Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Administrative Officers Workshop (WAFWA-AOW) and Conservation Business Managers Association (CBMA) Joint Workshop held September 17-20, 2018 In South Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Executive Summary

The 2018 WAFWA-AOW/CBMA Joint Workshop was held September 17-20, 2018 at the Harrah’s Lake Tahoe Hotel and Casino, Nevada. There were 49 sponsors in attendance from 14 companies and 161 conference attendees from the following states:

Arkansas   Nevada
Arizona   New Jersey
California   New Mexico
Idaho   Oklahoma
Indiana   Oregon
Kansas   Pennsylvania
Louisiana   South Dakota
Maryland   Tennessee
Michigan   Texas
Minnesota   Utah
Mississippi   Washington
Missouri   West Virginia
Montana   Wyoming
Nebraska

The meeting opened Tuesday with keynote speaker Donna Hartley, “Fire Up Your Life!” and welcome messages from Nevada Department of Wildlife and WAFWA. The attendees then chose two breakout sessions to attend from the following topics: “Fire-up your speaking!”, “Waves of Trust” and “A Tale of Monsters In Our Midst” on Gila Monsters in Nevada.

Wednesday started with another keynote speaker Dave Chanda (RBFF)-“R3 & Why It Is Important”. And attendees were given a presentation on the Karelian bear dog program in Nevada. The attendees spoke highly of the keynote speakers and found the breakout sessions and dog presentations very beneficial and helpful for their everyday lives at work.

Committee breakout sessions were held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning & afternoons as well as Thursday morning for the following panels: Accounting & Audit, Administration & Budget, Information Technology, Licensing, Human Resources and Procurement. The attendees thoroughly enjoyed this part of the conference and were able to establish points of contact for future discussions.

The business meeting was held Thursday morning. There were several representatives from both WAFWA and CBMA states. All agreed to develop a schedule for the host/co-host states for 2019-2031 conferences which will be posted on the fwao.org web site.

Looking ahead to next year was discussed as potential agenda items:
Governance structures, should IT be under x, department level. How many R3 coordinators does each agency have? Succession Planning, Records Management, Recovering America’s Wildlife Act, ELS update, License types, which states use 365, Specific Licensing topics for joint sessions, future funding for conservation challenges, AFWA Ed & Outreach, branded message to jointly put out, conservation needs grant to implement plan, success stories from each state, challenges, R3

During the Closing Session Thursday morning, each panel gave a synopsis of their discussions which will be posted on the fwao.org web site.

Oklahoma, as the next host state, welcomed the attendees to the 2019 conference to be held September 9-12 in Durant.

WAFWA-AOW 2018 Budget

Revenue

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Cash Balance</td>
<td>40,864.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Fees</td>
<td>39,175.00</td>
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<td>Vendor Fees/Donations</td>
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<td>Total Revenues</td>
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Expenses

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<td>Food/AV/Hotel/Tour</td>
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<td>Business Operations</td>
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<td>Speakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
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Ending Balance 54,837.28