



**2019 IWLA National Convention
West Des Moines, Iowa
July 17-19, 2019**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM July 17, 2019 by League President Kelly Kistner and he welcomed everyone to the 2019 National Convention.

Opening Ceremony

Parade of Colors: American Legion

Pledge of Allegiance & IWLA Pledge: Mr. Kistner led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America and the IWLA Pledge.

Invocation: Gary Schwartz (MN) conducted the Invocation

Welcome: Richard Galloway Des Moines, IA Chapter welcomed the attendees to the area and Kelly Kistner welcomed everyone to the 2019 National Convention.

Recognized

Mr. Kistner asked the Past National Presidents, Veterans and First Time Convention Attendees to stand and be recognized by group.

Presidents Jacket

Jeff Deschamps presented Kelly Kistner with a Green Presidents jacket.

National Officers and Executive Board Chair Report

The national officers and Executive Board Chair had provided a written report and they were distributed in the registration packets.

President: Kelly Kistner asked everyone to take back what they learn at the Convention and to utilize it and the material on the national website.

Vice-president: Vicki Arnold stated that we all come with different roles in the League, but we all come as leaders. She asked the attendees to look forward to the League's future changes just as we looked at the changes in the past.

Treasurer: Scott Meyer highlighted that the League's revenue is up 3.3% and expenses are down 7.2% from budgeted, the Executive Board released funds to hire new employees for new jobs, League investments regained last year's losses and the Merrill Lynch accounts are up over 7%. Mr. Meyer explained the IWLA Trust and its income and allowed withdrawals.

Judy Danish (MD) motioned to approve the Treasurers Report. Gary Schwartz seconded the motion. Kelly Kistner, President, asked for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Executive Board Chair: Jodi Labs, Executive Board Chair, reminded everyone that the members decide what the League does and sets the policies that the League follows. She noted that the League has both challenges and opportunities and that we are all here to better the League. By strengthening the national level of the organization, we strengthen the local level. She noted that nationally the League has a low public visibility. Ms. Labs noted that we all need start developing the League's future leaders. She challenged everyone to look in our chapters for potential leaders and to start mentoring them.

At the 2016 Stevens Point, WI Convention the membership decided to have a Clean Water Challenge and asked the national staff and leaders to figure out how to get it done. The national office has hired two

stream monitoring coordinators and now has the Clean Water Hub. It is up to the membership to make use of them and help accomplish the Clean Water Challenge.

Staff Report

A Staff Report was provided to everyone prior to the meeting. Scott Kovarovics, Executive Director, introduced and thanked the national staff. He noted that water pollution is not just a farm problem and that we all have a role in solving water quality problems. Mr. Kovarovics highlighted the 50th Anniversary of the Save Our Streams Program, 2018 and 2019 to date accomplishments, priorities for 2019 and looking ahead to the 100th Anniversary.

2018 National Convention Minutes

The 2018 National Convention Minutes were provided prior to the meeting. Kelly Kistner presented them for review and asked if there were any corrections and being none, he announced that the 2018 National Convention Minutes were accepted as presented.

Rules Committee

The Convention Rules were provided prior to the meeting. Mr. Kistner presented the Convention Rules developed by the Rules Committee.

Panel Discussion

We've Got to Stop Kidding Ourselves: How We Use the Land Has Consequences

The panelists were Professor Neil Hamilton from Drake University and Dr. Jerry Hatfield from the National Lab for Agriculture and the Environment and Dr. David Cwiertny from the University of Iowa. The topic was how we use the land from agriculture to suburban development is harming the streams and rivers that provide our drinking water, fish and wildlife habitat and places for outdoor recreation across the nation. They covered where we're falling short and what that means for public health and our communities. The panel then took questions from the Convention attendees.

Convention Recessed and Reconvened: Kelly Kistner recessed the National Convention at 12:30 PM July 17th for the Awards Luncheon and so the attendees could participate in the Standing and Resource Committees. He reconvened the National Convention at 9:00 AM July 18, 2019.

2020 National Convention

Ken Lefebvre provided an overview of the facility and plans for the 2020 National Convention. He provided lodging details and information on surrounding area attractions.

50th Anniversary of Save Our Streams

Samantha Briggs, Acting Director, Clean Water Program, presented on the history and changes in volunteer monitoring over the last 50 years. She discussed the goals for next year and that we need to do better in getting the trained monitors engaged in monitoring.

Donations

Scott Meyer, Treasurer, provided an opportunity for attendees to provide in-person donations to the IWLA Trust and the Clean Water Challenge. Several members and divisions took advantage of this opportunity to financially support the League.

Change is Good for Our Water, Health and Communities

The panel presentation included Dr. Bonnie McGill, University of Kansas and Dr. Mary Skopec, Iowa Lakeside Lab and Bruce Carney, Carney Family Farms. The panel discussed and took questions on how farmers, landowners and volunteers are improving water quality.

Credentials Committee

Jim Piatetski, Chair, presented the Credentials Committee Report. There were 117 delegates from 60 Chapters carrying 252 votes in attendance. The Credentials Committee declared there was a Quorum.

Election of National Officers and Directors-at-Large

Kelly Kistner, President, asked Dave Zentner, Chair of the Nominating Committee to give the report of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Zentner introduced the committee and explained what the committee did. He then reported that the Committee nominated Kelly Kistner (SD) for President, Vicki Arnold (IA) for Vice-President, Jim Storer (OH) for Secretary, Scott Meyer (VA) for Treasurer and Rick Sommer (SC) for National Director-at-Large.

Parliamentary Procedure

Ernie Padgett explained the *Roberts Rules of Order* procedures for casting an uncontested ballot.

Transfer of Chair

Kelly Kistner transferred the Chair of the meeting to Vicki Arnold, Vice-Chair.

President

Ms. Arnold stated that the Nominating Committee submitted the name of Kelly Kistner for President. She called for nominations for President from the floor. Being no further nominations Ms. Arnold closed the nominations. Dave Zentner (MN) motioned to have the secretary cast an uncontested ballot for Kelly Kistner for President. Don Klecker (WI) seconded the motion. Ms. Arnold called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Transfer of Chair

Vicki Arnold transferred the Chair of the meeting to Kelly Kistner, President.

Vice-President

Mr. Kistner stated that the Nominating Committee submitted the name of Vicki Arnold for Vice-President. He called for nominations from the floor. Being no further nominations Mr. Kelly closed the nominations. Mr. Kelly put forward an uncontested ballot for Vicki Arnold for Vice-President and called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Secretary

Mr. Kistner stated that the Nominating Committee submitted the name of Jim Storer for Secretary. He called for nominations from the floor. Being no further nominations Mr. Kelly closed the nominations. Mr. Kelly put forward an uncontested ballot for Jim Storer for Secretary and called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Treasurer

Mr. Kistner stated that the Nominating Committee submitted the name of Scott Meyer for Treasurer. He called for nominations from the floor. Being no further nominations Mr. Kelly closed the nominations. Mr. Kelly put forward an uncontested ballot for Scott Meyer for Treasurer and called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Director-at-Large

Mr. Kistner stated that the Nominating Committee submitted the name of Rick Sommer for Director-at-Large. He called for nominations from the floor. Rick Sommer (SC) noted that there were three open positions for Director-at-Large and nominated Bill Kelly (ID) for a second position of Director-at-Large. Mr. Kistner then put forward the name of Bill Kelly for another Director-at-Large position and asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. Being no more nominations from the floor Mr. Kistner put forward an uncontested ballot for both Rick Sommer and Bill Kelly as Directors-at-Large. The motion was adopted.

Making a Good First Impression Matters: Engaging a New Generation in Conservation

Mr. Phil Seng, DJ Case and Associates, presented on understanding why the outdoors matter to young adults and families. He provided advice on how to engage these audiences more effectively based on their interests.

Convention Recessed and Reconvened

Kelly Kistner, President, recessed the National Convention at 2:30 PM July 18th for the workshops and chapter visit. He reconvened the National Convention at 9:00 AM July 19, 2019.

Donations

Scott Meyer, Treasurer, provided an opportunity for attendees to provide in-person donations to the IWLA Trust, Youth Convention and IWLA Endowment. Several members and divisions took advantage of this opportunity to financially support the League and the IWLA Endowment.

Youth Convention

Alexei Lugo and William Hagen reported on the activities for the Youth Convention. The Youth Convention had 32 children and 5 adults participating in the activities.

National Scholarships Awarded

Earl Hower, Director of Chapter Relations introduced the Scholarship Committee members and announced that two students were awarded the 2019 National IWLA Scholarships in the amount of \$2,500, funded by the IWLA Endowment. The recipients were Ryan B. Wagner attending Ohio University (OH) in the class of 2020 with a Wildlife Biology and Conservation major and Seth T. Hatfield attending Liberty University (VA) in the class of 2021 with a Conservation Biology and Ecology major.

Convention Recessed and Reconvened

Kelly Kistner recessed the National Convention at 9:15 AM for the IWLA Endowment Meeting. He reconvened the National Convention at 9:40 AM July 19, 2019.

The Art of Conservation: A visit with Ding Darling

Mr. Tom Milligan provided a one-man show on the life and conservation efforts of Ding Darling.

Site Committee Report

2021 National Convention:

The Minnesota Division withdrew from hosting the 2021 National Convention. Rodger Mettenbrink and Mike Gaghagen presented Lincoln Nebraska as the site with the Nebraska Division as the host to the Site Committee for the location of the 2021 National Convention. The proposal was to hold it at the Corn Husker Hotel from July 21-23, 2021. The Early Bird will be on July 20th. The room rate is \$99 plus tax per night and is good three days before and three days after the meeting dates. The hotel has free parking and shuttle from the airport.

Ken Lefebvre (MD) motioned to accept the proposal by the Nebraska Division to host the 2021 National Convention. Lee Hays (MD) seconded the motion. Kelly Kistner, President, asked for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

2022 National Convention:

Luann Noll presented East Peoria, Illinois with the Illinois Division as the host to the Site Committee for the 2022 National Convention. The proposal is to hold it at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria, Illinois from July 20-22, 2022. The room cost is \$139 plus tax per night. All guest rooms are suites. The hotel has free parking and free Wi-Fi and breakfast is included. There is a free reception every night and there is a free shuttle from the Peoria Airport.

Ken Lefebvre motioned to accept the proposal by the Illinois Division to host the 2022 National Convention. Roger Mettenbrink seconded the motion. Kelly Kistner asked for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Convention Recessed and Reconvened

Kelly Kistner recessed the National Convention at 1:00 PM for lunch and an Executive Board Meeting. He reconvened the National Convention at 2:15 PM July 19, 2019.

Transfer of Chair

Kelly Kistner, President, transferred the meeting Chair to Lee Hays, Chair of the Resource Committee.

Resource Committee Report

Mr. Hays, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, explained the committee operations and recruitment of members. He reported that eleven (11) resolutions were submitted. The committee reduced them to seven (7) for the Resource Committees to work with. He explained the rules for discussion on the resolutions.

Agriculture Affairs Committee

Jim Caliguri, Sr., (IA) Chair introduced the committee and reported that the committee did not have any resolutions. They did discuss the new federal Farm Bill.

Energy and Environment Committee

Jill Crafton (MN), Chair introduced the committee. She reported that they worked on two resolutions.

Water Resources Committee

Shawn Gallagher (OH), Chair introduced the committee. He reported that they worked on two resolutions.

Public Lands Committee

Rick Cerwick (IA), Chair introduced the committee. He reported that they worked on one resolution.

Sustainability Committee

Les Monostory (NY), Chair introduced the committee and reported that they worked on one resolution.

Environmental Education

Paula Damon (SD), Chair introduced the committee members. She explained determining the audience and how to broaden the audience. The committee discussed how to communicate with the identified audience.

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Jack Johnson (IA), Chair introduced the committee members and reported that the committee had two resolutions to work on and moved one forward for consideration.

Outdoor Ethics

Lee Hays, Chair introduced the committee members and reported that the committee did not have any resolutions.

Resolutions

Lee Hays, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, presented the proposed resource resolutions.

US Army Corps of Engineers Accountability

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, calls on the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to fully evaluate impacts of permits and construction projects involving "Natural Resource Related Systems" as to their actual tangible real economic impacts to all entities engaged in the utilization of the resource for aesthetic, drinking water, food, recreation, business, or any other activity of economic importance. The reviews and decision-making process must be fully subject to public review and comment.

Mike Fuge (WI) motioned to accept the US Army Corps of Engineers Accountability resolution as presented. Rick Graham (OH) seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Asian Carp Barriers

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, supports the continued operation, expansion of technologies as deemed necessary, and maintenance of a barrier system, as prescribed by *The Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study - Brandon Road Integrated Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement*, until such time as the Mississippi River basin and Great Lakes basin are hydrologically separated.

Rick Sommer (SC) motioned to approve the Asian Carp Barriers resolution as presented. Steve Labs (WI) seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and Bill Kelly (ID) asked about the language used in the resolution. Rick Graham (OH) stated that the language is the Army Corps of Engineers language. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for further discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Climate Change

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, encourages League programs on fighting climate change, and declare that the League is acting immediately to take steps to reduce greenhouse gas production at all levels in League operations, and to make anti-CO2 and methane reduction a major emphasis in our advocacy. The League challenges all IWLA Divisions and Chapters to make greenhouse gas reduction a goal of their operations, including, wherever possible, conversion to solar photovoltaic or wind power and implementation of whatever other strategies they can find to achieve that end.

Roger Mettenbrink (NE) motioned to approve the Climate Change resolution as presented. Dawn Olson (OR) seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion. Ernie Padgett (VA) spoke against the resolution and Gary Schwartz spoke in favor of passage. Mike Chenoweth (FL) spoke in favor of the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for further discussion and being none called for a voice vote and with an unclear result asked for a teller vote. The vote was 155 in favor and 94 against. The motion was adopted.

Federal support needed to fully implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, calls upon Congress to fulfill its obligations under the agreement with Florida established in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, and promptly provide the approximately \$1 billion in funding that it has fallen behind for its half of the costs for the *Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan*. Further, the League calls on Congress to provide sufficient annual funding for the *Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan* for the remainder of the project. Additionally, Congress should provide annual funding to acquire land or conservation easements on land that is of acute conservation importance to the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge.

Mike Fuge motioned to approve the resolution Federal support needed to fully implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan resolution as presented. Don Klecker (WI) seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Use of Neonicotinoids on State Wildlife Areas

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, supports passage in all states of legislation that would prohibit the use of neonicotinoid pesticides on state wildlife management areas. Jeff Deschamps motioned to approve the Use of Neonicotinoids on State Wildlife Areas resolution as presented. Jim Sweeney (IN) seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion. Jim Madsen (SD) asked why not apply the resolution to all public lands. Jill Crafton said the US administration overturned it on federal wildlife lands. The consensus of the delegates was to accept this change. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for vote on the amended resolution. The motion was adopted.

Jodi Labs (WI) motioned to delete "...in all states..." in the text of the resolution and to change the title to "...Public Lands." Jeff Deschamps seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Hays presented the revised resolution. Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, supports passage of legislation that would prohibit the use of neonicotinoid pesticides on all public lands. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Plastic Pollution

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention in West Des Moines, Iowa July 19, 2019, recognizes that plastic waste is one of the world's most pressing environmental issues. The League also recognizes the need to sharply reduce the amount of plastic being washed into the world's streams, rivers, and oceans. The League encourages every unit of government to enact legislation and regulations to curtail and where possible, ban the use of single-use plastics, such as disposable water bottles, drinking straws, and grocery bags.

Further resolved, the League urges the United States to ratify the 1989 Basel Convention on the control of hazardous waste, including plastic.

Mike Chenoweth motioned to approve the Plastic Pollution resolution as presented. Dawn Olson seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion.

Pete Daanen (WI) motioned to remove the last sentence. Mike Fuge seconded the motion. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion on the motion to change the resolution. Mike Stout (PA) spoke in opposition of the change to the motion. Jodi Arndt Labs explained that the 1989 Basel Convention was signed by the United States but not ratified. Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion and being none called for a teller vote. The vote count was 21 in favor and 217 against the motion to strike the last sentence of the original resolution. The motion failed.

Mr. Hays, Chair, called for discussion on the resolution as it was originally presented. Chuck Hunnel (PA) spoke in favor of passage. Being no further discussion Mr. Hays called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Future Resolutions

Mr. Hays asked everyone to submit proposed resolutions earlier in the future so that staff and delegates have more time to review them prior to the Conventions.

Transfer of Chair

Lee Hays transferred the meeting Chair to Kelly Kistner, President.

Unfinished Business

Thank Convention Host

Mike Chenoweth motioned to thank the Des Moines Chapter for the terrific 2019 Convention held in West Des Moines, Iowa. Jim Sweeney seconded the motion. Kelly Kistner asked for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

Adjourn

Lee Hays motioned to adjourn the 2019 National Convention. Rick Graham seconded the motion. Kelly Kistner asked for discussion and being none called for the vote. The motion was adopted. Mr. Kistner adjourned the 2019 National Convention at 3:30 PM, July 19, 2019.

James D. Storer, Secretary