

IDAHO STATE CHAPTER
National Wild Turkey Federation

STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
IDFG, Jerome
January 22, 2011

Board of Directors Attending: Mike Stoddard, Don Jenkins, Charles Henry, Janet Bell, Brad Ford, Mary Henry, John Howard, Craig Carter, Rick Lawson, Marty Gregory, Mark Bell, Rob Brazie, Paul Waldon, Tammie Pace, John Warford, Vance Henry. Absent Directors: Larry Lombard (Voting Proxy provided to Marty Gregory), Stu Kestner. Alternate Director Attending: Ed Bullock. NWTF Members Attending: Patrick Thomas, Fred Bartel, Jacob Thomas, Reed Hendricks.

NWTF Staff Attending: Barnabas Koka, Regional Field Supervisor.

IDFG Staff Attending: Virgil Moore, Assistant Director and Jeff Knetter, IDFG Technical Representative to NWTF.

President Mike Stoddard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and welcomed all participants. He talked about the Peck Hunt, archery in the schools, scholarship program, a memorial for Tammie Pace's son, and other activities the Idaho NWTF had accomplished.

Nominations for nine Board of Director positions that expired in 2011 were opened. The following individuals were nominated and each received a second. Mike Stoddard, Don Jenkins, Janet Bell, Terry White, Brad Ford, Larry Lombard, Ed Bullock, Charley Henry, Bob Hensel, Craig Carter, Mary Henry, Patrick Thomas. Motion made and seconded that nominations cease. Ballots were completed and tallied by Barnabas Koka and Jeff Knetter both who did not vote.

The following individuals were elected to serve as a Director on the Board for the 2011-2013 term of service: Mike Stoddard, Janet Bell, Terry White, Larry Lombard, Ed Bullock, Charley Henry, Bob Hensel, Craig Carter, Mary Henry.

Next were held election of officers for the Board of Directors. Mike Stoddard was nominated President, Ed Bullock, Vice-President, Charley Henry, Treasurer, Mary Henry, Secretary. All nominations were seconded and approved. Several individuals declined the nomination to be an officer.

Barnabas stated that his supervisory area has expanded and NWTF has a new Vice President supervising field staff. He confirmed that memberships had declined nationally, partly due to NWTF discontinuing the WITO magazine and losing WITO members and partly due to the economy.

LA Dixon award is being presented to the Idaho State Chapter this year at the national convention. Barnabas described how points accumulate for the award.

Barnabas described a new banquet ticket invitation package that will be sent from Edgefield. It includes a postcard and the invite. Stein safari hunt will be available for each banquet, it is 100% donation (approx \$3600) to NWTF.

Top 1000 chapters will receive a gun that retails \$1200-\$1500; the cost of the gun is being underwritten by Midway USA. 50% of the funds will go back to youth to promote youth hunting. Most chapters in Idaho will get the gun. Recommend not using the gun for a raffle because it takes profit away from the banquet. Barnabas has a new access program to control all orders from NWTF.

Plinko game was a huge success; new game- turkey pong, using ping pong ball; use interactive,

fun games for raffles.

He briefly described a new software computer program that he can utilize to find more volunteers and help establish new chapters. It also can be used to provide mailing lists of current members for newsletter purposes.

He mentioned that information has just surfaced that NWTF could promote upland game birds at our banquets and utilize NWTF funds to provide assistance to other upland game birds. This collaboration could assist banquets in areas where there are no wild turkeys, such as Alaska. More information will be coming, but apparently chapters are free to include Upland Game Birds, in addition to Wild Turkeys, to their banquet advertising.

Charley expressed dismay that the NWTF seems to be overlooking the Northwest and to send a message to Edgefield that we are not happy. They are not hiring a biologist and spreading the RD to such a large area that they cannot adequately do the job. Rob made a motion that the State Chapter President write a letter to NWTF expressing our displeasure. Mark seconded the motion and suggested that a signature page showing support go with the letter.

Jeff Knetter provided a handout of the turkey management activities for the state and by region. Statewide 17 turkeys were trapped and translocated within the Magic Valley Region. Harvest data showed approximately 12,800 hunters harvesting 3280 turkeys during spring 2010 season; approximately 5970 hunters harvesting 2550 turkeys during fall 2009 season; and 630 hunters purchased 970 fall special unit tags to hunt in Panhandle and Clearwater Regions. The region data is included in minutes. He stated they will be revamping the IDFG website and wanted to know what information the members would like to see on the turkey page. Let Jeff know by email if you have suggestions. He suggested working with IDFG when doing habitat projects. He also stated the SW Region would be establishing a committee to develop a Turkey Management Plan.

Rob Brazie introduced Patrick Thomas and Fred Bartel. They talked about their Wheelin Sportsman activities and the committee they have established in the Treasure Valley. Rob nominated Patrick Thomas for the Wheelin Sportsman Coordinator. Motion seconded and approved.

Virgil Moore and Paul Waldon reported on the outfitting and guiding for wild turkey and waterfowl committee— 3 sportsman representative, ISCAC, 3 landowner representatives, 3 outfitters and guides representatives. They described the number of meetings and the process involved. Bottom line...there would be less access available. The NWTF recommendation is to make the temporary moratorium permanent. There were some common areas of agreement, but no consensus found on a number of issues. Such as private land vs. public land, waterfowl issues contrasted with turkey, loss of hunttable areas next to private lands. More information will come as no final decision at this time.

Ed Bullock and Don Jenkins gave a power point presentation of the habitat projects in Southwest Idaho along the Snake River. They involved the community and boy scouts who planted trees as their Eagle Scout projects. Contact Ed or Don with questions regarding habitat projects.

The 2010 Financial Year in Review was presented by Charley Henry. Copy is included with minutes for use at functions where individuals want to know where the money goes that they donate. The 2011 proposed budget was presented. After discussion, modifications, and additions, a motion was made and seconded to accept the budget. Copy is included with the minutes.

Mark Bell presented the ISCAC report. He stated that the meetings are video conference and legislative updates can be found at www.idahosportsmensconnection.com. Membership costs to the NWTF will remain about the same. Barnabas requested ISCAC take a position regarding Families Afield. Paul Waldon requested ISCAC endorse Transfer Tag to Youth, TTTY, so the proposal could be taken to the IDFG Commission. Restrict TTTY to immediate family.

Local chapter reports were presented and the meeting was open for items of discussion. Travel expenses to the National Convention was discussed and confirmed that the reimbursement rate would be \$500, but not to exceed the amount budgeted for Volunteer Travel. Therefore, it may be less depending on the number attending. Members must submit request in writing to the Chapter President for approval of attendance in order to receive reimbursement. Program Coordinators will not be fully funded, but may request the \$500 reimbursement.

Next was discussion regarding the best method of obtaining email addresses in order to provide the State Newsletter Flydown on the idahonwtf.org website. It was decided we would have a contest with a gun as a prize in order to encourage individuals to use the website to find information. Marty will put together a written Flydown for mailout that includes the contest, as well as the contest appearing on the website. The intent will be to increase communication and attract new members..

Charley read an email from a member requesting \$300 to represent the NWTF on IDFG's SW Region committee to develop a Turkey Management Plan. After discussion and some of the concerns expressed, Charley withdrew the motion to provide funding for this purpose.

Larry Lombard requested it be announced that the Still Target Shoot will be March 12, 2011, in Emmett.

Mike requested that all volunteers provide their expertise in helping the NWTF in any way possible. He will send an email requesting assistance.

Date and place of the next annual State Leadership Conference will be determined at a later time. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.