10/22/26 MINUTES

The Zoom meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Ruhl at 6:04 with the following taking part: Ryan Ruhl, Jordan McGinnis, Mike O'Brien, Kent Weil, Tim Kelley, Larry Baer, Dave Scifres, Doug Stellhorn, Jimmi Miles, Mark Hebert, Bobby Collins, John Fink, and Braden Trainer.

SECRETARY REPORT

O'Brien presented the minutes from the 8/22 meeting with the following additions:

Reports, Constitution, O'Brien reported that the approved constitution will be available at the convention in print.

Reports, Legislative, Ruhl reported on the passing of the TS-85 bill, as well as the positive language changes.

Reports, Raffle, O'Brien gave a brief update on the raffle, and it was agreed upon to buy 1 dozen TS-85's to use for card raffles at the convention from the raffle budget. Motion was made (Weil) "Accept the secretary report with the amended items". Second (Baer). Passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT

The previously emailed treasurer report was reviewed. Report shows an increase of $22,375.06. Total balance of $80,644.60. Current membership stands at 739. Motion was made (O'Brien) "Accept the treasurer report". Second (Weil). Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Convention reports were as follows:

Treasurer- $22,250 profit, making it second only to last year for profitability in recent history.

Survey- We had 67 submissions and will continue to use this to garner more information from the membership. O'Brien to report on how non members found out about the convention.

Merchandise- We sold $5,103 of merchandise at the convention, and have gotten additional orders in the last couple weeks.
Attendance Map- We had 199 pins placed in the map this year. It definitely showed a movement in attendance that we hope to continue next year as we move North.
No major issues were brought to our attention. We would like to better track attendance numbers.
A huge thank you to Jordan and his team. Jordan thanked the board for their support and help.

B.&C. As all addresses have been changed for a reasonable amount of time, the PO Box in Durand can now be closed. Ruhl to take care of this when he meets up to collect the ITA computer and merchandise.

D. The 2027 Fur Sale will be February 20th in Colfax, at Bolen Auction Service. 114 W Main St Colfax, IL.

REPORTS

FTA-Scifres presented the previously emailed report. Spring meeting April 4th in Chatsworth, the FTA national will be July 30&31 in Spencer IA.
NTA- Weil presented the previously emailed report. A new Mexico lawsuit will be argued at SCOTUS, the NTA national will be July 22-24 in Lima, OH.
IFOR- Nothing to Report
MERCHANDISE- Fink reported that we had a good convention and he believes he has enough in stock to make it past the fur sale before he needs to reorder.
AWARDS- Nothing to Report
CONSTITUTION&RULES- Nothing to Report
CONVENTION- McGinnis explained the idea that the convention committee would have more freedom if they could have an annual budget to work from. Motion was made (O'Brien) "Provide a budget of up to $4000 to the convention committee for the 2027 convention". Second (Collins). Passed unanimously.

ELECTION- Nothing to Report
GRANT WRITING- Grant writing will be back in full force this year.
LEGISLATIVE- All pertinent players are aware of our opposition to the removal of season dates for raccoons trapping.
MEMBERSHIP- 63 youth, 91 life, and 739 total.
OUTREACH&EDUCATION- Stellhorn would like to do more trappers ed classes across the state. All Board members are encouraged to do any outreach in their part of the state.
RAFFLE- O'Brien presented the previously emailed report. $8,936 profit this year. The committee will be looking to expand on last year's success.
SOCIAL MEDIA- We have 4400 members on our ITA facebook page. 118 on the public page. Reminder that the public page is only to post about events that could benefit from being shared.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2026-2027 committees were established as follows:

CONST & RULES	CONVENTION	ELECTION	LEGISLATIVE	MEMBER-SHIP
Weil (CM)	McGinnis (CM)	O'Brien (CM)	Weil (CM)	Fink (CM)
O'Brien	Collins	Stellhorn	Baer	B of D
Kelley	Vose	Miles	Scifres	
	Nic Bohms		Tim Sickmeyer	

OUTREACH &ED	RAFFLE	SOCIAL MEDIA	GRANT WRITING	AWARDS
Stellhorn (CM)	O'Brien (CM)	McGinnis (CM)	Vose (CM)	Scifres (CM)
Vose	Fink	O'Brien	Weil	Hebert
Kelley	Collins	Fink	Hebert	Weil
Baer	Kevin Turner			McCall
Graves				

B. The idea of a membership secretary was discussed and is something that we would like to look into in the future. Right now John is trying to bring some continuity to the position. He has agreed to reach out if some things can be delegated.
C. A robust discussion was held concerning new legislative ideas after our success last year. Among the ideas floated were: 2 day check on submergent kill sets, ability to adjust a dam, right-of-way trapping, and an extended muskrat season. It was agreed to take these ideas to our lobbyist, IFOR's lobbyist, and Tim Sickmeyer for discussion and input.
D. We plan to ask for additional monies to put on an ITA educational weekend in the Gardner Camp format in different parts of the state. We will continue to work with Stan McTaggert toward this goal.
E. 2027 Meeting dates are:
    1/28/27 6PM ZOOM
    5/15/27 TBD
    8/21/27 9:30 AM Bureau Co Fairgrounds Princeton
    10/28/27 6PM ZOOM
F. There was discussion on the 2028 convention location and date. 2028 takes us back to the first weekend in October being youth deer season and this has caused attendance problems in the past. After discussion a motion was made (Baer) "Have the 2028 annual

convention on September 29th and 30th". Second (Scifres). Motion passed 10-2. The location will take some more research, so a motion was made, (Weil) "Table discussion and voting on the location of the 2028 convention until more information about various sights is available". Second (Baer). Passed unanimously.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE- After discussion of our current bank accounts, a motion was made, (O'Brien) "The only people that shall be named on the ITA bank accounts are the President, Treasurer, and Secretary, which at this time, are Ryan Ruhl, John Fink, and Mike O'Brien". Second (Weil). Passed unanimously.
General discussion about different locations for the 2028 as well as the 2029 convention locations.
Beware of scam emails.
General light hearted smack talk from those that drew bobcat tags.

ADJOURN- Motion was made (Collins), "Motion to adjourn". Second (Fink). Passed unanimously. 8:51