

## **Board Meeting Minutes – Saturday, Oct 28, 2006**

Old business topics revisited for progress at this board meeting included membership, rabies species vector proposal, committee membership, WRC relationship, education permits and newsletter. New business topics included upgrading the WRNC website, symposium t-shirts, board elections and the upcoming SC symposium.

Membership discussion focused on the upcoming letter campaign targeting veterinary practices. The Continuing Education for Veterinary Practitioners committee (CHECK OFFICIAL COMMITTEE NAME) has drafted letters and brochure content. A graphic artist is needed to help with content creation. The initial Oct. 1 deadline for mailings was not met due to shifts in the committee membership. The board hopes to renew the effort in early 2007 with additional committee members. Also the board voted to purchase mailing labels for vet practices in NC from the NC Veterinary Medical Association at 6 cents a label per practice. NCVMA maintains an up to date database of vet practice addresses. Also discussed was checking that the brochure the WRC sends out with state licenses and renewals is up to date.

The board reviewed and finalized the wording for the three letters on rabies vectors species rehabilitation that will be sent to animal control organizations, health departments and commissioners in the state of NC. The first two groups will receive their letters, and then a pause to collect feedback will occur before the final letters are sent to commissioners. The board voted to fund the stamped return postcards that will go with the letters to animal control organizations.

The following changes have occurred in committee membership. Niemette Soli has stepped down from the Federal Permits for Birds committee. Mathias Engelmann has stepped down from the Continuing Ed (CHECK OFFICIAL NAME) committee. Jennifer Gordon will replace Sally Davis on the Newsletter committee. WRNC thanks those individuals stepping down for their contributions. The key committee issue that remains before the board at the end of today's meeting is who will chair the Continuing Ed (CHECK NAME) committee.

WRNC's relationship with WRC continues to grow. WRC has placed a link to our symposium information on their website and will be posting the WRNC logo on their website as well in the near future.

Beth Knapp-Tyner reviewed her action item regarding interpretation of class C licenses from the USDA. Her information on this is in the last newsletter. In short, "a USDA/APHIS Class C license is required if commerce is affected in any way" (GET CITATION FROM BETH AND OR LINK TO OLD NEWSLETTER).

The board revisited the costs associated with producing hard copies of the quarterly newsletter. Membership dues are not designed to pay for hard copy newsletter production. A hard copy of each newsletter sent to a member each year would cost (GET COST FROM BETH). As our newsletter grows in page number this cost only increases. Annual membership cost is Y. The move to the electronic format enables WRNC to put membership dues previously used for newsletter production towards x, y, z, (GET A GOOD LIST FROM BETH). The electronic format also enables WRNC to produce a vastly superior newsletter with more content and links to additional content available on the web. We are no longer restricted to a page number nor do we use costly resources like paper, stamps, and the human effort involved with printing, addressing and collating

newsletters for the entire membership. We understand that there are a small number of members that still desire to have a hard copy of the newsletter and are not in a position to view or print them off the web. Therefore we offer the option to purchase the newsletter in addition to membership dues at a cost of X. We also understand that there are members who need some assistance in accessing the newsletter and printing it. Therefore we have written a how-to article in this newsletter (REF PAGE – JEAN’S ARTICLE). Starting with the first newsletter post-symposium in 2007, the default for all members will be the electronic newsletter. If you desire to receive a hard copy you can register for this when you renew your membership.

(BRENDA – THE BOARD ALSO DISCUSSED THE IDEA OF PLACING A FOOTER AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER ON A REGULAR BASIS THAT GIVES AN ESTIMATE OF THE COSTS FOR HARD COPY PRODUCTION – BETH can help with the wording of this)

The WRNC website will be upgraded to include database functionality. This will enable interactive form production for tasks like online update of address information by members and creation of a member-only area on the website. The board voted to provide the funding, an increase from \$10/month to \$12/month, to pay for this functionality.

Megan X? (Name needed from Linda Bergman) suggested that WRNC design and sell a symposium t-shirt. The board discussed that this may compete with some of the vendors who sell t-shirts at symposium. Also discussed were the several weeks lead-time needed for t-shirt production and the cost outlay required in order to make the t-shirts affordable to members. The board voted to run a t-shirt design competition at the 2007 symposium, for a t-shirt that would debut at the 2008 symposium. This will give enough lead time for the general membership to get involved in the process, vendors to know our intentions and also planning time for pre-orders and t-shirt production. The intent would not be to compete with our vendors but to still have an opportunity for our membership to be involved with designing and proudly wearing a WRNC keepsake for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual symposium.

Board elections will be held as usual at the general meeting at symposium. The terms of the following people’s terms expire in 2006: Sally Davis, Carla Johnson, and Toni O’Neil. Carla and Toni will be re-running for their positions. Sally Davis graduates from veterinary school at NCSU CVM this coming spring and unfortunately will likely be leaving NC to continue her studies in infectious disease and pathology. For future reference, following people’s terms expire in 2007: Mathias Engelmann, Beth Knapp-Tyner, and Elizabeth Hanrahan. The following people’s terms expire in 2008: Jennifer Gordon, Linda Bergman, Jean Chamberlain, Bobby Schopler and Mary Weiss. Also all officer positions will be up for internal board election. Please check out the biographies of the candidates running for your board in 2007 (REF TO SECTION OF NEWSLETTER).

Finally, WRNC is helping South Carolina with their first symposium. Jennifer Gordon, Mathias Engelmann, Beth Knapp-Tyner and Toni O’Neil will all attend as speakers. The board also discussed the possibility of a SC resident board member in WRNC. Elizabeth Hanrahan suggested that board members must be NC residents but that it may be appropriate in the future to have an ex officio board member from a neighboring state. This topic was tabled until the event of a non-resident requesting board membership.