

**Manitoba Chapter, The Wildlife Society – Conservation Affairs Committee Draft Minutes
February 25, 2016**

Attendance:
4 CAC Members
CAC Acting Chair

Regrets: 2 CAC
members

1. Agenda (Chair asks for approval)

Approved agenda, added 1 new items

2. Minutes (Chair asks for approval)

Approve minutes - Done

3. Action Items (Chair reviews items)

Reviewed action items –The following require further Action:

*ACTION: CAC co-chair to connect with “local” chapters (Saskatchewan, Lakehead Student Chapter, Minnesota) to see what they are up to and how we can work together. **Attempted, no responses. Should be picked up by Co-chair – Action: CAC co-chair to follow up***

*ACTION: CAC co-chair to check in with ESRA to see if we are on contact list. **Incomplete. Should be picked up by Co-chair – CAC co-chair to follow up***

*ACTION: CAC co-chair to contact Rick Baydack to ask about parameters for class projects. **Completed. Rick was open to the idea and CAC via the TWS MB Chapter could contact him in late Spring with a proposal, to be discussed, Item 6.***

*ACTION: CAC members to discuss student projects at next meeting if Rick Baydack is interested. (All) **To be discussed, Item 6***

4. Moose Letter Update (Chair/Jonathan)

Discuss feedback from Executive and path forward on subsequent actions. Roundtable feedback from each member.

All CAC members were satisfied with outcome of the letter. Concern though about the list of recommendations/feedback from Executive. Why were these concerns not shared during the lengthy executive review period? Why the delay in posting MCWS response letter? Unfortunate that Executive member of CAC has decided to resign. Action: Chair to communicate these concerns with Executive.

5. Fisheries (Chair/Member)

Update on Fisheries letter, discuss path forward

All CAC members liked the letter. Some minor recommendations were made. Should be ready for release after provincial election.

6. **Student Involvement (Chair/All)** - Could get students involved in small projects through Rick Baydack's classes. CAC via the TWS Manitoba Chapter could define policy projects for students. Rick Baydack would like to hear more. Discuss.

Action: All CAC members are asked to do a gap analysis of their particular area of expertise and identify project ideas for consideration for Rick Baydack's class. Please consider existing conservation priorities addressed on the TWS International website. Submit list to the CAC in advance of next meeting to allow time for prioritization and discussion before a final list is prepared and submitted to Rick's class.

7. Status of Mourning Dove Hunt in Manitoba (Chair/Member)

Update on status and discussion on any action required.

It appears that a decision on the Mourning dove season has been deferred to next year. Action: CAC co-chair to confirm.

8. The Beverly and Qamaniriuq Caribou Management Board

Update on status and discussion on any action required.

Action: CAC member to circulate information on the status of caribou populations.

9. Letter of support to the Manitoba Wildlife Federation -

Regarding support for safe hunting, firearms, and conservation enforcement.

Discussion on the merits of supporting the MWF and their efforts to address spot light night hunting in southern rural Manitoba. Decision was made to not send a letter of support at this time. Decision was based on concerns regarding the role of the Chapter and possible relationship to treaty hunting rights. Decision was made to table this discussion until the next meeting to see how and what develops from the MWF campaign.

10. Next Meeting

Discuss timing of next meeting – Call of the Chair. Likely after the Provincial Election.