

## Minutes of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee: meeting of 24 February 2019

Present: Bob Fisher (alternate), Walter Marcisz, Matt Fraker, Adam Sell, Doug Stotz, Paul Sweet (Vice Secretary), Geoff Williamson (Secretary)

Absent: Keith McMullen

The meeting was called to order at 9:19 AM.

Doug Stotz moved and Adam Sell seconded to approve the minutes of the 18 February 2018 meeting. They were approved by unanimous consent.

Matt Fraker and Davida Kalina were elected by unanimous vote to serve a three year term 2019-2021, this being Fraker's second consecutive term and Kalina's first term.

The present list of Alternates includes Bob Fisher, Bob Hughes, Mike Ward, and Dave Willard. The present Members have no objections to these individuals constituting the approved list of Alternates.

Geoff Williamson was elected by unanimous vote to serve as Secretary for 2019.

Adam Sell nominated Paul Sweet for the position of Vice-Secretary. Paul Sweet indicated he was willing to serve. He was elected by unanimous vote.

The next Annual Meeting is targeted to be on Martin Luther King weekend in January 2020 or the Gull Frolic weekend in February 2020.

Geoff Williamson presented the Secretary's report, a copy of which will be placed on the IORC work web site.

### Subcommittee reports

Archive Subcommittee (Subcommittee Chair: Paul Sweet). Paul Sweet proposed that the charge of the Archive Subcommittee be as follows. "The Archive Subcommittee is charged to organize the currently held physical records and ensure their transferal to electronic form. The Subcommittee will also draft a set of Archive Procedures to achieve the IORC purpose to maintain permanently the original bird records and all Committee votes and comments for use by future bird students." The Committee approved this charge by unanimous consent.

Other work under the aegis of the subcommittee is for the Secretary to remove votes/comments from prior to 2017 from the "working web site" and then make that web site public.

Bylaws Subcommittee (Subcommittee Chair: Paul Sweet). The language of Section VII.A of the bylaws was discussed. The sense of the Committee was that "Status Codes" should be dropped,

that status descriptions be “Regular,” “Rare,” “Casual,” “Accidental,” “Extirpated,” and “Extinct.” The Bylaws Subcommittee will draft a proposed revision of the bylaws to effect this.

Doug Stotz noted that when IORC drafts language to describe what kinds of records it encourages observers to document, it should note that observations of species classified as extinct or extirpated, in addition to those not on the official state list, should be documented. See Section VII.B.(3) of the bylaws and the presentation of the Review List on the IOS web site.

The Bylaws Subcommittee will also draft a proposed revision of Section VII.B.(2) and (3) to address the above issue and the distinction between species and forms.

The Bylaws Subcommittee will draft a proposed revision of Section VII.H.(2) to state that the evidence level of accepted records be published.

Bob Fisher moved and Doug Stotz seconded that IORC merge records 2018-044 and 2018-045, both pertaining to single Long-tailed Jaegers along Lake Michigan in Cook County on the same day. After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously against the motion. Doug Stotz suggested that the IORC report that discusses these records include mention that the Committee carefully reviewed the available evidence to consider whether they should be merged but decided against doing so, as the evidence suggested two birds were involved, though this was not a definitive determination.

The Committee discussed the status of Barnacle Goose. Records 1983-003, 2015-038, and 2017-064 will now be circulated.

The Committee discussed record 2017-030, Swallow-tailed Kite, in advance of its 4<sup>th</sup> circulation. This record will be circulated among the Members and Alternate present for the discussion.

The Committee discussed record 2017-051, White-faced Ibis, in advance of its 4<sup>th</sup> circulation. This record will be circulated among the Members and Alternate present for the discussion.

The Committee examined Blue-headed Vireo and Cassin’s Vireo specimens.

The Committee examined Mottled Duck (Florida and Texas) specimens, and some Mexican Duck and Mallard specimens.

The meeting adjourned at 3:14 PM.