

Minutes
Vertebrate Pest Council
Nov. 17, 2015

CDFA Facility, 2800 Gateway Oaks Dr., Sacramento

Attendees: *Council Members: Present* - R. Baldwin, M. Dennis, P. Gorenzel, D. Kratville, S. McMillin, D. Orthmeyer, N. Quinn, D. Van Vuren, R. Timm
On Phone Connection: R. Baker, E. Duarte

Non-council attendees: Greg Hacker, CA Dept. of Public Health

Called to order by Roger Baldwin at 9:11 AM.

Minutes of the previous VP Council meeting were not yet available in final draft; their approval was tabled until our next meeting.

Business Manager Report:

As Charlie Crabb was unable to attend, he sent Roger Baldwin summary information to present, in his absence:

Up to Nov. 15, 2015:

Income for 2015:	\$8,808.67 (mostly from alternate-year workshop proceeds from PAPA)
Expenses:	\$26,142.70
Net income:	\$17,334.03 (this is fairly typical for this point in our cycle)

A current breakdown of results from the 26th VP Conference shows income of \$84,632 and expenses to date of \$68,672 (exclusive of ongoing Council operational expenses of \$8,844), for net gain of \$15,960. Bob Timm noted that packaging and shipping charges for the 26th Proceedings and duplication charges for the CD version are not yet included; these may total an additional estimated \$2,000 to \$2,500. It appears we'll still be "in the black" for total Conference costs after Proceedings duplication and shipping is completed.

Dennis Orthmeyer moved and Dirk Van Vuren seconded approval of the Business Manager's report. Passed.

Old Business:

2014 Proceedings Bob Timm reported on 26th Proceedings distribution. Hard copies of the Proceedings arrived in Hopland from Whitehall Printing in Florida last Thursday, and copies also have arrived at our vendor, Nebraska Maps and More, in Lincoln. Bob intends to include individual copies of a flyer advertising 27th VP Conference within shipments of individual copies of the Proceeding. Bob had brought copies of the Proceedings and distributed these to all Council members present. The CD has not yet been duplicated, but Bob believes this will be completed within the next 1-2 weeks and available for distribution along with the hard copies.

ICWDM and Proceedings Sales Although Scott Hygnstrom and Steven Vantassel have both left their positions at University of Nebraska, the Maps and More Store is pleased to continue our arrangement with selling our Proceedings through their facility. Roger Baldwin noted that Scott Hygnstrom is working on a strategy for maintaining the multi-sponsored Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management while at his new position at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Approved by Council 3/7/16

2018 VP Conference Location There was no further progress to report at this time. Charlie will continue finalizing this before year's end.

New Business:

2016 Conference Committee Reports

Program Stella McMillin emailed a draft Preliminary Program to Council last week; it needs further input to update information for 2016, and Stella estimates it should be completed within another week or so. Bob Timm indicated he would post it to the VPC website as soon as it becomes available, even though pre-Registration will not be open until sometime in December (according to PAPA's earlier estimate). There was no detailed discussion on mailing the Preliminary Program.

Rex Baker clarified rules from DPR on Continuing Ed credits regarding scheduling concurrent sessions; Stella will consult with Judy Letterman at PAPA in terms of maximizing CE credits in scheduling which sessions are concurrent.

Some abstracts are still coming in; many of these are solicited talks. There are perhaps around 80 oral presentations already submitted. We have 13 or 14 wild pig talks already scheduled. It was noted there may be value in advertising the wild pig session as a separate special symposium; there was general agreement to do this.

Special Symposia

Bird Management – We discussed whether some submitted talks should be placed into the bird symposium, even though they're not strictly "Urban & Agricultural". The consensus was that all bird papers should be grouped together, and name of symposium changed to simply "Bird Management".

Urban Coyotes –Timm reported on speakers that have been confirmed, who's working on invitations (Timm, Schmidt, Orthmeyer, Quinn, Baldwin, & Baker). He noted that speakers for the symposium have been requested to submit manuscripts prior to the Conference to facilitate getting these papers distributed quickly as a group. Robert Schmidt has contacted Mike Conover at USU regarding the possibility of these papers being peer-reviewed and published in Human-Wildlife Interactions. Further consultation needs to occur between the VPC and Conover. We discussed questions about exclusivity of publishing (we hope that if H-WI publishes them first, we will still be able to include them in our Proceedings), page charges of \$100/page required by H-WI, and that individual speaker may choose whether or not to submit their manuscripts to the journal. Video recording of this symposium with a resulting podcast available on the VPC website is also a possibility.

Keynote Speaker (Bob Timm) After discussion among the Executive Board and Stella McMillin, Bob Timm invited Dr. Valerius Geist (retired, Univ. of Calgary, Canada), who has accepted, to speak on the broad topic of wildlife habituation and conflict. Geist may also be invited to give a paper in the Coyote Symposium, where he would likely focus on his work regarding wolves.

Arrangements (Roger Baldwin for Charlie Crabb) Progress is being made in nailing down AV and catering. The hotel room reservation link is already set up and working:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/vpconf2016>

Sponsorship We have none at present, via Charlie. Dennis Orthmeyer and David Kratville will inquire whether CDFA and WS might be willing to be sponsor (likely at a low level).

Approved by Council 3/7/16

Field Trip (Niamh Quinn) A quote from one tour bus company has been received, and it seems reasonable, although she is seeking a second bid. The U.S. Navy wouldn't agree to do demo at location desired. Niamh has sites and speakers identified; 5 stops plus lunch. She still needs to drive the route and confirm timing of stops. Lunch has been arranged at Stonefire Grill; options are \$9 - \$13.56 per person, depending on the menu we choose. The consensus was to go with an option that has chicken breast plus pasta for \$13.56/person based on 80-90 total attendees. Emcees for the two buses are in place.

Publicity (Mike Taber) Nothing to share at this time.

Commercial Displays (Ashley Freeman) One company has already paid; 3 have committed, according to reports provided to Roger.

Posters & Student Presentations/Awards (Kathy Fagerstone) Stella and Roger have been working with Kathy. We have about 8-9 students submissions at present.

Continuing Education (Ed Duarte) Starting to get serious about submitting to DPR. Rex Baker noted that this needs to be submitted in early December so we'll have a count of available credit hours to include for advertising and in the Final Program. Stella will be providing Ed with all titles and speaker names.

Registration (Charlie Crabb) Roger noted that Charlie has been in contact with PAPA regarding doing pre-registration and on-site work. They will handle credit card processing and pass proceeds to our account. They will need 2 of their staff at Registration table on the first day (Tuesday), if that is the way we want to go. Mention was made that we often benefit from setting up the Registration table for those arriving Sunday evening and throughout the day Monday (during and after the field trip). Will await further discussion with PAPA to see when and how many individuals we might wish to provide to assist in covering busy periods at the table.

New Member

Gregory Hacker had previously submitted his request for Council membership along with his CV, which were distributed to Council. Greg was present and briefly discussed his education and background and current duties with CA Dept. of Public Health. Dirk Van Vuren moved, and David Kratville seconded, that Greg be elected to become a Regular (3-year term) member of Council. The vote to accept Greg was unanimous for acceptance.

Next Meeting

As typical, the next meeting of Council will be the Monday evening of Conference (March 7) at our Newport Beach location. More details will be sent regarding time and exact place; a Council dinner with guests/partners is typically held.

Roger Baldwin adjourned the meeting at 10:39 AM.

Draft minutes compiled by Bob Timm and John Eisemann