is expensive, the WDA needs to hire someone to do this work. To be successful at this, the WDA must establish personal relationships and match up specific initiatives with people interested in these initiatives. The committee considered how the WDA could develop these initiatives with limited funds.

Potential focal points for donor programs are:

- WDA develop a national/international outreach program that does not duplicate what SCWDS already does. WDA could become a clearinghouse for wildlife diseases. An individual could be paid to oversee this.
- Sponsorship of scientists in developing countries and that this be recognized as an endowment initiative
- Sponsorships of JWD subscriptions for people in developing countries where paper copies are needed (electronic access not practical)
- Wildlife oriented paravet program training in the areas of domestic and wild animal health. Development of training manuals. Develop network of experts for consultation.
- Provide fellowships or financial support to students and interns for training programs.

If Council is serious about this then the WDA must be prepared to continually progress in it and do it efficiently, as we are unlikely to hire a part-time development officer for this purpose. One option is using a service such as Foundation Search.

E. Addison states that in the US there are about 104,000 foundations but only about 10% have websites. Foundation Search is a service that explores all foundations, not just those online. Information is gleaned from tax data from 1999 and the data pertain to tens of thousands of organizations and foundations. The WDA could get a 5 year membership with Foundation Search that allows the organization to have access to 2 people with access to the foundation database for \$1,300/year. Foundation Search guarantees that, if a member does not get a positive response within 6 months, and has acquired at least 3 rejections, then the membership can be refunded. It also provides instructional services to how to develop a proposal. If Council is interested, Foundation Search is willing to put together an informational call. T. Yuill emphasized that Council needs to identify areas to be developed in the form of a portfolio. Must have ideas and need people committed to follow-up. Writing letters of interest, developing proposals, and developing and maintaining continuous contacts are essential components to these endeavors.

The Endowment Committee recommends an endowment initiative in which the WDA establish “check off” boxes for specific endowments on the membership application/renewal form. This would generate money for initiatives such as travel, or print journals for scientists in developing countries. The Endowment Committee also recommends to Council that as an endowment initiative, that current and future initiatives be supported by endowment funds for purpose-specific activities and these activities need to be posted on the website as well. We could consider case-specific campaigns involving more publicity and availability of information regarding these campaigns. The WDA should be considering the fact that, in the year 2011, unless laws are extended by Congress, anyone with assets over \$520,000 is going to be subject to substantial estate tax and therefore these monies might be available for donation to the WDA.

Council should consider establishment of a committee of retirees to work on endowments by retirees, and legal aspects thereof, so that retirees can keep in touch with WDA and bring in a historical perspective and perhaps endow their monies to the WDA. Finally, for specific fundraising activities, we must consider other groups, beyond the WDA, for fundraising activities. Strategic partnerships could be formed to help raise money. Please think about what we would like to see the WDA doing, or expanding upon.

**Information Committee-M. Drew (Chairperson):**

The Information Committee Targets and Goals were defined in the Information Committee's Annual Report: 1. Actively work to provide material for the electronic newsletter and submit items to the Newsletter Editor; 2. Review the WDA home page and propose additional items for the page (i.e. Members Only) and assist in their development. Related to this subject, the new deadline for the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams slides is December 2009; 3. Discuss and develop a plan (subjects, costs, participants, etc) to present to Council for educational aids that can be developed and marketed by the WDA for use as lecture material. The current educational aids are about 15 years out of date. If they are deemed not usable then they need to go to the historian. The items are specified in the Information Committee's written report. In addition, the Committee requests that Council and the membership formulate new ideas for the Information Committee to work on that will add value to a WDA membership.

E. Greiner informed Council that he is retiring and has an almost complete set of JWD issues including microfiche, and is seeking the most appropriate recipient of this collection. E. Addison stated that WDA has two nearly complete copies of JWD including a set of microfiche. It would be good to have another copy of the microfiche. And WDA could arrange to have the journals shipped to a location where they are needed.

**International Committee-D. Gavier-Widén (Committee Member):**

D. Gavier-Widén presented a written report submitted by Elena Garde. There was very little activity in this committee during the past year. Suggestions were made to increase activity and productivity, and that sections should elect a person to represent that section. The Committee needs to generate more communication among the members. The Committee also needs to be represented by different parts of the world regardless of existence of sections. Members should meet at conferences if possible and there should be annual conference calls. Before changing chairs, thought should be given regarding who will be taking the position so that there is a co-chair situation for more fluid transition. The Committee will reevaluate the structure and function of the International Committee. C. van Riper emphasized the importance that the Sections remain closely tied to the organization as a whole. L. Creekmore added that the International Committee felt that a North American Section would add more weight to an already heavily North American-centered organization.

**Long Term Vision Committee-E. Addison:**

In 1989 the WDA had a major introspection event at the meeting in Corvallis, OR, USA and this was summarized and published in the JWD Journal. The next introspection was in 2003 and this was summarized and published as well. E. Addison emphasized the need to have a long term look at issues. This Committee was set up a few years ago and has made considerable progress. The Committee feels that the JWD should be considered WDA's top priority. In summary the major strengths and weaknesses of the WDA are as follows:

#### Strengths

- The *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*
- Student support
- International membership and organization
- Relationships among members forms a *de facto*, global wildlife health network

#### Weaknesses

- Lack of long term, stable funding for the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*
- Low membership in some parts of the world (Asia, South/Central America)
- Lack of mentoring for early career professionals

This Committee also itemized opportunities and threats to the WDA:

#### Opportunities

- Many governments around the world, including the new government in the US, that is supportive of science and the environment
- Increased public and government awareness of the role wildlife play in global human and livestock health
- The power of the internet and new forms of electronic communications

#### Threats

- Global economic instability
- Other competing professional societies
- Demand for open (free) access to the Journal
- Competing online journals that have higher "impact factor", are able to provide rapid publication, and are increasingly interested in wildlife health studies

The *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* was also analyzed:

#### Strengths

The JWD publishes good quality science with peer-review. This is reflected in a five-year "Impact of Factor" of 1.27 (out of 6), which is an acceptable rating, as well as in a long-term dedicated readership. The JWD is oriented to the multidisciplinary science of wild animal diseases and does not embrace transient trends (emerging diseases, zoonotic diseases, conservation biology). The JWD is capable of reviewing and publishing science that is variously basic, applied, descriptive and experimental. The JWD is accessible on-line, which now is essential to journal survival. The JWD is reasonably priced and affordable in the developed world, with favorable rates for students.

## Weaknesses

The JWD's five-year "Impact Factor of 1.27" compares to the 2007 Impact Factors of competing journals as follows: Emerging Infectious Diseases – 5.6; Ecology – 4.8; Proceedings of the Royal Society (Lond) – 4.7; Journal of Parasitology – 1.1; American Journal of Veterinary Research – 1.2; Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine – 0.5; Science – 30.0. The JWD lacks the capacity for fast-track publishing of urgent new information or ahead-of-print expedited publishing. It has no regular high-profile "must read" and "must cite" feature articles such as topical reviews.

Scientists tend to publish their most important and timely research in journals that can disseminate their findings well within a year of submission. Four thick issues per year distribute information more slowly than would thinner issues published more frequently (e.g. per 2 months). The JWD does not attract many potential authors who write about disease ecology. Also, the JWD is too expensive for most of the developing world (this is mitigated to some extent by WDA policies on distribution to developing countries). Reliance on volunteers for the position of Editor and Assistant to the Editor will severely limit the JWD in the future, as institutional support for these positions is declining precipitously. The JWD will need to find stable funding to support these positions.

## Opportunities

The new and very high current profile of wild animal pathogens as global issues in human and animal health and in ecology and conservation will lead to expanded opportunities for the JWD. The WDA membership is fully capable of writing high-profile articles; these should continue to be solicited by the JWD and published quickly and prominently. The JWD also could consider 'forums' of particular topics to attract attention of important wildlife disease issues. This might consist of three to four invited papers on a particular topic with an overall summary and management recommendations.

## Threats

Other journals with higher Impact Factors and that can disseminate information more rapidly are capitalizing on the high profile of wildlife diseases as subjects for publication and are competing for the same authors and readership.

Access to the JWD no longer is a principal benefit of membership. Services other than simple access must be put in place to benefit members versus non-members.

The JWD is jeopardized by full reliance on membership fees, institutional subscription fees and page charges to cover publication costs, particularly in a competitive publishing environment.

Recommendations:

JWD: Top priority should be given to finding stable funding for the JWD. ***The LTVC strongly recommends that the Council appoint an ad hoc committee to seriously explore corporate sponsorship.***

**International** -- The next priority is for the WDA to become truly international, including promoting membership in countries with emerging economies. ***To internationalize the WDA, it will be necessary to make every meeting of the WDA an international meeting. A “North American” section should be established.***

WDA must find ways to promote membership and participation from Asia, Africa (especially non-English Speaking Africa), and South & Central America. This might start with financial subsidies, but more importantly ***with direct person-to-person assistance, regional WDA organizations and regional meetings.***

**Technology** -- ***WDA must explore new technological options for meaningful exchanges among its full community of scientists***

### ***Long Term Vision***

**Promoting sound science:** **The WDA should promote the use of good science when making policy decisions (not political decisions) and can be a resource for science-based information on wildlife disease issues.**

**Membership:** The WDA must continue to grow and develop membership in the Association. This includes a ***focus on encouraging membership among early career professionals.***

D. Stallknecht expressed concern that the JWD is thought of in terms of a “product”. This attitude should be changed to emphasize that being a member of WDA is a professional responsibility regardless of receipt of the JWD. The JWD should not be labeled as a “product”.

J. McLelland stated that from an Australasian perspective, members of the Australasian Section are members irrespective of receipt of the JWD because the general opinion of Australasian Section members is still that the publications in the JWD are more oriented toward North America and Europe. E. Addison added that the WDA needs to consider its definition and purpose should the situation arise that it no longer publishes the JWD. J. Sleeman suggested that this report should be used to develop a strategic plan to help implement these ideas. T. Work talked about “value added” to memberships. One of the things WDA can offer is lectures available to teachers and professors at high schools, community colleges, and universities. These lectures already exist and therefore do not need to be built. Faculty should be canvassed for donated materials. Selected lectures can be translated into several different languages to reach the entire membership. Other suggestions brought forth were to set up a Wikipedia type of forum on certain diseases, make podcast presentations at meetings available or videos of meetings. B. Schuler explained that a link can be put directly to the server from the AMM

members-only site. There is plenty of room on the WDA server for things like the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams slides. Items Council would like to password protect can be stored on WDA server while the link would be located on the members-only section of the website. Therefore these items would only be available to members and they would not be available by search engines such as Google.

L. Creekmore then returned the discussion to the importance of addressing the items brought forth in the Long Term Vision document. Council should use this as a basis for a strategic plan. C. van Riper cautioned that Council should look at other organizations, such as Society for Conservation Biology, that are going through the same processes. J. Powers will ask Anne Fairbrother to submit a condensed version of the long term vision report in the newsletter. E. Addison said that Council should vote on each individual recommendation regarding whether action should be taken on them.

#### **Student Activities-T. Kelly (Chairperson):**

There are three major targets for action that the Student Activities Committee focused upon. The first one was to provide increased value to student memberships. This was addressed through organizing activities at conferences for students. Examples of activities are free student workshops, the student reception that involves providing information about organizations and employment opportunities, and lastly the students-only mixer. All of these activities were arranged for the current 2009 meeting. In addition, the committee wants to provide a venue to communicate easily to students who cannot attend meetings through a website forum, or through a chat site, which T. Kelly has already set up.

The second target of action is the promotion and support of student chapters. Student chapters have submitted progress reports from European Wildlife Disease Association, Texas A and M, and Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Colorado State University has a newly formed chapter and the University of Georgia is currently under transition but is expected to continue. The Washington State University (Palouse) student chapter has unfortunately been discontinued. However, Rachel Tarlington from the United Kingdom is working on setting up a student chapter. B. Schuler has also been very supportive in updating the student section on the website and for information about the student chapters and placing their progress reports on the website. S. Wright asked if there are biology (non-veterinary) programs being encouraged to start student chapters.

E. Greiner inquired as to whether students know whom outside their immediate college they could contact for information or expertise. E. Addison reminded Council that WDA has not been verifying status of student members. In addition, past student representatives have asked Council to make areas of expertise of members available to students. This has never been implemented but would be very easy through our current membership application process and database management. D. Stallknecht added that from a JWD perspective, expertise information would be very useful in order to identify reviewers and assistant editors. The way to acquire this

information is through a required fill-in feature when updating membership through AMM. C. van Riper thanked T. Kelly for her work as student representative.

**Membership and Promotions Committee-J. Sleeman (Committee Member):**

The Committee focused on A New Member Survey for which a final report is being written. The Committee has been working with E. Addison about where to send promotional materials, such as to meetings of other organizations. The Committee sent out eleven news releases regarding announcements of awards. The Committee also liaised with the Student Activities Committee regarding the student section. This Committee wants to maintain a primary focus on attracting increased student membership in the WDA. Lastly the Committee is working on a Welcoming Package for new members. This could include a new member letter, a matching program, new members luncheon, identifying labels on registration badge, a web page spotlight, and international member sponsorship. The Committee also worked with the organizers of the 2009 conference to advertise this conference. Council noted that this Committee has been very active and very effective and appreciates all the work that has been done.

**Nominations Committee-S. Wright (Chairperson):**

The Nominations Committee developed this year's slate and the new officers have been announced. It is very challenging to locate individuals willing to serve on Council and the Nominations Committee would appreciate any input and assistance with that task. Council was asked to inform the Nominations Committee about potential candidates. There have been some changes made to this Committee as well concerning timing of the development of the slate of candidates and approval of the slate. The new Nominations Committee consists of C. van Riper (chairperson), M. Pybus, T. Cornish, D. Gavier-Widén, and T. Kelly.

E. Greiner suggested that S. Wright talk to the students at the mixer about getting involved with the WDA through serving on committees or on Council or through reviewing manuscripts and serving on committees. Mentorship and encouragement to be more involved is extremely important for those building their careers.

**Public Awareness Committee:**

There have been no requests from Council to act on any issue thus no report has been submitted.

**Time and Place Committee-L. Creekmore (Chairperson)**

2010 Meeting: L. Creekmore first talked about the planning on Iguazú which is making progress. The dates chosen are May 30-June 4, 2010 to avoid conflicts with other significant events such as soccer tournaments. The proposed venue is Five Star American Hotel in Puerto Iguazú, Argentina where Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil converge. M. Uhart will arrange the contract as soon as it is agreed upon by Council. The down payment is due in December, 2009. A budget has been circulated to Council. Fees into the park are being waived for field trips. Translation services will be offered. D. Joly is working to provide a website skeleton for this meeting. The meeting is being promoted throughout Latin America and positive feedback is

being received. S. Gibbs expressed concern about losing membership and decreased attendance to the next three meetings which are all international, as well as decreased attendance by Council. S. Wright agreed that those were important concerns but also emphasized the importance of international meetings being a part of being an international organization. However, there is a certain trade off in the WDA's attempt to access as many people as possible worldwide. E. Addison added that the fastest growing membership is in Europe, and Australia and Asia are also growing. WDA will not have held a meeting in Europe in twenty-two years at the time of the meeting in Lyon, France in 2012. L. Creekmore stated that Council will need to become more innovative as to how meetings are held and utilize available technologies to communicate as a Council and participate in meetings that remotely.

2011 meeting: L. Creekmore introduced the subject of the 2011 meeting. In planning the 2011 meeting Council was targeting eastern North America. Originally mid Atlantic States were approached; however the Quebec meeting organizers stepped in with a formal invitation and the mid Atlantic group graciously deferred to the Quebec invitation with the offer to reconsider a meeting in the mid-Atlantic area at another time. The Time and Place Committee therefore recommends that Council accept the invitation from Quebec. While it does not meet the WDA's goal of a meeting in the eastern U.S. it does satisfy the need for a meeting in northeastern North America, another area under-represented relative to location of WDA conferences. Further to this, there is a vibrant wildlife disease community in eastern Canada yet WDA has never held an annual conference in this region. The WDA will also keep the mid-Atlantic states under serious consideration for future meetings.

R. Patenaude then presented Quebec City as the potential site for 2011 meeting. History and layout of the city were described. The proposed dates are Aug 14-Aug 19, 2011. Hotel venues are currently being explored. Other housing options will also be available including at Lavelle University.

- **Motion (Creekmore/Powers):** That the WDA hold the 2011 international conference in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. *Passed unanimously.*

M. Artois presented the proposal for the 2012 international conference which was previously approved by Council. This meeting will be a joint EWDA/WDA meeting. The conference already has support from the OIE. Convergence is the theme of this meeting emphasizing connection of people from different origins, disciplines, etc. T. Kuiken will organize the scientific program. The expected number of attendees is 400. M. Artois described the many attributes of Lyon and presented three different options for the conference venue: The veterinary school of Lyon, the engineering school (Ecole Normale Superieure), or the convention center. Discussion followed concerning cost of venue and lodging, ease of access from lodging to the venue, and ease of access from venue and lodging to the center city and city attractions. The veterinary school is only accessible by car or bus as it is about 20 kilometers from the city center and 12 kilometers from the nearest Metro station. The price of the engineering school and the veterinary school are very similar. Opportunities for reasonable lodging are greater in the city

center. Holding the meeting at the engineering school would reduce the need for transportation rental. The room at the engineering school holds up to 500 people. M. Artois will take Council's feedback and decide on the best, most cost effective, most ecologically sound venue.

### **European Section (EWDA)-P. Duff:**

P. Duff first discussed management in the context that the the European Section will develop a more democratic elections process for the establishment of officers. A nominations committee has been set up for this purpose. Elections will be held in 2010. The meeting in Croatia in 2008 was well attended and was a very successful meeting. P. Duff acknowledged D. Gavier-Widén for her work as past-president. There were two board meetings for the EWDA in Croatia. The next EWDA meeting will be held in the Netherlands in 2010. A EWDA student workshop took place in France in 2009 and was also a big success. At the University of Bern there was a symposium held under EWDA auspices. The MedVetNet group meeting had a large EWDA component. A meeting was held in Hungary to gather wildlife disease workers from Eastern Europe. The European Sectoin produced several "News from Europe" reports and M. Artois produced two "Bulletins". The EWDA is hoping to bring together scientists from all over Europe to discuss national wildlife disease schemes in October, 2009 in Brussels. P. Duff finally talked about WildTech which is a large wildlife disease-linked project sponsored by the European Union (EU). The project title is "Novel technologies for surveillance of emerging and reemerging infections of wildlife". Several EWDA members will be project leaders. This will be a very influential project for the next few years. MedVetNet is a smaller EU sponsored project which will finish this year and it is hoped that a web-based register for wildlife diseases that came out of this project will be used in future years.

The EWDA's Treasurer's Report is as follows: The current treasurer of EWDA is Ursula Höfle of Spain. As the EWDA as an entity has no official status (bylaws, VAT no., etc.) the account of EWDA is currently hosted by the Aquila foundation in Spain. The complete information of this small foundation is provided at the end of this report. As the account is hosted by the Aquila foundation information account maintenance or similar is not included in this report. This report although intended for the year 2008, includes information on the year 2007 and 2008, as transfer of WDA funds to the EWDA started in 2007.

### **EWDA ACCOUNTS 2007**

Support from WDA (reimbursement for European members) was received for the first time in 2007. The wiring of fees to and from the EWDA account for the support given by WDA to the 2007 student workshop was supported by the hosting foundation. As EWDA conferences are held every two years, the EWDA board decided to have a competition for student presentations at the conference on wildlife disease ecology and management in York November, 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> (Best presentation, best poster). At this conference no auction was held. The total account was 1,322.55€

### **EWDA ACCOUNTS 2008**

Support from WDA (reimbursement for European members) was received for 166 members (amount to be reimbursed \$15.25 U.S. for every WDA member from the countries considered to be a part of each particular section. In the case of the European Section, this excludes members from Iceland, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Sweden for whom reimbursements are made through the WDA Nordic Section). No student workshop was held in 2008. At the EWDA conference in Rovinj, Croatia a student competition was held with prizes for the best presentation (300€) and best poster (200€). The EWDA president had had a number of expenses (presents for conference organizers, students, t-shirts for the auction, etc.) for the conference, that were reimbursed (100€). The auction held at the EWDA conference raised a total 1892.60€. The total account was 4,202€ in December, 2008.

#### **Wildlife Veterinarian Section-J. Sleeman:**

J. Sleeman discussed the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians/AAWV joint meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA in October, 2009. There have been changes in the AAWV bylaws and the Dr. Albert Franzman Memorial Lecture was created to replace the AAWV Cutting Edge Speaker. Two position statements have been released by the AAWV: guidelines for performance of anesthesia and surgery and the One Health statement. The Section invites all WDA Council members to the AAWV business meeting this year. There were no nominations this year for the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Award. Eight award statues are currently being made for future recipients. C. van Riper suggested that changes be made in the bylaws so that a committee is formed to oversee the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Award that does not have the Presidents of WDA and AAWV as co-chairs. E. Addison explained that the bylaws do not require that the chairs be the presidents of the two organizations. If an agreement cannot be made regarding a recipient of the award, the two presidents are required to resolve the issue. In fact the presidents do not have to serve on the committee. J. Sleeman expressed the intention to work on adding some new members to the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Award Committee.

#### **Nordic Section- E. Ågren:**

A written report was distributed in June, 2009. The Nordic Section of the WDA (NWDA) is comprised of 32 members. The biennial NWDA meeting for 2009 was on the island of Laesø on the Northeast corner of Jutland, the mainland of Denmark. There was also a one-day workshop prior to the meeting on roe deer mortality. The board was re-elected for another 2 years. The section bylaws are being revisited regarding elections. A brief financial report for the NWDA concluded that there had been no financial transactions the past two years except for the remunerations from WDA based on numbers of members, and bank account management costs. The total balance on the NWDA account was 3,1926.71 SEK on 3 April 2009. The NWDA constitution has been revised to adjust to the constitution and bylaws of the WDA and was accepted by the general assembly. The general assembly decided that the section shall have its own logo. There will be a design competition and after a voting process, a NWDA logo is planned to be presented at the EWDA meeting 2010. Finland will hold the next NWDA meeting, likely at the end of May 2011 and the talks will be held in English language. There is a

suggestion of having the NWDA meeting just before or after the meeting of Nordic Society of Veterinary Pathologists, at the same venue, as several pathologists would like to attend both meetings. Cooperation with Nordic zoo veterinarians, joining their annual meetings, has resulted in the formation of NZWVG (Nordic Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarian Group), now formally accepted as a section of the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians, with Torsten Møller as chair.

**Australasian Section-J. McLelland:**

The Australasian Section held its annual conference in September, 2008 in New South Wales, Australia. Ed Addison, Roy Bengis from South Africa, Pradeep Malik from India, and Mitsuhiro Asakawa (Asa) from Japan attended this meeting. This year's meeting will be in the Catlins, NZ, December 10-16, 2009. Pradeep Malik's visit to Australia and to the WDA-Australasia 2008 conference was organized by Pam Whiteley, the previous chair. Sponsorship for the trip was generously provided by the Australia-India Council to the value of \$5,000; however, Pradeep's trip cost less than this. Rather than return the remaining funds it was suggested that we use the money to help fund an Australian to visit India. This was approved and Lee Skerrat at the invitation of Pradeep and his colleagues will be travelling to India in February 2010 to be a keynote speaker at the "International Wildlife Health and Disease Management Conference – a Post Millennium Approach" in Chennai. Many thanks go to Pam Whiteley who organised Pradeep's trip and who has established firm links with wildlife health professionals in India. Lastly, in the shadow of the swine flu pandemic and other global and cross-species threats, the executive of the Wildlife Disease Association (Australasia), on behalf of its membership, would like to express our commitment to continuing to strengthen research and co-operation across human, agricultural animal and wildlife health sectors; within the Australasian region as well as globally. The Australasian Section of the WDA believes the WDA is unique because it has a genuine 'friendliness', if not friendship, amongst its members together with a high level of proficiency / expertise, and we are therefore well placed to effect such positive and needed change.

C. van Riper asked whether the Australasian Section of the WDA has members from Asian countries. J. McLelland stated that the Section is predominantly comprised of Australian and New Zealand members and has yet to discuss expanding membership to mainland Asia and the Pacific Islands.

**Carlton Herman Fund Committee-E. Addison:**

The Herman Fund took a significant loss on investments and it has not received many funds of late. In order to protect resources, there was no Herman Lecturer. There is approximately \$26,000 currently in the fund.

**Old Business:**

**American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):**

There is a MOU to be discussed that was developed by the AAWV. L. Creekmore brought up that in the December teleconference Council decided to put together a committee to deal with this MOU and inquired whether this committee should be formed. E. Addison expressed the opinion that Council should not pass this MOU with the current wording. Concerns were brought up that the existence of a Wildlife Veterinarian Section can create divisiveness within the WDA. It was decided to delay discussion to the supplemental Council meeting when J. Sleeman, President of the AAWV and Chairperson of the Wildlife Veterinarian Section could rejoin the meeting.

### **Support for Latin America in terms of free distribution of the electronic form of the JWD**

- **Motion (Creekmore/Work):** That the WDA provide free distribution of the electronic form of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* to people in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama and Puerto Rico.

These Latin American countries are above the World Bank cutoff financially based on GDP in the first and second lowest tiers. The WDA already gives free access to the JWD to the first and second lowest tiers. Many Latin American countries are financially limited and scientists don't have access to JWD. Our membership and subscription data indicate that we would not lose much money by providing electronic access to these countries. D. Stallknecht stated that at some point Council needs to ask for some commitment from the recipients of free access, as totally free is not always valued by the recipient. E. Addison emphasized that we are not offering memberships, which cost the WDA in terms of administrative fees. J. Mills suggested that Council delineate a time frame of access and there should be follow-up on this as a measure of success. E. Addison said that Pam Whiteley, as a member of the International Committee, emphasized the need to advertise the open access. Open access needs to be well-marketed, especially if it's time sensitive. D. Stallknecht stated that the motion should be amended to establish a time limit to the open access. E. Ågren suggested tabling motion until the next meeting as there are numerous items to discuss still regarding this subject.

- **Motion (Ågren/Stallknecht):** Table above motion. *Passed unanimously*
- **Motion to Adjourn (Mills/Ågren):** *Passed unanimously. 7:05 pm Pacific Standard Time*

### **5 August 2009 – Second Council Meeting**

The second 2009 annual Council meeting of the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) was called to order by President C. van Riper at 8.07 pm Pacific Standard Time in the Semiahmoo Resort, Blaine, WA USA.

Council members present: C. van Riper, L. Creekmore, L. Baeten, P. Nol, T. Kelly, B. Schuler, T. Work, C. Kreuder-Johnson, J. Mills, J. Sleeman, J. Powers, and E. Howerth. Also in attendance was E. Addison.

## Old Business

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians-J. Sleeman:**

The AAWV and the WDA have a long relationship of working together and the two organizations have mutual goals and interests. The MOU was proposed to strengthen that bond and to effectively continue the relationship between the two organizations. AAWV feels passionately about the WDA and would like to achieve mutually beneficial goals. There has been some concern regarding if maintenance of a wildlife veterinary section is justified. These are very legitimate concerns. Before Council makes a decision it would be advisable to get more background and get the opinion of the membership about this. So it is recommended that discussions are tabled regarding these questions. Focus should be placed on the MOA only at this time. A few minor edits were made to the MOU before the motion was voted upon..

- **Motion (Sleeman/Johnson):** To accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the Wildlife Disease Association and the American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Support for Conference in Argentina-C. van Riper:**

Discussion pertained to a \$15,000 donation in support of the 2010 Argentina conference. With this money, the conference organizers can cover the translation fees. M. Uhart is working on sponsors, USDA WS and potentially CDC to subsidize travel. T. Work asked if \$15,000 is enough from the WDA for this conference and does Council have a mechanism in place where it can make up a deficit if needed. E. Addison stated that Council has not passed a motion to provide this money to the Argentina conference and that, in fact, \$7,500 has already been provided to this conference outside Council approval.

- **Motion (Work/Nol):** That the WDA provide up to \$16,000 as a donation in support of audio-visual and simultaneous translation services and other activities at the 2010 conference in Argentina. *Passed unanimously.*

E. Addison emphasized the need to give the Treasurer with authority to provide back-up funds to conference organizers if needed and to provide funds quickly where appropriate. C. Gillin stated that the 2009 Conference will probably break even. J. Sleeman suggested that Council could use profits from other conference as a slush fund for conference that might not make so much money. C. van Riper stated that any profits from past conference have gone back into the general coffer. C. Gillin emphasized the difficulty in estimating how much a conference will net. The 2009 conference organizers went after sponsorships which amounted to approximately \$30,000. E Addison stated that the Zarnke document has helped greatly with estimating conference income and costs. The 2010 conference is unique to past conference experiences. Normally services such as registration are contracted with the conference site, but this is not the case in Argentina nor will it be in 2011. Allen Marketing and Management (AMM) will be handling this for the 2010 and 2011 conferences.

- **Motion (Work/Kreuder-Johnson):** That the WDA give the authority to the Treasurer to provide \$76,000 when needed for the 2010 meeting in Argentina. *Passed unanimously.*

J. Sleeman asked whether Council should consider event cancellation insurance. E. Addison said that Council needs to find out under what circumstances it could use the insurance. L. Creekmore inquired about provisions in hotel contracts regarding cancellation insurance. E. Addison added that since 2001 cancellation insurance has been difficult to acquire, but is becoming more achievable lately.

- **Motion (Creekmore/Mills):** That the WDA form an *ad hoc* Committee to explore ways that the WDA can best support wildlife health professionals and members in the Caribbean, Central and South America, and especially in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, and Puerto Rico. *Passed Unanimously.*

**Reduction in fees for five years for the electronic form of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* to present members in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, and Puerto Rico.**

C. van Riper suggested a fifty percent reduction in fees. J. Sleeman inquired about duration of these reduced fees. C. van Riper stated that the objective is to acquire more members and reach out to these countries. J. Mills: Whether people are members or not, they are getting the Journal for free. Why don't we just add these countries to the free access? T. Work suggested that we get data regarding which countries are utilizing this opportunity. After five years Council can decide to continue this opportunity based on its success. There was discussion regarding whether giving discounts to existing members or new members would be advantageous. E. Addison reminded Council that members cost the WDA a lot to administer. Providing free online journal access does not cost the WDA anything. J. Powers suggested that WDA provide free access to these countries. T. Work did emphasize that free items are not well-valued and Council should consider charging people the cost of member management in order to promote membership. E. Addison suggested that Council make the topic of reduced membership fees an item of discussion. J. Powers reminded Council that we all have free access to the JWD after eighteen months. We should give immediate free access to these countries. T. Work agreed with this and stated that we should discuss reduced membership fees at a future time. Discussion ensued regarding to which countries the WDA should offer free access and the duration of that access, as well as the need to monitor use. This will be a "pilot project".

- **Motion (Work/Powers):** That the WDA provide free access for five years for the electronic form of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* to Mexico, Central, and South America. *Passed unanimously.*

C. van Riper stated that the International Committee should be the body to monitor the success of this endeavor.

**HighWire Press Fee Increase**

- **Motion (Sleeman/Work):** That the WDA approve the increased costs of 4.6% for 2010 from HighWire Press and to pay for usage statistics.
- **Friendly Amendment (Creekmore/Sleeman):** That the WDA approve the increased costs for 2010 from HighWire Press and to pay for usage statistics. *Passed unanimously.*

E. Addison informed Council that the cost of usage statistics is approximately \$880 per year.

### **Monograph Series**

- **Motion (Work/Baeten):** That the WDA establish a wildlife disease monograph series.

C. van Riper explained that a committee was formed to explore a monograph series and there were five people willing to serve on this committee. The editor will appoint subeditors for the monograph series. The monograph series can take care of proceeding, symposiums and large studies. The work will be away from the journal so that the JWD editors do not have to deal with this work. This series is self-supporting and the contributors of each volume will pay it. Large studies and symposia would be covered by the monograph series. There was concern about funding and seeking the funding. It would be difficult for the editor to acquire this funding. The Wildlife Society has a monograph series and receives funding up front from authors and then the editor puts the monograph forward. In this case the WDA would be given money to pay for the publication of the monograph. The monograph series would be intermittent and may be completely electronic. L. Creekmore suggested we should form a legitimate *ad hoc* committee to explore this as this has only been explored on an unofficial basis. The original *ad hoc* committee consisted of all JWD editorial board members. E. Addison reminded Council that regarding funding this series, Council is the body to make all financial decisions. E. Addison did bring up the possibility of the JWD being in competition with the monographs but this opportunity is important. C. van Riper stated that all members would get copies of the monograph series. Part of the stimulus behind this is to increase the impact factor of WDA publications. These types of articles will be cited frequently and have a high impact factor. The impact factor of the monographs would not increase the impact factor of the Journal, but would enhance the visibility of the WDA. E. Addison mentioned that Allen Press and HighWire Press need to be notified well in advance of a monograph series.

- **Friendly amendment (Work/Baeten):** That the WDA establish a self-sustaining wildlife disease monograph series. *Passed unanimously.*

At this point in the council meeting, it was suggested to deal with the committee recommendations later and deal with new business.

### **Business Services Contract with Allen Marketing and Management**

- **Motion (Baeten/Creekmore):** That the WDA accept the proposed 2010–2012 business services contract as presented by Allen Marketing and Management. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Journal Printing and Distribution Contract**

- **Motion (Work/Sleeman):** That the WDA accept the proposed 2010–2012 journal printing and distribution contract as presented by Allen Press. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Number of Pages Published**

- **Recommendation:** The Editorial Board should make a request to Council about pages to be published for 2010 and Council should discuss the proposal within the context of overall budgeting. This was an oversight for this year’s budget and should be discussed on an annual basis.

### **Renaming of the Student Awards:**

L. Baeten stated that if we rename the awards the students will not be obligated to pay taxes by removing the words “award” and “scholarship”. If we changed the award names to something like “Distinguished Graduate Student Speaker” the recipient would not have to report it to the IRS. C. van Riper said that this is an opportunity for endowments. J. Sleeman suggested that Council get a recommendation to the Student Awards Committee, to explore names, and the tax laws. T. Kelly asked if monies awarded to students are looked upon as reimbursements. J. Sleeman stated that if a reimbursement is large then it raises flags. L. Baeten emphasized the need to explore each award individually regarding renaming it. C. van Riper put forth that this topic should go back to the Student Awards Committee as there isn’t sufficient background information of what the Committee should consider when they address this subject in their meetings. This needs to be explored more carefully.

### **Revised Nominations Committee Guidelines**

- **Motion (Work/Powers):** That the WDA Council approves the new Nominations Committee Guidelines. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Revised Teller Committee Guidelines**

- **Motion (Creekmore/Nol):** That the WDA approve the timelines for work of the Teller Committee and the election be revised as presented.
- **Friendly Amendment to above Motion (Creekmore/Work):** That the WDA Council approve the new Teller Committee Guidelines. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Revised Time and Place Committee Guidelines**

L. Creekmore explained that the Time and Place Committee added Council motions relevant to the Committee into the guidelines, one emphasis being that all conferences would be distributed

based on membership distribution and locations of past conferences. Other revisions and improvements have been made as well.

- **Motion (Creekmore/Sleeman):** That the WDA accept the revised Time and Place Committee guidelines. *Passed unanimously.*

C. van Riper brought forth the concept of liability insurance that was incorporated into the Time and Place Committee guidelines and the concern that the AAWV is comfortable with this motion, as the AAWV would share in the cost of this insurance during joint meetings. J. Sleeman assured Council that AAWV is comfortable with the changes concerning liability insurance for meetings. For the current meeting \$1,600 was paid for liability insurance. It was emphasized that liability insurance for meetings should be secured well ahead of the meeting as it is at times difficult to find an insurer.

### **Update of Committee Guidelines**

E. Addison gave an overview of recommended updates in guidelines and bylaws. There were comments concerning Information Committee guidelines and development of guidelines for the monograph series. The committees need to deal with these comments and revisions internally. Then guidelines should be brought to Council in their most up-to-date form for approval by Council. E. Addison stated that it would be helpful to the Information Committee to receive feedback from Council regarding updates and revisions. C. van Riper recommended that Council members view the document as it consolidates all the guidelines and is very useful information. Council could not form a motion concerning all the comments and revisions; however, Council could address those committees that don't yet have guidelines.

- **Motion (Creekmore/Sleeman):** That Council charges committees that don't yet have guidelines to develop such documents. *Passed unanimously.*

### **Update of WDA Bylaws**

This brings all the updates to the bylaws and brings it into one document. E. Addison informed Council that WDA is currently in violation of the bylaws in the context of students verifying their status at membership renewal. L. Baeten suggested that the bylaws can be worded so that students can be requested to verify their studentship. E. Addison added that usually organizations operate on act of faith with this issue. L. Creekmore asked whether we could ask students to furnish the name of their academic advisors. C. van Riper stated that asking students to do so would raise the level of distrust in the organization. And it was also brought up that some students do not have academic advisors.

- **Motion (Baeten/Kreuder-Johnson):** To modify the bylaws to state that student members may be required to provide proof of student status. *Passed unanimously.*
- **Motion (Sleeman/Kreuder-Johnson):** That bylaws state that the financial records of the Wildlife Disease Association shall be retained for a period of seven years. *Passed unanimously.*

- **Motion (Mills/Work):** To remove Article 9, Section 7, Paragraph 4 of the Bylaws relating to Journal of Wildlife Diseases Section Editor. *Passed Unanimously.*

J. Mills stated that the WDA does not have section editors currently. E. Addison explained that WDA is in violation of the bylaws since it designates Section Editors but does not have section editors.

- **Motion (Work/No!):** That students are not to be on the Student Awards Committee. *Passed unanimously.*

Students have always been excluded from the Student Awards Committee but this policy is not specified in the bylaws.

### **Liability Insurance**

- **Motion: (Powers/No!):** That the WDA purchase general liability insurance in combination with or in addition to the current Directors' and Officers' liability insurance. *Passed unanimously.*

This insurance would protect all of the WDA's assets. Officers are already covered under liability insurance in the form of directors' and officers' liability insurance. This general liability insurance will cover everything.

### **Transition of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases Editorship**

J. Mills expressed his appreciation to E. Howerth and D. Stallknecht for their help in making the transition a smooth one. As the new editor, J. Mills' vision is to improve communication between public health scientists and wildlife disease professionals, and he intends to pursue using the JWD to increase this communication. One great example of this was the sponsorship of the meeting by Centers for Disease Control and bringing in the CDC's Associate Director for Zoonotic Diseases as an invited speaker. In order to increase our depth in assistant editors, the Editorial Board added new editors recently. There are still gaps to fill which will be resolved soon. Short term goals include increasing volume of submissions, improving turn-around times and impact factor, enforcing page limits, revising instructions to authors, and establishing a "Letter" category. Many manuscripts submitted as short communications could be in the form of letters instead. The advantage of a letter is that it can be cited but doesn't count in the publications part of the impact factor. Problems with the software need to be addressed. Regarding going digital and JWD's web presence, more thought needs to be devoted to developing ways to deal with this issue especially with increasing costs and decreasing memberships. Council needs to create alternative financing for the journal. Finally, after December, J. Mills will be retired and will devote more time to the editorship. J. Sleeman asked what sort of level of funding would the WDA be looking for for the JWD. J. Mills replied that there could be multiple sponsors, and not just a single sponsor. E. Addison emphasized that Council needs to take on the financial aspects of the JWD, this responsibility should not be on

the editors. The Endowment Committee is looking into providing Council with advice on finding funding and figuring out what types of financing we will require. J. Mills offered to explore funding opportunities as well. C. van Riper stated that the long term goal of Council is to find methods to fully support the journal.

### **European Wildlife Disease Association Section Meeting Support**

The European Section is requesting 150,000 Euros (approximately \$279,000) from Council for the 2010 Conference of the European Section of the WDA. Council has never been asked to put up money for a section meeting. This request is due to the fact that the meeting site will not be collecting the registration fees and other fees. The section would like the assurance that WDA will support this meeting. The plan is that this money will be recouped but WDA is responsible for any losses. During the 2008 Council Meeting, Council agreed that no contract would be signed without the approval of the Executive Manager with Council's advice. T. Work stated that Council should make sure that it has a minimum amount of funds in reserve for the WDA. Approving the requested amount is probably not affordable to the Association. A revised budget proposal should be requested from the European Section. E. Addison said that the total cost of the 2010 meeting in Argentina will be \$76,000 and Council will have a contract presented to it for the 2010 meeting. Council must work with the section and make every effort to create unity in the organization but also protect the Association. Questions were asked regarding whether section meetings are considered official WDA meetings and whether Council has supported section meetings. E. Addison said that only once was funding provided for a section meeting (African Section). The consensus was that Council needs to be clear that this funding at this level is not supportable by WDA. Council needs to communicate with the European Section in order to mutually resolve this issue.

### **Support for 2011 Annual Meeting in Quebec City**

E. Addison presented that there is a contract being developed and the organizing committee needs \$2,000 (Canadian) within a month signing a contract. However, in order to be able to provide more funds if needed without another Council vote, it would be advisable that more funds be approved. B. Schuler reminded Council that a set amount of \$10,000 was decided upon in support of the 2008 meeting in Edmonton.

- **Motion (Schuler/Creekmore):** That the WDA Council make available up to \$10,000 for reimbursable pre-meeting expenses for each international annual conference of the Wildlife Disease Association. *Passed unanimously.*

C. van Riper expressed his appreciation to Council and that he has greatly enjoyed serving as President of the WDA.

- **Motion to Adjourn (Nol/Powers):** 11:09 pm Pacific Standard Time.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Nol  
WDA Secretary