

# *Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, Inc.*

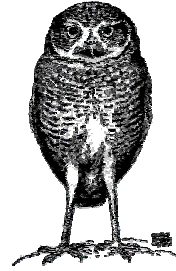
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## **Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Fall Board Meeting**

Friday, September 24, 2010, McCook

Board members present: Anita Breckbill, Betty Grenon, Dave Heidt, Jan Johnson, Alice Kenitz, Steve Lamphere, Urban Lehner, Nancy Leonard, Janis Paseka, Kevin Poague, and Lanny Randolph.  
Guest: Wayne Mollhoff

7:00 p.m. — President Urban Lehner called the meeting to order.

Treasurer – Betty handed out December 2009 and interim 2010 reports. There are still about \$2,300 in bills yet to be paid. Extra copies of reports will be made available at meetings.

NOU is currently in fine shape financially, although future trends need to be watched, as expenses are rising and income declining. One trouble spot is the low interest rates received from the CDs. The income generated from the interest is not covering expenses anymore, and rates are not expected to rise for several years. Report was accepted.

Publications - Janis reported the newest issue of the NBR was just published. An issue next year will contain a biography of Paul Johnsgard. Paul gave a contribution to NOU to help pay for extra copies. Report was accepted.

Library – Anita provided a handout for her report (included with these minutes). As an update on the binding and preservation section, Anita said UNL has offered to pay for the preservation expenses. Report was accepted.

Programs - Nancy informed the board the Friday night program for the Norfolk spring meeting is all set, and took suggestions for Saturday night. Report was accepted.

Records Committee – Mark submitted a written report. Mark asked the Board to approve Ross Silcock for a second term. The board agreed. Report was accepted.

Breeding Bird Atlas - Wayne reported there is \$45,000 left in the grant, and that it should take NOU through next year. Thus, there will be no request for a new grant. There will be one more year of field work. He also noted that he may add more blocks in counties that have standing windfarm proposals.

Old Business

1) New Projector – A projector was purchased and will be available for meetings. The board thanked Nancy for her work.

2) By-laws Rewrite – Urban began by giving the board a history of why a rewrite was necessary. He then handed out the proposed changes to the by-laws and discussed the more controversial ones. He asked for a motion to accept the changes. It was seconded, and the board approved the document with minor changes. Urban will put the proposed changes in the next newsletter for the membership to review before the changes are voted on at the spring meeting.

3) Dues Review – Betty began by proposing to raise dues and simplifying and removing several of the giving categories. Much discussion ensued, then each board member was asked to give their opinion. After reviewing the individual responses, Urban proposed the following changes:

- change “one active member” to “active household” and make rate \$25.
- change “one sustaining member” to “sustaining household” and make rate \$40.
- keep student member rate at \$10.
- eliminate the family categories.
- raise life member to \$500, but only offer it for one more year (2011). After 2011, there will be no life member option.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the new changes to take place at the beginning of 2011. There were 7 votes in favor and 2 votes against. The motion passed. Urban will communicate the changes to the membership in the next newsletter.

4) Spring Meeting – Dave announced that attendees will need to enroll as students because of the location of the Norfolk meeting. In the past some people have balked at having to do this.

#### New Business

1) Quilt Raffle – Jan has offered one of her quilts to be raffled off as a fundraiser. Tickets will be sold now until next spring, where the quilt’s winner will be chosen. The board thanked Jan for her kind offer.

2) Urban suggested Kearney and Audubon’s Rowe Sanctuary as the site for the fall 2011 meeting, tentatively set for September 23-25. The motion was accepted. Kent Skaggs at Rowe will let Urban know the exact dates soon.

3) The Nebraska Bird Partnership has a new on-line bird library. Urban asked the board if it was okay if the NOU Web site had a link connecting it to the new bird library. The board agreed.

4) Betty informed the board the scholarship fund is low and asked for ideas on how to keep offering scholarships. An anonymous donor came forward and will donate \$100 to the fund and will match all other donations dollar for dollar up to a certain amount. The board accepted this generous offer.

Motion made and seconded to adjourned the meeting. Motion accepted.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin Poague  
Secretary