

MINUTES OF THE 2001 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING 24 JULY 2001

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MINUTES OF THE 2001 WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING 24 JULY 2001

President Tonie Roche called the 49th annual WDA business meeting to order on 24 July 2001 at 12:15 PM and welcomed the WDA members in attendance. Tonie Roche congratulated Dave Jessup and Jonna Mazet on organizing such a successful meeting in such a wonderful place. Dave Jessup provided the following meeting statistics: There are 233 attendees, fairly evenly divided between the Society for Tropical Veterinary Medicine and the WDA; 36 are accompanying persons, 29 are sponsored delegates (The Wildlife Conservation Society and the USDA were the two largest sponsors of delegates), 104 are STVM or WDA. Ninety-three of the delegates are from Africa, 112 are from North America, 27 are from Europe, four are from Central and South America, one is from Australia, and one is from New Caledonia.

Tonie Roche delivered the Vice-President's report provided by Bill Samuel. Most of the Vice-President's duties this year were dealing with day to day business of the standing and adhoc Committees. To define the work ethic of our Committees in 2000/2001, outstanding would be an understatement. The following people who have completed their terms on standing committees did a great job and deserve special thanks: Ted Leighton, Billy Karesh, and Torsten Mörner (membership committee); Todd O'Hara (nominations committee), Pam Nankervis, Sandi Black, Kerry Beheler, and Mike Ziccardi (promotions). The same accolades are expressed to those continuing their service on committees. Tonie Roche pointed out the B. Samuel is being very modest and also deserves much appreciation for his work reviewing and updating all of our By-laws and Section guidelines and dealing with the Committees on an almost daily basis.

He also chairs the Time and Place Committee and heads the group is working on the development of an Executive Manager position.

Lynn Creekmore provided the Secretary's report. The election was successful with over 260 WDA members returning ballots. She also read the Treasurer's report (see the Council Meeting minutes).

Beth Williams presented the Editor's report (see the Council Meeting minutes). She expressed thanks to the Assistant Editors, outgoing Editor Danny Pence and to membership for their high quality manuscript submissions. Tonie Roche announced that D. Pence will be receiving a plaque expressing the appreciation of the WDA. She also complimented B. Williams on the new cover design.

Tonie Roche reported the results of the recent Council election and Constitutional Amendment question. The new President is Paul Barrows and the new Vice-President is Torsten Mörner. New Council members are Mark Drew and John Fischer. She congratulated the incoming Officers and Council members. She thanked all of those that stood for election and encouraged them to stand again next year. She also thanked the outgoing Council members Randy Zarnke and Bill Lance.

The Constitutional amendment passed and, as a result, we will be electing a student member to Council next year to serve a 2-yr term. Tonie Roche encouraged students to stand for election. The Student Activities Committee has been split into a Student Awards Committee and a Student Activities Committee. This new Student Activities Committee will explore the establishment of Student Chapters for WDA.

The promotions committee has produced six posters; one at the Africa meet-

ing that will be sent to the European Section, one will be sent to the Nordic section, one was delivered to the Australasian section, and three are available in the U.S. Let the Promotions Committee or the new President know if you are attending a meeting and need to use one. New brochures are being developed now and hopefully will be out in the next year. Our new logo will be included in this new brochure and also now has replaced the old on the Supplement and Journal. Tonie Rocke has received a really good response with regard to the new logo and complimented M. Ziccardi on his efforts to develop the new logo.

At the end of last year WDA had 1,115 regular members and 445 institutional members. This was an increase over previous years. This year (as of mid year) we have 1,040 regular members, nine associate members, and 435 institutional members. These numbers are expected to increase by the end of the year exceeding last year's membership numbers. Tonie Rocke reminded the membership that we have a new sponsor a member program is available. Allen Press will begin to keep track of the number of sponsored members. The field veterinarian program professional development awards provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society have been successful. In 2000 the program provided 13 individual and two institutional memberships and in 2001 provided 30 individual and five institutional memberships. This program also sponsored attendance of two African Veterinarians to this year's meeting. The membership responded with a round of applause.

Tonie Rocke reported on her recent trip to attend the joint meeting of the Australasian Section of the WDA and World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians. This was a good meeting and she had an opportunity to meet and discuss some issues and concerns regarding their relationship with the parent body. In response, Council approved the provision of the password allowing access to protected areas of the

website to dues paying members of sections. There will be a meeting to discuss the establishment of an African section this evening.

Council also decided that auction funds will be accounted for and set aside to be used for student funds and outreach activities to sections.

Next year's meeting will be at Humboldt State July 28 through August 2. Rick Botzler reported that the meeting will be held at the Redwood Coast Conference Center and he encouraged potential attendees to plan to take time to view the famous redwood trees as well as the area wildlife. The theme for next year's meeting will be exploring lessons we have learned from recent and past emerging diseases to better prepare us for dealing with diseases that will be emerging in the future. Tonie Rocke reminded the membership that the 2003 meeting will be in Saskatoon and the 2004 meeting will be a joint meeting with AAZV in San Diego. The 2005 or 2006 meeting will be another international meeting and will be hosted by the Australasian section.

The effort to sell back issues went well; 353 were sold for about \$15,000. Most of the remaining journals are being donated as 100 issue sets to libraries in developing countries. These include five sets to Bridge to Asia, five sets to Books for Africa, four sets to Cuba, four sets to the University of the Philippines Veterinary Teaching Hospital, three sets to Argentina, and one set each to Conservation International in Brazil, Kenya Wildlife Service Veterinary Library, University of Zambia School of Veterinary Medicine, Bolivia, West Hungary, Budapest, Venezuela, Malaysia, and Egypt. We have 15 sets left and T. Rocke requests the membership let Officers or Council know if they know of any additional potential recipients.

The final item for discussion was the resolution drafted by the Public Awareness Committee in conjunction with STVM and submitted to Council. Council has approved this resolution for presentation to

the membership for a vote. The vote will be held after the presentation of the resolution by Steve Osofski in the Thursday afternoon session. Copies of the resolution were distributed and a summary from the Public Awareness Committee was read by T. Rocke. In brief, this resolution is targeted at the international government-related donor community or bilateral aid agencies such as USAID, EC, the World Bank, etc, encouraging them to consider the potential for wildlife disease impacts when development projects are being planned or implemented. The resolution points out the inter-relatedness of development actions and the environment, the potential for adverse consequences in pro-

jects that neglect to consider wildlife disease issues, and the importance of considering the true overall costs and benefits to natural as well as human made production systems when evaluating or defining sustainable projects. Tonie Rocke requested that the membership review the resolution before the Thursday session; following the session there will be a discussion and vote on the resolution by both the STVM and WDA memberships.

There were no further questions or discussion. Torsten Mörner moved (seconded by R. Zarnke) adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn H. Creekmore
Secretary