

Pennsylvania Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Council
July 12, 2022 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

In Attendance: S. DeArment, P. Hentz, L. Stallings, S. Gallagher, R. Graboski, E. Frankel

Absent: C. Eyler, S. Acosta*

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the last meeting were unavailable.

I. Treasurer's Report/Grants

Leah provided a treasurer's report (with some correction provided after the meeting)

The previous balance was \$27,078.61. After a grant payment to Raven Ridge for lead test kits (\$2,793.20), the current balance is \$24,285.41

It was noted that Raven Ridge was dispersing test materials to several other centers, and that no additional grant applications had been received.

On a motion by SueG, seconded by Robyn, the report was approved.

Leah and Peggy will work together to get a grant application for HPAI test kits on the PAWR website.

II. Miscellaneous

The proposal for recruiting new rehabilitators was discussed briefly. Input from Chad is needed, so no further action was taken.

Robyn had not had a chance to contact PANO regarding 501c3 status for the council, so no further action was taken.

Leah had been in touch with personnel from Wildlife Futures and reported that cases of HPAI (in birds and mammals) seemed to be on the decline, with no positives reported in roughly 3 weeks.

III. WIN Request

SueD detailed a proposed request for funding from the PGC for Wildlife in Need. She had drafted a letter to the council detailing this request and provided a copy.

The requested funds would cover statewide reporting and communication systems, plus four remote controlled bow nets for wildlife capture.

Peggy, SueD, and Leah recused themselves from the discussion.

Robyn made a motion that the council submit the proposal to the PGC and SueG seconded. Ed agreed. It was also suggested that the letter to the PGC come from someone not associated with WIN. SueG agreed to draft the letter for submission.

IV. Interviews

Mackenzie Jones was interviewed. She is a volunteer and intern at Centre Wildlife and had passed all three tests

Mackenzie shared photos of the facilities at Centre Wildlife, where she will continue to work.

On a motion by Leah, seconded by Peggy and with Robyn abstaining, all agreed to advise three permits should be issued. SueD. will relay this suggestion to Chad and Brenton.

*Sandra Acosta joined the meeting at this point.

Janine Tancredi and Susan Downing were interviewed. They each passed all three tests and plan to open a new center in Montgomery County. They provided a video of the facility.

SueG voiced some concerns over a lack of suitable flight space for songbirds and was reminded those facilities would need to be in place before a federal permit was issued.

On a motion by SueG, seconded by Robyn and with Peggy abstaining, all agreed to advise three permits be issued to each of them.

Robyn agreed to add these as new permittees to the rehab map.

V. Conference

Robyn will be back in touch with the Ramada to check on dates and availability. Suggestions for the conference and for conference planning included:

- Gathering topic and speaker suggestions/proposals
- A theme—maybe, something having to do with getting back to normal after Covid
- Robyn sending out an email to the PA rehab list asking for suggestions
- A review of the schedule and the evaluations from the last conference (Peggy will email past evaluations to all)
- Booking three rooms for the whole conference
- Having one room available for hospitality
- Finding hotel/room availability before deciding on how many talks are needed (Two- or three-day conference? With or without labs?)
- Inclusion of interactive technology during talks (Sandra can help)

Possible speakers/topics mentioned:

- Erica Miller (already possibly doing Wildlife Futures updates)
- Nikki Rosenhagen (well-received last year)
- LaToya Latney (difficult to contact)
- Director of the Philadelphia Zoo (Sandra can contact)
- A veterinary round table with questions submitted, anonymously, if possible, in advance

With no further business, on a motion by SueD, seconded by Robyn, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm

The next meeting is schedule for Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

Susan Gallagher
Recording Secretary