

**Pennsylvania Taxidermist Association, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting – March 10, 2019 – Seven Springs, PA**

**Board Members Present** - Bob Evans, Vince Spellane, Crystal Confer, Ray Kowalski, John Czerniakowski, Heather Quigley Miller, Ashley Barrett, Jason Confer, Cameron Ream, Jamie Cameron, Jens Jorgensen, Chad Horst

**Board Members Absent** – None

**Guests** – Dan & Becky Snyder, Bob Gray, Rod Connelly, Patti Czerniakowski, Heather Horst, Tiffany Barrett, Jason Krause, Jenny Houtz, Dee Carley  
The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am.

- **The treasurer's report was presented by John Czerniakowski.** John went through the revenue and expenditures from January 16, 2019 through March 5, 2019. Checking Account total - \$25,654.86, Savings Account total - \$25,019.95. We currently have a total of \$50,674.81. We need to reserve \$1342.20 for legal funds, \$1267.00 for PTACT, and \$55.00 for Camp Compass out of the funds we have. Ray Kowalski motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Ashley Barrett seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
  - Ashley Barrett motioned to send \$55 to Camp Compass. Jens Jorgensen seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- **Cabela's**
  - We sent out a survey and got 44 responses. The responses for both weekends on the survey were close in numbers. Since it doesn't seem like moving it to August will make a difference in participation, we are going to stick with having it in September.
  - There was a suggestion to have registration carry over into Saturday morning instead of it only being Friday night. It's been heard that people can't get down there Friday night because of work.
- **Great American Outdoor Show**
  - A suggestion is to have it as a people's choice award instead of having judges. If we do this, we could lower the entry fee.
  - A member suggestion was to make it more of a display to get the associations name out there instead of a competition.
- **State Show**
  - Vendors
    - Rinehart and Noonie are now partners. This means we already know that we will be losing 7 vendor tables next year. In the future there will be other vendors combining and scaling down so this will eventually impact us.
  - Total revenue that Dee has given John since January for this year's show - \$41,186.50. Another \$10166 from cash and checks that she received will be going in. There will also be around another \$8000 going into the account from credit card deposits.
  - Ideas Brought Up By Members
    - Hutch expressed interest in doing a business seminar. Giving something small to the new members.
    - Payout for best of show - is the amount that we give drawing people in? If not, could we reduce the amount and spread it out to other awards? If we do this, the amounts would end up being smaller amounts and wouldn't really be a draw for people.
    - A group time for snow tubing - discounted rate. The only question is when would we fit it into our schedule.
    - Competitors Award - we currently do not charge fee for it, but we used to and somebody thought we should. It didn't generate a lot of money and inhibited people from signing up for it.
    - Dual membership discounts - Working with other state associations and offering a discount if they come to our show and have a membership in their state. This would be really hard to track.
    - Have an auction Friday night instead of at the banquet and include all of the donated items from the raffle tickets. Could we add this to the cornhole tournament?
    - Best of Show Commercial Mount
    - For Cabela's - have a 1-day workshop donated for a drawing for everyone that enters a piece. It would come down to whether or not we have someone that will donate their time.
    - Make a video on how to properly cape a deer and share on our website and possibly even the game commissions website.
    - Hutch wants to get Amy Ritchie Carter to his place to do a workshop. We could offer it to our members for a fee. We need to look into the details of this.
    - Selling 50/50 tickets at the cornhole tournament.
  - Seminars - Ideas for next year - Gary Bruch volunteered to do molding and casting seminar, Kent Stryker - Business, Hilton Eppley - hands-on deer, mannequin alteration, small mammal expressions - using 3 different species instead of just 1, feet. We are going to put out a survey to get feedback from members on what kind of seminars they would like to attend.
  - Judges
    - Next year's judges have verbally committed. Becky will get them written contracts out soon.
    - We need to come up with a list of judges for 2021. Ashley won't be able to reach out though until we have a date set. We also need to decide if we need to change the judges' pay before reaching out to them.
  - Schedule
    - Ashley would like to look at Friday's schedule and tweak it a little next year so that there is time for people that want to do everything on the schedule to get a supper break.
    - Set a deadline for signing up for a critique. We also need to set a time limit for critiques to 10-15 minutes per critique.
  - Awards
    - We need to advertise how much prize money is given out each year so that people are aware of what they could get.
    - We should also have a list of what it takes to be eligible for each of the specialty awards and advertise it. We also need to elaborate on what the awards are more at the banquet.
  - New Location Ideas
    - Blair County Convention Center - A member requested that we look into it. Becky has already looked into it. At that time, they didn't have a date that would work for us. It will also cost us \$14,000 just to walk in the door plus they charge for everything.

- Kalahara - Wants \$10,000 for space. Room fees for Friday and Saturday nights would be \$177 plus resort fee tax and other taxes.
  - 7 Springs -To stay here, it will be \$5000 plus service charge and tax instead of \$600 for space. Tables and technology prices will be going up also. In total, it would probably be about \$10,000 more than this year. Room rates for members will also be going up to \$149 a night.
  - Becky is going to look at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey, Doubletree Lancaster, Clearfield Fairgrounds, the Kovalchick Center in Indiana, PA.
    - The photographer this year did a wonderful job and we already have the pictures. Ashley Barrett made a motion to contact this year's photographer to see if they are willing to do our photography for next year if we can negotiate a price for up to \$2200. Bob Evans seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- **Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve** - Joe Kish donated a bear hide to the nature reserve. Wants to know if the PTA is interested in doing something with the hide. Somebody needs to check out the hide. If the hide is in good shape, we will discuss this further.
- **PTACT** - Hutch is not going to keep it going. Do we want to keep it in place? If so, does somebody want to take it over? At this point, it is recommended that we keep the money for it set aside until we determine if we should keep it or not.
- **PTA Website** – We need to find a way to get the membership list on the website. One suggestion was to have a link to an excel sheet that people can access. Heather would like to have one other person to help with the site.
- It was brought to our attention that if you have a trailer, especially with your name/company name on it, you could get stopped and if you don't have a DOT number that shows you have a license for the trailer, you could get a fine. We need to look into the details so that we can share it with our members.
- **PTA Facebook Page** – This year we put some live feed of the show on the page.
- **Committee Reports**
  - Security - Teardown went well this year with having one door for going in and another door for going out and having members need their badges to pick up their piece.
  - Setup - Setup and teardown went well.
  - Marketing - No report
  - Nominations - Ray talked with Lindsey since we only had one candidate for each position asking if we could get a discount on the ballots. When he went to pick up the results she wasn't there, but he was told that she is still working on the bill so he thinks she may be working with us on it. About 1/3 of the ballots that were mailed out were returned.
- **Standing Committees Chairperson Appointed**
  - Cabela's - Bill Ward
  - Harrisburg Show - Jason Krause
  - Elections - Ray Kowalski
  - Fundraising/Publicity - Bob Hutchinson
  - Backboards - Bob Hutchinson
  - Camp Compass - Jason Krause
  - Competition - Brian Claar
  - Legislative Change - John Czerniakowski
  - Raffles & Merchandise - Bob Evans
  - Security - Vince Spellane
  - Seminars - Ashley Barrett
  - Promotion in Social Media - Jason Confer
  - Website - Heather Quigley
  - Convention Balloting - Amy Hutchinson
  - Parliamentarians - John Czerniakowski
  - Setup & Teardown - Jamie Cameron
- **Bylaws** - They are due for an update. The policies and procedures need to be updated as well. Ray has started to go through the policies and procedures to update those.
- John will get the Legislative Change Committee started on working on a "Best Practices" document with exactly what the PTA wants to see from the Dept. of Ag and Game Commission so that we can move forward with getting it to the Secretary of the Governor.
- With Becky and Dee being replaced soon, we need to start thinking about whether or not some of their responsibilities need to be spread out to several different people. Becky will work on getting a list of the responsibilities together that we may need to spread out.
- **Next Meeting:** June 29, 2019 at 9:00 am at Hoss's in Huntingdon.

Crystal Confer made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 pm.

Votes Conducted Through Email Since the Last Meeting:

- Bob Evans made a motion to approve the January 18, 2019 meeting minutes. John Czerniakowski seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- Ray Kowalski made a motion to pay for soft drinks, water and dry snacks with a spending cap at \$250.00 for the Corn hole Tournament. Dan Swanson seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.