8/22/26 MINUTES

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Ruhl at 10:09 with the following present: Ryan Ruhl, Jordan McGinnis, Mike O'Brien, John Fink, Kent Weil, Bobby Collins, Tim Kelley, Neal Graves, Mark Hebert, Doug Stellhorn, and Jimmi Miles.

SECRETARY REPORT

O'Brien presented the previously minutes from the 5/9/26 meeting. Motion was made (Weil) "Accept the secretary report". Second (Graves). Passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT

Fink presented the previously emailed treasurer report. Report shows a net increase of $218.56. Total balance of $58,269.54. Current membership stands at 662. Motion was made (Weil) "Accept the treasurer report". Second (Collins). Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Electronic communications since 5/9/26:

5/29/26 Motion (O'Brien) "Purchase 50 3D printed plastic traps for $8 each". Second (Bohms). Motion passed with 11 emailed, and 1 texted "ayes".

6/5/26 Motion (O'Brien) "John Fink, as treasurer of the ITA has the authority to open new accounts on behalf of the ITA, and transfer monies between those accounts as he sees fit within the First National Bank of Tremont". Second (Graves). Motion passed with 11 "ayes"

6/16/26 Motion (O'Brien) "Spend up to $1000 to hire KEB to facilitate reinstatement of our 501C6 status". Second (Vose). Voting was tabled to allow for more discussion. 6/22/26 The original motion was reintroduced (Hatfield). Second (Weil). Motion passed with 10 texted "ayes". (1 present)

7/8/26 Motion (Kelley) “Allow Tim and Ellen Kelley access to the ITA lock box located at the Goodfield State Bank in Goodfield. Further, the ITA will provide written documentation to the bank manager at the Goodfield State Bank in order to have access granted.” Second (Scifries). 7/9/26 Voting was paused to allow for discussion. 7/9/26 Motion was amended (Broge) ”having it live streamed (not just recorded)”. 7/12/26 Motion (Hatfield) “provide Tim and his mother documentation to enter the ITA titled safe deposit box, remove and document the contents of such, and deliver all items to the in person board meeting in August.” 7/15/2026 The original motion was reintroduced (O’Brien). Second (Fink). Motion passed with 10 emailed “ayes”

8/21/26 Hatfield tenders his resignation from the board.
Broge tenders his resignation from the board

8/22/26 Trey Romine withdraws his nomination for election to the board.

Motion was made (Kelley) “Accept the resignation of Marty Hatfield and Todd Broge effective 8/21/26.” Second (Collins). Passed unanimously.

Motion was made (Kelley) “Accept the withdrawal of nomination from Trey Romine effective 8/22/26.” Second (Collins). Passed unanimously.

B. Items from the Goodfield lockbox were shared with the board. Proof was supplied that the box had not been accessed since 2012. There were 2 folders within. 1 folder pertained to the Richard Daniels Memorial Scholarship. It was agreed that this should stay with Kelley. The other folder had the original articles of incorporation. These are on file with the state, but it was still nice to find the originals. A few other papers that were of little to no significance to the association were handed over to Fink.

C. Policy & Procedure #7 has been emailed to the board. It is moot, but is in the records.

D. Fink reported that the ITA's not-for-profit status has been fully restored effective 8/13/26! The process went as smoothly as expected. Thanks were given to Fink and O'Brien for their roles in accomplishing this in a timely manner. The entire process cost the ITA $618, and the 2025 taxes are also taken care of.

REPORTS

FTA-Upcoming meetings 8/23 in Buckly, and 10/11 in Marengo. The ITA had successful sales of memberships, merchandise, and raffle tickets at the national convention recently.

NTA-Weil handed out a report. Highlights include the NTA's efforts toward working on delisting animals from the Endangered Species Act as well as efforts to prepare state organizations if anti-trapping legislation should come up.

IFOR-IFOR is aware of a movement to make the raccoon a "pest" and remove all seasons to allow taking of raccoons all year. It was agreed to adopt the position that: **"The ITA opposes a year round raccoon season"**. Weil is to relay our position to IFOR. IFOR renewal is due at $750. Motion was made (Graves) "Renew our IFOR affiliate membership for $750." Second (Kelley). Passed unanimously.

MERCHANDISE-Fink requested additional monies to restock prior to the convention. Motion was made (Kelley) "Allow for up to $3500 to purchase additional merchandise." Second (Collins). Passed unanimously.

ELECTION-O'Brien gave an update with the recent resignations and withdrawals. O'Brien to reach out to Todd Broge to see if he wishes to withdraw his nomination from the election along with his resignation from the board. It was agreed that we will continue with the election regardless. A motion was made (O'Brien) "Extend the deadline for absentee ballots to be returned to the secretary to 9/30/26." Second (Kelley) Passed unanimously.

RULES-Nothing to Report

AWARDS-The committee has selected the winners, plaques have been made, and paid for.

SOCIAL MEDIA-The new facebook page is up and running. Changes to the board need to be updated on the website. Secretary to include the new board members in future emails.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION-Graves held an event at Panther Creek over the 4th of July weekend that was attended by 40-50 people and was well received. 9/12 the ITA will be in Calhoun Co.

GRANT WRITING-Will begin anew next calendar year aggressively, with our desire to duplicate Gardner Camp around the state. On behalf of the Women in the Outdoors Program, the ITA applied for, and was awarded a grant from the Carol Krumweide Grant program through the FTA. Lisa DeMeule and the Women in the Outdoor program continues to be a resounding success!

MEMBERSHIP-Fink agreed to return the membership duties to the treasurer. The ITA PO box is to be forwarded to Ruhl. O'Brien and Fink to make changes necessary to reflect the new situation. We are quickly running low on lifetime membership patches. Motion was made (Weil) "Authorize Ryan to purchase 100 new lifetime patches." Second (Fink). Passed unanimously. Motion was made (Weil) "Purchase 1000 additional window stickers for up to $500." Second (McGinnis). Passed unanimously.

CONVENTION-McGinnis talked of the need for volunteers at the convention. Set up will begin at 8AM on Thursday 10/1. Traps are needed for the kids games, Doug Stellhorn to donate. Traps for the card raffles will come from the raffle budget. It was agreed to use the map and survey again to try to collect information from the membership. O'Brien to send out last year's survey to the board and try to come up with new questions. Friday night's dinner was discussed with options of having a catered meal or buying food and doing the work ourselves. McGinnis to make a decision based on up to date pricing. Motion was made (McGinnis) "Allow for up to $1000 for the Friday night meal." Second (Graves). Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. A membership email list is a future goal.
B. Per the constitution, a vote was cast for Ryan Ruhl for president, thereby electing him to that position for another 2 year term.

C. Per the constitution, a vote was cast for Mike O'Brien for secretary, thereby electing him to that position for another 2 year term.
D. A Board of Directors Code of Conduct was discussed and moved to the constitution committee for consideration prior to the 2027 convention.
E. Policy and Procedure #8 was presented as follows:

Policy and Procedures #8

Procedure for Making and Voting on Electronic Motions

1. Electronic communications for this purpose shall be considered to be telephone, email, and text communications. Once begun, the entire process will consist of electronic communication only..

2. All motions and subsequent actions shall be directed by the President or their designee.

3. A motion may be made by any board member either directly through electronic communication or by referring the motion to the President (e.g. "Mr. President, I move…")..

4. Regardless, for a motion to be considered by the board it must be acknowledged and restated by the President, asking for a second (e.g. " Kent Weil has moved … Is there a second?").

5. Upon receiving a second, the President will ask the board if there is any discussion.

6. Upon completion of discussion, the President will call for a vote.

7. Motion, second, and voting shall be recorded by the Secretary in compliance with Article 5 Section 4 of the Constitution.

8. Any action (e.g. second, votes, amendments to the motion, etc.) made or cast without the explicit direction of the President will be considered out of order and be null and void.

A motion was made (Graves) "Adopt Policy & Procedure #8 as written." Second (McGinnis). Passed unanimously.

F. Ruhl explained the nuances of various types of bonding. He is to check into these and have a recommendation to the board at our 10/22/26 meeting.
G. Ruhl to look into different locations for the 2027 fur sale, and have a recommendation ready prior to the convention.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE- It was agreed to open a new safe deposit box at the same bank that currently handles our financial accounts. It will be sized to include the old secretary book of meeting minutes.
With the job that the CPA did for us at no cost, it was agreed to gift him $200 toward a local restaurant.
Motion was made (Kelley) “The ITA to reimburse Kent Weil, with receipts, up to $1000 for hotel expense realized in attendance to the NTA national convention.” Second (Hebert). Passed unanimously.
Many statements toward how to deal with confrontation, i.e., “talk to people face to face, do not respond to escalate a situation”.

ADJOURN-Motion was made (Collins) “Move to adjourn”. Second (Fink). Passed unanimously. 1:45 PM.