

THE SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
AND OFFICERS AT THE 62ND ANNUAL MEETING,
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, USA
THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2015

Present: Raelynn Deaton Haynes, Michael Dixon, Robert Dowler, Mark Eberle, Stanley Fox, Michelle Haynie, John Hunt, Mandy Husak, Michael Husak, Dan Hough, Michael Kennedy, Celia López-González, Sara B. González-Pérez, David McNeely, Austin Osmanski, Susana Perea-Fox, María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz, Gary Schnell, Phil Sudman, Juliann Waits, Paula Williamson, Karen McBee, Susana Perea-Fox, Loren Ammerman, David Heins, Enrique Santoyo-Brito.

President Celia López-González called the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists (SWAN) to order at 1300 h with a quorum of Officers and Governors present. The Board of Governors (BOG) approved the minutes of the meeting of the BOG and Officers and the minutes of the Business Meeting for the 61st Annual Meeting at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma (published in *The Southwestern Naturalist* volume 59(4), and available on the SWAN webpage at <http://www.biosurvey.ou.edu/swan/>).

Treasurer Michael Dixon announced that he may need to step down from the treasurer's position, or he would like the Board of Governors to consider splitting the position into a two-person job to lessen the workload for the treasurer. He then gave an overview of the budget for 2014, outlined as follows: the total income was \$87,683, with \$20,533 from dues (mainly subscriptions to the journal), \$15,602 from contributions to the society, \$13,200 from page charges, \$264 from back issues and \$38,084 from miscellaneous sources (primarily royalties). Expenses totaled \$77,765 and included \$1,300 for treasurer's expenses, \$10,542 from editorial expenses, and \$40,480 for journal printing (Allen Press). These expenses included printing of three volumes: 58(3)–59(1). Additional expenses included \$21,199 for Wilks, Hubbs, and McCarley student awards, nearly \$10,000 for the Bruce Stewart student travel awards, \$418 for Student Advisory Committee, \$200 for AIBS dues, \$3,494 for merchant card fees, and \$132 for returned check fees. It was brought to the attention of the Board that non-US students need to receive cash for their travel reimbursements, as many of them do not have checking accounts.

The society began the year with \$54,920, a bit behind previous years due to monies allocated for back publica-

tions of the journal. *The Southwestern Naturalist* has been behind in publications but should be caught up in full this year. Income over expenses was \$9,918 with an ending check book balance of \$64,838. Much of this will go to Allen Press for 2015.

S. Perea-Fox asked where the money generated from the annual meeting (meeting proceeds) goes, and M. Dixon explained that almost \$20,000 goes to the Board of Trustees. That money is then moved into the investment accounts. R. Dowler asked about the average costs per journal issue, and M. Dixon explained that, while an exact amount is difficult to predict, it ranged from \$12,000–\$13,000 per issue; however, this amount likely will increase to around \$18,000–\$19,000 with the addition of Allen Press services. D. McNeely asked about the money from the student awards; Dixon showed a spreadsheet with those details. Dixon then explained that \$19,167 will be moved to investments. Had this money been moved this year, we would be short \$10,000, but the society has about a \$50,000 buffer for the journal because the journal is behind schedule. A discussion then ensued regarding splitting the treasurer job into two positions. R. Dowler commented that this year was more complicated for the treasurer because of the journal back-log. In addition, PayPal was instituted for the society, and student memberships fluctuate greatly. S. Fox suggested this issue be revisited under new business. Dixon explained that he has an idea of how to facilitate this split. A. Osmanski is basically already doing the job of managing student memberships. Dixon proposed the possibility of A. Osmanski simply taking over that position. He was not sure if Mr. Osmanski, who is a graduate student, is allowed to be in this position, or if the position must be filled by a non-student member. Dixon also suggested the alternate possibility of managing memberships through Allen Press' membership service. M. Dixon stated that this would be more expensive. Discussion ensued about which other organizations are using Allen Press or other companies to manage memberships and costs associated with this addition.

The Trustees report was given by R. Dowler on behalf of Jake Schaefer (Chair–Jake Schaefer; Members–Robert Dowler, Loren Ammerman). Before the report was given, M. Kennedy suggested a round of

applause for the Trustee Committee for their stellar work. R. Dowler gave J. Schaefer credit for doing most of the work. R. Dowler proposed that the meeting proceeds get passed to the Trustees one month after the meeting, so that the money can be invested. He explained that keeping large funds in the society's checking account is not profitable. P. Sudman suggested two scheduled transfer of payments—June and December of each year. R. Dowler explained that the low numbers this year suggest that the society could be “in the red” for the meeting. M. Dixon then explained that there is a buffer of about \$1,000 to offset expenses for the meeting. S. Fox commented that he does not think this is much of an issue and proposed to transfer \$6,000 from the Student Naturalist fund since this is an unused quantity in the budget. A discussion ensued about the history of this fund, which was unclear among the BOG members present. S. Fox asked if these funds can be placed into the Student Field Natural History Award fund. C. Gonzales made a motion to transfer these funds into the Student Field Natural History Award and to change the name of that fund accordingly. K. McBee moved that the two funds be combined into one, and G. Schnell moved that the \$6,000 be transferred to the Wilks Student Award funds because the Wilks covers a number of different awards. R. Dowler asked if there was a reason to keep the Student Naturalist Fund separate and the general consensus was no. Thus, the final motion was made by R. Dowler to move the Student Naturalist fund to the Wilks Student Award fund, and maintain that 6.7% of the societies' investments go to student awards. The motion was seconded by P. Williamson and voted yes by the BOG.

D. McNeely requested that the Board consider different options for bank accounts, such as those that might generate more revenue than typical bank accounts. He suggested both offices (treasurer and trustees) consider a money market in lieu of or in addition to a checking account and P. Sudman explained that, while there may be more constraints associated with money markets, he is willing to look more into the option. After a discussion, it was concluded that funds can also be pulled from the trustee account and moved into the checking account. R. Dowler will talk to the Trustees about how to best manage the money. L. Ammerman pointed out that her term has ended (2014) and this position needs to be filled. This will be brought back up under new business. D. McNeely made a motion to respectfully request that the Board of Trustees be commended for their efforts, but that they also remain reasonably conservative in their investments at this time of high market volatility. This motion was seconded by D. Heins and approved by the BOG.

The Conservation Committee report was given by Celia López-González for Flo Oxley (Chair—Flo Oxley; Members—Jack Eitniew, Jennifer Frey, Fausto Mendez de la Cruz, Kendra Phelps). López-González made the motion that the BOG accept the nomination for the Sutton Award. A discussion ensued about whether the award should be announced at the Business Meeting or at the banquet. P. Williamson suggested that we decide formally how we will announce the winners of the Sutton Awards. Williamson then moved that the BOG approve the committee's nomination for the Sutton Award. This motion was seconded by K. McBee and approved by the BOG. A discussion then occurred regarding reading the names of the winners and the minutes at the Business Meeting. A decision was made to wait to read the names of the winners at the banquet instead of the Business Meeting. The reading of the minutes from the BOG meeting would be abbreviated and summarized by the Secretary at the Business Meeting.

The Student Awards Committee report was given by Raelynn Deaton Haynes (Chair—Raelynn Deaton Haynes; Members—Michelle Haynie, Juliann Waits, Adam Ferguson, Monte Thies, Christopher Higgins). Haynes reported that SWAN received 29 proposals for the 2015 McCarley research grant competition (compared to 33 in 2014), comprising 9 PhD (two from Mexico), 14 MS, and 6 undergraduate proposals. Representative universities include: Oklahoma State University, Texas State University, St. Edward's University, Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Texas A&M University, University of Arizona, Wichita State University, and Angelo State University. The committee proposes to fund 8 students at \$1,000 each—4 PhD proposals, 2 MS proposals, and 2 undergraduate proposals. Winning PhD proposals ranked 1, 2, 3, and 7 overall, winning MS proposals ranked 5 and 11 overall, and winning undergraduate proposals ranked 4, and 6 overall. Finally, Haynes reported that there are 14 posters competing in the Hubbs poster competition this year. Haynes asked the BOG to approve posting of sample grant proposals (from past winners) online and the BOG approved. Haynes also asked if the BOG had strong feelings about one versus two letters of recommendation for student grants. She suggested that one letter would streamline the proposal process and make student applications less arduous for supporting faculty, but the BOG favors two letters rather than one. It was suggested that Haynes add a short section on the webpage about expectations for letters of recommendations with a few bullets of what should be included by the faculty mentor.

The Membership Committee Report was given by Austin Osmanski as part of the treasurer's report

(Chair–Michelle Haynie; Members–Nicté Ordóñez-Garza, Mandy Husak, Greg Wilson). Osmanski reported that overall membership has decreased, but student membership has increased. Donations have also decreased. A decrease in membership may be due to the journal being behind. Osmanski posed the question to the BOG to consider: “How can we increase our membership?” P. Sudman suggested that each person on the BOG request *The Southwestern Naturalist* be sent to their library. Other suggestions were to charge more for those who want to receive a hard-copy of the journal. Osmanski explained that he is asking for feedback from people as they renew their membership. Osmanski explained that the Membership Committee has developed an action plan to tackle decreased membership, which entails making a pamphlet to promote the society. The committee put forth a proposal for funds of \$500 to help pay for the pamphlet, primarily for mailing costs. The committee also will need funds for printing the pamphlet. The pamphlet will include a summary of the society, pictures, membership information and benefits of joining the society. Osmanski will work with the Membership Committee led by M. Haynie to make sure that the list of benefits is comprehensive to best promote the society. M. Dixon pointed out that President’s fund has some discretionary money, and can be used by the committee if the President agrees.

R. Dowler asked to whom the pamphlets will be disseminated? Osmanski explained that the Student Advisory Committee developed a list of 80 individuals who are not currently members and that those individuals will certainly be targeted. G. Schnell recommended that we put an e-version of the pamphlet on the SWAN website. The question of how to reach out to non-members of SWAN was also broached. P. Sudman suggested the society move the deadline to 1 Oct for honorary student memberships. M. Dixon suggested that we not limit the number of honorary memberships. P. Sudman recommended that we compromise this year and see what the numbers look like and then make a decision regarding the number of honorary memberships. Sudman also suggested that we have a membership “drive” this year to encourage new members, and draft a “thank you” letter that goes out to individuals after they renew their memberships. Sudman suggested that this will help make better connections with individuals. A discussion ensued about the “nuts and bolts” of sending out this letter in terms of technical and logistical coordination.

At this time, a 15 minute break was taken and the BOG agreed to resume the meeting at 1530 h. Directly following the break, T. Reeder announced to the BOG that 125 people were present at the meeting and that

there were 6-8 extra banquet and museum tickets. He also stated that buses would be available to shuttle people to Balboa Park for the picnic, and that the banquet would start at 1900 h.

The Development Committee report was given by David Heins (Co-chairs–Jake Schaefer and David Heins; Members–Robert Dowler, Phil Sudman, Caryn Vaughn). D. Heins reported that while the committee did not meet in 2014, it has several initiatives that it continues to advocate. First, there is a push for lifetime memberships, including electronic-only lifetime memberships at a reduced cost. The committee hopes to initiate a study to determine the per-member cost of producing the paper version of the journal. Future dues structure (regular and lifetime) could include options for electronic journal access only. Second, the committee wants to include specific donation amounts on dues notices (\$10, \$20, \$50 and “other”). In addition to suggested donation amounts, streamlining the dues payment system (e.g. PayPal) will facilitate processing of payments. Third, the committee wants to help in recruitment and retention of members. While institutional online access to the journal increases, the Long Range Planning Committee should identify and, where necessary, propose tangible benefits for members. Finally, the committee will continue to use silent auctions or raffles at annual meetings to raise funds. The results of the silent auctions and the allocation of these funds need to be announced and included in annual reports. A silent auction was held at the 2014 annual meeting. Heins also mentioned the possibility of combining committees in order to streamline some activities due to overlap.

The Program Committee report was read by Celia López-González for Beth Leuck (Chair–Beth Leuck; Members–Ricardo Ayala Barajas, Neil Ford, María de Lourdes Lozano-Vilano, William L. Lutterschmidt, William J. Matthews, Jesús Rodríguez-Romero, O.W. Van Auken). In her report, Leuck stated that the 2016 Southwestern Association of Naturalists meeting will be held in Mexico City, Mexico. Cornelio Sánchez-Hernández and María de Lourdes Romero of UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) will serve as local committee co-chairs. The 2017 meeting will be held at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, with Mike and Mandy Husak serving as local committee co-chairs. Host institutions for 2018 and 2019 have been tentatively identified, but commitments for those years are not yet confirmed. Paula Williamson said it may be possible to hold the 2018 meeting in San Marcos, possibly in conjunction with San Antonio. B. Leuck asked that members consider hosting future SWAN meetings, and to reach out to other institutions that may be interested. Please contact anyone on the Program Committee if you

are willing to host a future meeting. She stressed that SWAN is always looking for future host institutions.

Leuck also noted in the report that the Program Chair (Leuck) has started a spreadsheet with attendance data from the annual meetings beginning with data from the 2014 meetings in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Data include number of participants pre-registering and registering at annual meetings, the number of banquet, picnic, and field trip(s) tickets purchased, and T shirts sold. These data should assist with planning future SWAN meetings. She also stated that the Program Manual underwent no revisions this year. However, the committee welcomes comments or suggestions from others that will help keep the manual current and useful to future host institutions.

The Historian's report was given by Karen McBee (Chair–Karen McBee). K. McBee announced that she had no new business to report at this time but that she continues to collect SWAN memorabilia and houses them in the University of Oklahoma Southwestern Collections.

The Public Relations Committee report was submitted by John Hunt (Chair–John Hunt; Members–Stan Ghert, Meredith Hamilton, Renn Tumilson), but not read at the Board of Governors meeting.

The International Relations Committee report was given by María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz (Co-chairs–María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz, Susana Perea-Fox; Members–Stanley Fox, Robert Edwards, Michael Kennedy, Ricardo Ayala, Felipe de Jesús Rodríguez-Romero, Cornelio Sánchez-Hernández, Nikki Smith, Nicté Ordóñez-Garza). Romero-Almaraz reported that a change was made in one committee member. Sara González-Pérez is replacing Nikki Smith, with the approval of President Celia López-González. Committee members welcomed Sara to the committee.

María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz also gave the report for The Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award Sub-Committee (Chair–María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz; Members–Susana Perea-Fox, Felipe de Jesús Rodríguez-Romero, Stanley Fox). The committee agreed that students who win the Bruce Stewart Travel Award should attend the talks at meetings and fully participate. The committee has improved the website application form for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Awards. It now requires students who receive the award to present receipts of payments for membership, airplane ticket/gasoline expenses, and hotel at the time they register on-site for the meeting. Also, students should acknowledge the Bruce Stewart award in their presentations/posters.

Romero-Almaraz reported that this year travel funds were limited to students from outside the USA. SWAN received 22 applications for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Awards, one from Texas and 21 from Mexico. Of the submissions from Mexico, 1 was from Baja California, 2 from Yucatán, 4 from Chihuahua, and 14 from the

Mexico City region. SWAN could not award the application from Texas, but did award 15 applications to students of 9 professors. Awards ranged from \$400 to \$790, totaling \$10,000.

The Website Committee Report was given by Dan Hough (Chair–Dan Hough; Members–Stanley Fox, Jake Schaefer, Mark Eberle, Caryn Vaughn). Hough reported more traffic this year than last year on the SWAN website. Fox asked about the PayPal issue and whether the problems have been resolved. Others asked if the society needs to use PayPal? It was stated that using PayPal does save us money, when it works. Hough said he will look into this matter. L. Ammerman asked about revamping the SWAN website. Hough said that the OU Biological Survey website is currently being revamped, and he needs to get that finished before he moves on to work on the SWAN website. Hough noted that he may be able to implement some of the same modernizations for SWAN that he is doing for the OU website, but that it will take around \$3,000 (or more) to do this.

The Student Advisory Committee (SAC) report was given by Austin Osmanski (Co-chairs–Austin Osmanski and Enrique Santoyo-Brito; Members–Adam Simpson, Emma K. Roberts, Lynne E. Beatty, Ali Ituriel Villanueva-Hernández, Jared White). Osmanski announced new members of the committee with their respective affiliation and areas of research interest. New members include: Sergio Balaguera-Reina (Ph.D. student, Texas Tech University, Reptiles), Fernando Salgado Mejía (Ph.D. student, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Xochimilco, Mammals), Laramie Lindsey (Ph.D. student, Texas Tech University, Mammals), Danielle Alba (Ph.D. student, Oklahoma State University, Fishes), and Ashley Knoch (Ph.D. student, Oklahoma State University, Invertebrates).

Osmanski announced that the SAC has produced a draft amendment to the SWAN Bylaws to allow one student to officially serve as a voting member on the Board of Governors. K. McBee reminded BOG that constitution and bylaws have not been evaluated since 1985. P. Williamson brought forth the idea of a designated student member for the BOG, and D. McNeely recommended that the committee write up a proposal, and in the meantime, nominate a student at the Business Meeting—that student will need to serve 3 years.

Osmanski also announced that the SAC will offer a workshop at the 2015 San Diego SWAN meeting entitled, “Pitch it in five!” Participants will learn how to communicate, in five minutes or less, the most relevant aspects of their own research to colleagues or the public. The workshop will take place on Friday at lunchtime. The committee will again be hosting the Lunch with a Scientist program this year and asked that board members who would like to take a few students out to

lunch and provide some casual mentoring, please sign up in the lobby. Lunch with a Scientist will take place on Saturday; we have a \$10 meal stipend for everyone who participates in the event.

The SAC generated a list of schools and local naturalist groups to recruit from for the 2015 meeting. Ali Ituriel asked to step down as SWAN's Facebook page administrator; Santoyo-Brito has been answering questions and posting information with regard to the Association and the meeting in San Diego.

In conjunction with the Membership Committee, SAC has created a web-based form for Honorary Student Membership applications. SWAN allows for 30 honorary student memberships per year. In 2013, SAC used 12, and in 2012 it used 9. The goal of the improved online form is to increase the number of honorary student memberships given. SAC plans to get this up and running by the time the 2015 issues are being mailed out.

The SAC together with the Membership Committee would like to propose the creation of a travel fund this year: the "Honorary Student Travel Fund". The fund will help defray travel and meeting expenses of those students with a Student Honorary Membership. This idea is based on the need to increase the number of students and retain them as members of SWAN.

Finally, Osmanski thanked Ali Ituriel Villanueva Hernandez for his helpfulness in organizing the SWAN Facebook page for the past 3 years as well as Michelle Haynie from the Membership Committee for helping the students over the past year.

The Wilks Committee report was given by Phil Sudman (Chair–Phil Sudman; Members–Jesús Fernández, Michael Husak, Ray Willis). Sudman announced that there were eight total applications received (compared to nine in 2014) from six different institutions, with seven from the US and one from Mexico. Initial review of the applications by the committee resulted in invitations for five of the applicants to compete for the two awards. These five presentations will be given at the plenary session at our annual meeting on 3 April. The committee will select the two winners based on a combination of their research summary and oral presentations and will be announced at the Annual Banquet.

Robert Dowler gave the report for the *ad hoc* Committee on Disposition of Back Issues of *The Southwestern Naturalist* (Chair–Robert Dowler; Members–Austin Osmanski, Celia López-González, Edie Marsh-Matthews). Dowler announced that three complete sets of *The Southwestern Naturalist* were presented to the winners of the Wilks Award and Clark Hubbs Student Poster Award winners in 2014. The committee filled one request for back issues during 2014. The advertisement in *The Southwestern Naturalist* continues to run in English and Spanish. The current price for back

issues is \$1/issue for Volumes 1-39. For Volumes 40-44, the price is \$32/volume. For volumes 45-present, the price is \$36/volume. These prices do not include shipping and handling. Back issues continue to be stored in the Department of Biology at Angelo State University at no cost to the Southwestern Association of Naturalists. All financial transactions for back issues are carried out by the Treasurer's office.

R. Dowler questioned whether award winners wish to receive the back issue set that have been provided for past recipients of the awards. There seems to be a rising tide of students who are accessing all literature online rather than establishing their own personal library. A discussion ensued about how many extra copies of the journal should be purchased, but no definitive resolution was made.

Mandy Husak gave the report for the *ad hoc* Auction Committee (Chair–Mandy Husak; Members–Alex Lamle, Ann Maxwell, Jake Schaefer, Jessica Roy, Jared White). Husak announced that this year, due to travel constraints and not enough committee members present, that there will be no silent auction. She recommended that to have a successful auction in Mexico in 2016, the committee needs to facilitate getting materials to Mexico. A discussion revolved around the most efficient way to carry out the auction in Mexico. Husak suggested that a designated person in Mexico be in charge of getting materials to the local committee.

Robert Dowler gave the report for the *ad hoc* Long Range Planning Committee (Chair–Robert Dowler; Members–Mark Eberle, Brian Chapman, Stanley Fox, Sara González-Pérez, Michelle Haynie, Bruce Hoagland, Dan Hough, Michael Kennedy, Jake Schaefer, Phil Sudman). Dowler reported that the committee was inactive this year, and recommended viewing the 2014 minutes for an update on the status of the committee to date.

The Budget Oversight Committee report was given by Michael Kennedy for Phyllis Kennedy (Chair–Phyllis Kennedy; Members–William H. Baltosser, Brian R. Chapman, Robert J. Edwards, Beth E. Leuck). M. Kennedy reported that the SWAN budget is in good shape overall, and recommended that the Board review the report submitted by P. Kennedy.

The Managing Editor report was given by Loren Ammerman (Managing Editor) and Mandy Husak (Editor). Ammerman began by thanking everyone who helped with the transition to the PeerTrack editorial process. She reminded the Board that she and Husak committed to this job for two years. Ammerman also announced that SWAN has recruited three new Associate Editors, has done away with the printed index, and is now in the process of intermingling papers submitted before

and after PeerTrack. A discussion ensued about copyright. Loren asked for advice from the BOG. L. Ammerman also reviewed turnaround numbers, explaining that there is a lag for number of days from submission to first decision due to difficulty in getting reviewers to agree. S. Fox pointed out that the average days from submission to review invitation is long and stated a need to speed this up. D. Heins suggested a round of applause for Ammerman and Husak. G. Schnell also commended M. Kennedy and P. Kennedy (previous editors of the journal) for their work over the years.

The Honors Committee report was given by Robert Dowler (Chair–Robert Dowler; Members–Alice F. Echelle, Gary D. Schnell, Paula Williamson). Dowler made a motion to accept the committee’s nomination for the Tinkle Award. The BOG accepted the nomination, and Dowler announced that the name will be given at the Business Meeting. A discussion ensued regarding when the nominee name is announced, at the Business Meeting (by the secretary) or at the Business Meeting by the Chair. The BOG was reminded that the name is typically withheld until the banquet. S. Fox moved that the name be announced at the Business Meeting, which was seconded by L. Ammerman. There was disagreement and a discussion, which ultimately came to a call for a vote by the President, who made a call to question of Fox’s motion to announce the winner at the morning Business Meeting. The vote ended in a 6 agree, 13 opposed, and 0 abstentions; thus, the winners will be read at the banquet instead of the Business Meeting.

President López-González then moved to old business and announced that Beth Leuck said that she would continue as the Chair of the Program Committee.

President López-González then moved to new business. María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz presented the overview of the program planned for the 2016 SWAN meeting that will be held at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in Mexico City.

G. Schnell made a motion to approve the 2017 meeting to be held at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, and hosted by Mike and Mandy Husak. The motion was seconded by Loren Ammerman.

Mike Dixon gave the budget proposal for 2016, highlighting no change in the budget for 2015. He explained that there was a large increase in the budget from 2014 to 2015 due to the adoption of services with Allen Press for the journal, and that the 2014 budget is actually higher than it should be because we already paid some of the Allen Press charges. He proposed to eliminate the \$400 set aside for the index editor. Other changes in the budget included the addition of the new Student Field Natural History Award, which added \$1,500 to the budget. The \$3,000 that was added in 2014 for the webpage did not

get spent, and thus, will be carried over (and spent) in 2015. The BOG voted to give the Conservation Committee \$500. The budget for 2015 was then projected at \$129,750. The BOG then decided to move \$500 to the Membership Committee for recruitment. A motion to approve the balanced budget was made by L. Ammerman with the assumption that the income is the same with a possible slight difference due to royalties from the journal.

Dixon then asked to table the budget discussion.

Loren Ammerman announced that this year she will rotate off the Board of Trustees, and the BOG noted that she has already served longer than her 3-year term. D. Heins volunteered to take her place. G. Schnell nominated D. Heins, and M. Kennedy seconded the nomination. This is a 3-year term from 2015-2018. Heins was then elected unanimously by the BOG. R. Dowler also was reappointed as Chair of Board of Trustees for the next three years.

Treasurer Dixon requested that the treasurer position be split into two positions or adding a membership secretary to the membership committee. All information for new members would be routed to that person. The BOG noted that it must establish a new position, and a new officer in the organization should be named according to the constitution. Dixon noted that the current assistant to the treasurer is already doing much of this work and suggested the possibility of elevating this position to an official position. President López-González announced that she would appoint an *ad hoc* committee to review the constitution to evaluate this potential change. She then appointed M. Dixon and P. Sudman for this task. There was then a round of applause for A. Osmanski who has already been taking on much of this role in the society. This position would not change the budget.

The budget was then revisited by M. Dixon, and the balance approved based on the 2014 budget. The balance will result from drawing a maximum of 5% from investments (\$10-15,000 needed to balance budget). This was approved by the BOG. Dixon then proposed a \$129,000 budget with an income of \$87,683 expected from royalty income, and a possible transfer from the endowment (which was deemed not likely to happen). P. Sudman moved to approve the budget, and this motion was seconded by M. Kennedy. This motion was approved by the BOG.

The Membership Committee then proposed to explore the possibility of an online-only option for the journal with the Treasurer, preferably through BioOne.

President López-González moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mandy Husak. The meeting was adjourned at 1811 h.

Respectfully submitted,
Raelyn Deaton Haynes, Secretary