

BOARD MEETING 05/13/26

13 May 2026 / 7:00 PM Meeting start

INTRODUCTIONS - MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Dostal, Rob Pendergast, Susan Schuller, Willow Pingel, Sarah Wood, Scott Reilly, Brad Branwell-Zinda, Amiee Wetmore, Bob Lane, Luke Trittelwitz, Janet Smith, Emily Ritter, Jackie Mather, Kelsey Bell

Guests: Anne & Larry Graham

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- **Janet Smith**
 - Masters in Natural Resources & Wildlife from University of Michigan; studied bald eagles for thesis
 - Many environmental focused jobs: taught at UWSP, worked at Fort McCoy, DOT, North Central Conservancy Trust
 - Retired a few years ago, still on NCCT and ALAS boards

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- **Announcements**
 - **Tomorrow River Water Trail** Would like to put signs at boat landings of Tomorrow River w/brochures that will direct people to nearby towns and keep them updated about high water warnings
 - Please write letter in support of this

NOTES

- **Approval of Agenda**
 - Motion to approve amendments to agenda by Brad B-Z., seconded by Bob L., motion carried & approved
- **Approval of Minutes from April 08, 2026** Motion to approve April meeting minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes (4/08/26) as written by Karen D., seconded by Brad B-Z.; motion carried & approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

- **Allocation of Discretionary Funds**
 - \$4000 as target
 - CWES camper (\$500), Central WI Kestrel Project (\$600), Raptor Services Mill Creek (\$500), WI Conservation HOF membership (\$200), WI Conservation Voters membership (\$250), REGI (\$600), WI Natural Resources Foundation membership (\$500), Loon Rescue (\$600), Prairie Chicken Project (\$250), Save Our Songbirds (\$250), Lights Out Coalition (\$250)
 - Motion to approve discretionary donation allocations by Janet S., seconded by Rob P.; motion carried & approved.
- **Sam Magnussen requesting donation to help support CWES students insect education**
 - Pins, papers, forceps, collection jars
 - Asking \$498.87
 - Motion to approve by Emily R.; seconded by Sarah W.; motion carried & approved
- **Approval of Policy**
 - Community Foundation Accounts
 - Policy donations not intended for designated Endowment will be deposited in the Agency account
 - Motion to approve policy as written by Karen D.; seconded by Janet S.; motion carried & approved

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Prairie Chicken Field Trip (Brad B. & Susan S.)

- \$700 to cover blind fees, we collected \$500 from participants
- Motion to cover the \$200 cost by Bob L.; seconded by Amiee W.; motion carried & approved

Aldo Leopold Shack Visit & International Crane Foundation Fees

- \$150 expense for Shack Tour for up to 20 people; \$100 more if we go over
- Asking people to pay their own entrance to ICF
- Motion to pay for up to \$250 dollars for this trip as needed by Brad B-Z.; seconded by Bob L.; discussion; motion carried & approved.

Programs for Next Year (Bob L., Karen D., Luke T., Brad B-Z.)

- Results from voting were shared. The committee will work this summer to schedule programs.

Update from Nomination Committee (Scott R. & Willow P.)

- New board member Kelsey will be voted in next week

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Update From the Naming Committee (Brad B-Z. & Susan S.)

- Meeting soon and over the summer

Membership Coordinator Update

- Jackie Mather taking over data element
- Still need someone to send digital newsletter & online component
- Still need log-in info for National

Update on Birding by Ear Request From ADRC (Karen D.)

- 1st meeting on Wednesday the 20th 1p.m.

Update on Collisions Proposal Submitted to Schmeeckle (Susan S., Emily R. & Sarah W.)

- Risk Management: Need to hire company to do it with University approval

Request for Experts @ Bioblitz

- Near Mauston, August 1st

Sarah Wood Grad Research Presentation

- Thursday May 13th – Come out to support her!

Sarah Wood Update on Walk With Vinny Miresse

- Went really well, lots of productive conversation

Upcoming Events & Programs

- **Presenter (Karen D. & Bob L.)** Mary Jo Fleming, nature journaling
- **Field Trips (Susan S.)**
 - Wyalusing Camping Trip – Rob only one to show up but he had a good time
 - What's Up On The Bluff? – 15 people, trilliums, dutchman's breeches, drizzly then sunny, and saw newts!
 - June Kestrel Banding
 - July Leopold Shack
 - August Horicon Marsh
- **Weekly Walks (Rob P.)**
 - Record turnout of 29 people on April 29th
- **Bird Banding at Schmeeckle**
 - Sat 23rd, one person signed up
- **Madison Elementary School Update**
 - Raised their goal for outdoor classroom!

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Conservation (Rob P.)

- Removed garlic mustard, knapweed & barberry

Website (Anthony M.)

- Nothing to report

Field Trips (Brad B.)

- Get in touch with Brad if you'd like to be on committee

Publicity (Willow P.)

- Kelsey wants to help!

Membership (Amiee W. & Now Jackie Mather)

- Jackie in charge of membership from here on out

Education (Bob L.)

- Grant request we discussed
- Bird glass info getting out to residences
- Garden parade morning of July 11th

Newsletter (Lora H. & Susan S.)

- Newsletter Deadline: 8/28 TBD?

Meeting adjourned 8:50 PM