

WEMINUCHE AUDUBON SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2025

- I. **Call to Order** - Board President Jean Zirnhelt called to order the regular meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society Board of Directors @ 4:03 p.m..
- II. **In Attendance** - In person: Jean Zirnhelt, Diane Cirksena, Keith Bruno, Bob Endres, Anne Stevens, Lisa Tedder, Herb Grover. Via Zoom: Becky Herman.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the March 3, 2025 meeting were corrected to say that Anne would get a long term CD when one of the CDs matures in March. The corrected minutes were accepted.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Anne Stevens reviewed the March 2025 Treasurer's Report. Income \$636.50 (membership dues, National Audubon), Expenses \$150 (Community Foundation, Give a Dam). Total Balance: \$61,997,63 (checking, savings, Ed Jones CDs and cash, petty cash, membership supplies). Anne purchased a \$28,000 two-year CD with the funds from the CD that matured in March.
- V. **New Business** -
 - A. **CSU Naturalist Training Scholarship** - Jean looked at what online courses are available in this program. She suggested offering a scholarship for someone in PWP to take one of the courses. Herb moved that WAS offer two scholarships to members of PWP. Bob seconded (\$250 total). Motion passed,
 - B. **GGP fundraiser** - The GGP will be screening a film called "Common Ground" at the Liberty Theater April 22 (Earth Day). The "Pagosa is My Name" film (Diane and Darryl Saffer produced) will be shown also. Keith, as a Board member of the GGP, requested a donation for the event. Lisa moved that WAS donate \$250 to help support the film fundraiser. Diane seconded. Motion approved.
- VI. **Old Business** -
 - A. **Bird Camp Scholarship** - No students have applied for the scholarship to attend the bird camp. We will have to forfeit \$100 of our deposit to cancel. Keith will try to ask Connor again.
 - B. **Project Updates** -
 1. **Dipper Monitoring** - Bob reported that the Hot Springs Blvd. nest is being built and there is some activity at the Piedra River bridge. Several people are going out to observe the sites regularly.
 2. **Bird Monitoring Project** - Herb revised the Sixth Year Report that he will present at the April chapter meeting. Herb discussed the benefit of doing a yearly report and Keith mentioned training some groups in Durango or Montezuma who have shown interest in starting a similar program in their areas. Keith mentioned that Chris Couch (San Juan Mountain School

science teacher) would like to take some students to a site in May. Keith will present at a 232 meeting in May.

3. **Pagosa Wetland Partners** - Linda Moser has recruited some new four volunteers.
4. **Shore Bird Survey** - April 25 will be the first survey. Keith and Jean are developing plans to travel there.
5. **Native Plant Garden** - Need to do a clean-up before Earth Day. Anne will organize the date.

C. PARC Update - Bob reported that at the meeting he attended, they discussed concerns with dispersed camping sites in the forests and how to discourage it. Bob sent a summary of the meeting to all board members. Keith attended a different meeting with a focus on Turkey Springs. They summarized other discussions about other trails around town.

D. Earth Day Events -

1. Durango - April 12 - Keith and Mary Muser will represent WAS at a table there. They will provide information on Audubon and window bird strike prevention materials from two different companies (Kaleidescape and Feather Friendly). Anne will send the \$25 registration fee for the event.
2. **Pagosa Springs** - April 19 - Chuck wants to demonstrate plastic bottle bird feeders. Keith will present the same information on window bird strike prevention. Anne will write the check for \$15 for booth registration to SOS.

E. Chapter Meeting Programs -

1. April - Bird Monitoring and other volunteer projects
2. May - Birding by Ear
3. June - Annual Meeting

F. Chapter Goals Review -

1. Organize outings - Shorebird survey has been organized
2. Community Scientists - Bird monitoring program
3. Activities for diverse interests and abilities - Global Bird Day event at Capote being organized and Chris Couch may be able to get some students to one of the BMP sites. Keith has been talking to a Senior Center person about doing a mindful bird activity.

VII. Adjournment - The next WAS Board meeting will be on May 5, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church and via Zoom. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Lisa Tedder