

**WEMINUCHE AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**July 7, 2025**

- I. **Call to Order** - Board President Jean Zirnhelt called to order the regular meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society Board of Directors @ 4:00 p.m.
- II. **Attendance** - In person - Jean Zirnhelt, Diane Cirksena, Anne Stevens, Herb Grover, Lisa Tedder, Bob Endres, Becky Herman. Absent - Keith Bruno.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The June 2, 2025 meeting minutes were approved.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** - Income \$2259 (membership dues, bird camp refund, donations and gifts, t-shirt sales). Expenses \$0.00. Total Balances \$64,416.06 (checking, CDs, petty cash, membership supplies).
- V. **New Business**
  - A. John Porco is involved with the Tracks Across Borders (TAB) project. John was contacted by a willow expert about a rare willow discovered by a Forest Service worker near tracks on Cumbres Pass in hopes the willow would not be damaged during renovation work. This is one of 18 different willow species in Colorado.
  - B. **Shore Bird Survey** - The national dates for the Audubon ShoreBird Survey are August 9 - 22, 2025. When Keith gets back, he will arrange a date for the WAS survey.
  - C. **Offers for Volunteer Work** - Steve Ogden sent his resume. He would like to do some volunteer work for Audubon. Some suggestions were to work on nature center development, native plant garden brochure, bioblitz organizer. Diane suggested talking to him to learn what he has in mind and what our needs might be that he could work on. Jean was also contacted by a Wyndham employee who would like to do some volunteer work that Wyndham would pay him for. Diane suggested we ask both to come meet with us next month.
  - D. **ACC** - Becky mentioned she and John will attend the ACC meeting in Denver next month.
- VI. **Old Business**
  - A. **Annual Meeting Review/Elections** - Lisa and Anne were re-elected. Low attendance. Diane suggested changing the format to attract more attendance.
  - B. **WEP Project Update** - Herb said the Pagosa Gateway project will start in September. Project will finish and revegetation will start early spring 2026. Vegetation monitoring will be done for five years. Herb is on that committee.
  - C. **Project Updates** -
    1. Dipper Monitoring - Still monitoring East Fork and West Fork

2. Bird Monitoring - The seventh year of monitoring is done. Had two night hawk sightings at Jackson Mountain.
3. PWP - Lisa reported that Joan spoke to the new volunteer guides about the water monitoring program.

**D. Collaborative Meetings -**

1. Navigating the Loss of Federal Funding - Headwaters funding and MSI fundings are being lost/reduced. Bobby Milford called for a meeting to try to get groups that need money to form a system to coordinate grants applications to not interfere with each other, trying to figure out how to navigate the loss of federal funds.

**E. Chapter Meetings -**

1. July - Patti Spindler will speak about aquatic macroinvertebrates.
2. Herb suggested the August meeting be held at the campground he manages, Blanco River Group Campground. It is available August 20. Activities could include birding, bat monitoring, night sky viewing, camping.

**F. Goals Review -** Becky is still pursuing a senior birding activity. Herb's suggested camping outing would fit into the goal of organizing group outings.

**VII. Adjournment -** The next WAS Board meeting will be held August 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church and via Zoom. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Tedder