



**FORT COLLINS AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 1, 2013**

**ATTENDEES:**

Barb Adams, Scott Cobble, Susan Cottingham, Ron Harden, Bill Miller, Hildy Morgan, Louise Parker, John Shenot, John Waddell.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None.

**CALL TO ORDER – Thomas:**

Vice President Parker called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS – All:**

None.

**AGENDA REVIEW – All:**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – All:**

None.

**MINUTES: July 2013 – Review, Revise and Accept – Cobble:**

The following are corrections made to the July 2013 meeting minutes:

1. Removed John Shenot's name from the ATTENDEES section.
2. Removed Barb Adams name from the OTHERS PRESENT section.
3. In Treasurer's Report, item 5: replaced the word "May" with the word "June".
4. In OLD BUSINESS, agenda item D, number 2: added the letter "d" to the word "use".
5. In NEW BUSINESS, agenda item C, number 1, third sentence: replaced the capital "T" in the word "To" with a lower case "t".
6. In REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, agenda item A, number 4: replaced the capital "T" in the word "Total" with a lower case "t".
7. In REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, agenda item A, number 6: replaced the capital "F" in the word "Fees" with a lower case "f".

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

**Treasurer's Report for July 2013 (sent out earlier) – Waddell:**

1. On July 31, 2013, the checking account balance was \$8,542.26.



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2. The Savings account balance was \$3,002.00.
3. The total balance was \$19,797.78.
4. FCAS incurred no expenses in July 2013.
5. July 2013 receipts include:
  - a. \$20.00 from National Audubon for New Memberships.
  - b. \$76.06 from sales of 13 pocket guides.
  - c. \$57.78 from 3 memberships: 0 National only, 0 National and Local and 3 local only.
  - d. \$20.00 for donation to Alex Cringan Memorial Fund.
  - e. \$0.06 from Wells Fargo for interest on checking account.
6. Alex Cringan Memorial Fund balance - \$1,488.90.
7. Quetzal Tours/FCAS Monthly Field Trips - \$1,475.00 net gain for 2013 trips.
8. Next CD maturation is 11 November 2013 for \$5,377.18 plus interest.
9. Colorado State Registration filed 17 March 2013.
10. Federal Form 990-N for 2012 e-filed with IRS on 17 March 2013.
11. 2011 FCAS Annual Financial Report filed with National Audubon Society electronically on 6 December 2012.
12. Fort Collins Audubon – Financial Summary 2012.
  - a. Expenses:
    1. Field Trips \$5,190.39
    2. Newsletter \$2,431.67
    3. Programs \$1,335.00
    4. Lobbyist \$1,624.00
    5. Liability Insurance: \$697.10
    6. Christmas Bird Count \$260.00
    7. Fossil Creek Bird Fair \$255.22
    8. National Memberships \$190.00
    9. Postal Service \$154.50
    10. Audubon Colorado Board \$100.00
    11. Membership Expenses \$77.68
    12. Education \$63.82
    13. Publicity \$31.89
    14. CO State Corporate Reg. \$10.00
    15. Total Expenses \$12,421.27



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b. Revenue:

1. Field Trips	\$6,875.00
2. Membership	\$2,704.26
3. National Audubon	\$1,818.25
4. Alex Cringan Memorial	\$1,353.90
5. Sales	\$1,119.74
6. Birdathon	\$1,095.90
7. Donations	\$978.00
8. Christmas Bird Count	\$30.00
9. Garden Tour	\$30.00
10. Interest	\$7.65
11. Total Revenue	\$16,012.70

### OLD BUSINESS:

**A. Paid Positions (Draft Contracts) – Miller:**

No discussion.

**B. Rights of Nature – Miller:**

No discussion.

**C. Volunteer Hours & Mileage – Cobble:**

1. Bill drove 160 miles in 2012 and in 2013 on his Pawnee Grasslands field trips.
2. Bill indicated he drives approximately 18 other miles per month and spends about two other hours per month in support of the mission of FCAS.

**D. Membership Form for the Ptarmigan – Cobble:**

1. Scott C. indicated that, other than the orientation of the membership application forms themselves, the explanations provided and membership options are the same on both the Ptarmigan and Information Card membership application forms.

**E. Native Plant Society – Miller/Thomas:**

1. Bill sent the URLs of two Native Plant Society websites to FCAS board members.
2. John S. to be looped into the process after FCAS makes contact with the NPS.
3. Bill said that perhaps we could get looped in with the Native Plant Society field trips, not birding.

**F. Gardens at Spring Creek – Miller:**

1. Hildy will meet with Mary Stonacker in the latter part of August to flush out FCAS working with the Gardens.



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2. The Gardens asked FCAS to collaborate with them because a Toyota grant requires the participation of an Audubon chapter.
3. The Gardens have a professional grant writer.
4. To qualify for Toyota money there must be innovation.
5. The Gardens must submit the grant before June 1, 2014.

### **G. Senior Center – Miller:**

1. Bill has to contact the senior center. He will include Hildy on the email.

### **H. Fracking – Adams:**

1. Barb provided board members three pages of pros and cons regarding fracking on the Pawnee Grasslands. Disadvantages outweigh advantages.
2. Pawnee Buttes are open for fracking because they are on both private and public land.
3. John S. said the Forrest Service should update the Pawnee Grassland management plan.
4. Ron suggested FCAS develop a position statement regarding fracking and make that position known. We need to develop an overall strategy.
5. Barb said someone should be an advocate for the Pawnee. FCAS would be the logical advocate.
6. Barb, Louise and Bill to develop a position statement regarding fracking.
7. The Pawnee needs an iconic species around which the public can rally. Hildy said Burrowing Owls are cute and would be a good candidate.
8. Barb indicated people are poisoning Prairie Dogs on the Pawnee.
9. Mountain Plovers are experiencing a significant decline on the Pawnee. Only four were found this last May.
10. Ron to forward Barb's pros and cons of fracking on the Pawnee to the Chair of the Conservation Committee of ACC and to the Conservation Chair of Denver Audubon.

### **I. Yahoo Groups – Cottingham:**

1. Susan contacted Kaye Holman. Kaye dug up the Yahoo Groups passwords.
2. Susan to meet up with Kaye.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Ptarmigan Deadline – Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup> – Parker:**

1. Louise mentioned the deadline.



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**B. Fund Raiser – Morgan:**

1. Dr. Charles Clarkson, an ornithologist, is the person Hildy is proposing as a speaker. She met him on a cruise to the Baltic. She says he is a very inspiring speaker.
2. Hildy said he is willing to come to Fort Collins. He prefers coming after January. Perhaps February, March or April.
3. Dr. Clarkson refused to discuss what his fee would be.
4. Hildy said we could get going on this in September. Hildy is willing to work out a budget.
5. Ron asked what the appeal would be to draw in the numbers to make a profit.

**C. Proposal for a Multi-use Trail in RMNP – Harden:**

1. Ron distributed a handout regarding alternative multiuse trail options.
2. The idea is to locate a new trail with a separation barrier between the trail and road.
3. Ron's concern is the second alternative because it would impact animals in the park.
4. Ron said everyone has a right to make a comment. Ron asked board members to oppose the over land option.
5. Liz could send an email blast concerning this issue.
6. Louise to contact Liz regarding an email blast.

**D. Use Some of the Money from the Alex Cringan Fund – Hildy:**

1. Hildy wants the board to consider utilizing some of the funds in the Alex Cringan fund to give a scholarship to an elementary or junior high teacher to go to a place where the teacher could have a learning experience.
2. Bill suggested taking the long view to try to grow the fund until the interest on the fund would provide enough money for scholarships.
3. Perhaps small scholarships to Rocky Mountain National Park.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**A. Membership – Pruessner:**

No discussion.

**B. Finance – Waddell:**

1. Scott Miller must submit an invoice to John Waddell if he wants payment for services provided during the month.



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2. Scott has not submitted invoices for June or July.

**C. Education – Thomas:**

No discussion.

**D. Web Site – Cobble/Pruessner:**

1. Give Scott Miller deadlines by which time he must have projects completed.

**E. Conservation – Miller:**

No discussion.

**F. Field Trips – Shenot:**

1. John S. had a long conversation with Nick Komar regarding how Quetzal Tour's fundraisers can do better.
2. Nick is interested in offering another Guatemala trip.
3. Nick and John are trying to determine why local trips have low attendance.
4. DFO asked Nick to conduct a combination education workshop followed by a birding outing.
5. Nick is committed to FCAS. Some of his company's proceeds benefit FCAS.
6. Another possibility is a hybrid between a Birdathon and a Christmas Bird Count.
7. Bill suggested a bio blitz.
8. John S. said the September Ptarmigan has one field trip identified. In addition, John will attempt to line up a number of field trips for winter and fall migration.

**G. Programs – Meschievitz:**

1. No discussion.
2. Programs 2013:
  - a. September 12<sup>th</sup> – Rob Palmer, Wildlife Photographs – focused on burrowing owls.
  - b. October 10<sup>th</sup> – Nathaniel Warning and Lauryn Benedict, University of Northern Colorado – Canyon wrens and Rock wrens in the northern Colorado foothills; life history, territory, and song characteristics.
  - c. November 14<sup>th</sup> – Ann Reichardt with slide show of trip to Guatemala with Nick Komar.



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**H. Publicity – Parker:**

1. Over the course of three months, only 14 people repeatedly used the sign-in sheets. Therefore, Louise considers the nametag idea too expensive. Continue using stickers.

**I. Newsletter – All:**

1. Louise mentioned the Ptarmigan deadline is Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**J. AC Leg. Update – Harden:**

1. We have sufficient votes for a slate of candidates.

**K. Volunteers – Thomas:**

No discussion.

**OTHER ITEMS, NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

An optical company wants to place an ad on the FCAS website. Bill will send the information to the board.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.