

Minutes of the
Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
1996 Annual Business Meeting
February 1, 1996

Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society President, Kathy McGrath, called the 34th annual business meeting to order at 3:33 P.M. After the determination of a quorum (103 members in attendance), Kathy introduced Jim Peterson, President Elect of the Arkansas Chapter. Jim was attending the Forest Fish and Wildlife Conference and wanted to attend the business meeting to invite Missouri Chapter members to the Arkansas Chapter business meeting and technical sessions February 14-16, 1996.

Kathy then recognized AFS parent society past presidents, Lee Redmond and Joe Dillard and past presidents of the Missouri Chapter. Kathy announced that Dick Shettger, past president, and Dick Frie past chapter member passed away recently. Kathy also announced that Ken Perry, Fred Vasey, Bill Pflieger, and Bill Diefenbach, all long-time chapter members retired since the 1995 business meeting.

Harold Kerns announced that the Fishes of Kansas has been reprinted and that he could get copies at discounted prices. Bob Hrabic announced that the NCD Rivers and Streams Committee would like to know the location of any exotic species that chapter members collect.

Kathy informed the membership that we would only hear from committee chairs with action items. All Committee Chairs have included a summary in the 1995 Annual Report that was distributed to the attendees prior to the meeting.

Kathy then presented some of the chapter highlights from 1995.

- ▶ The Rivers and Streams guidebook is getting closer to publication.
- ▶ The EXCOM voted to:
 - contribute \$125 to the AFS2000 campaign,
 - contribute \$125 to help Mexican scientists defray travel costs to the international meeting,
 - create three new committees, the Public Relations Committee, the Finance Committee and an *ad hoc* Watershed Conservation Committee.
- ▶ The Chapter received a \$21,000 donation to the Student Support Fund.
- ▶ The Chapter co-sponsored an advocacy workshop.
- ▶ The Continuing Education Committee coordinated a Multivariate Statistics workshop.
- ▶ The Chapter presented testimony supporting stricter Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) regulations to the Clean Water Commission.
- ▶ The Chapter has been actively raising money.
- ▶ As a result of contacts with Bass Pro Shops representatives, Kathy was invited to author and present a short video regarding the Missouri Chapter's mission and recent activities and made a pitch for advocating environmentally sound legislation. The video aired on Bass Pro Shop's Conservation Corners. Kathy played the video which was well received.

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Brian Todd, Chapter Secretary, presented the minutes from the 1995 business meeting for approval. Spencer Turner made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Czarnezki seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Phil Pitts, Chapter Treasurer, presented the attached Treasurer's report. Spencer Turner made a motion to approve the report. Ron Dent seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Kevin Sullivan, outgoing Newsletter Editor, asked the members to forward their E-mail addresses to Tom Groshens, incoming Newsletter Editor. The EXCOM would like distribute as many newsletters as possible electronically.

Pam Haverland, Immediate Past President, reported that Jim Czarnezki and Mike Kruse were the nominees for President Elect. Jim Czarnezki won. John Besser and Dave Michaelson were the nominees for Treasurer. Dave Michaelson won.

Pam asked the membership to consider changing the name of the Fund Raising Committee to the Finance Committee in the By-Laws. Travis Moore made a motion to change the name of the Fund Raising Committee to the Finance Committee in the By-Laws. Jim Czarnezki seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dan Beckman, Awards Committee Chair, reported good participation and that the winners would be announced at the banquet following the business meeting. Kathy presented letters of recognition to Bill Anderson and Norman Stucky for their role in securing a \$21,000 bequest to the Student Support Fund. Kathy also presented a letter of recognition to Kevin Sullivan, outgoing Newsletter Editor. Some highlights of Kevin's two-year stint were that he was the first editor to utilize E-mail to deliver newsletters and that the newsletter won the NCD's Outstanding Newsletter Award. Al Buchanan was presented a letter of recognition for his work on the conservation of freshwater mussels. Al is currently the Chair of the UMRCC Mussel Committee and the Chair and organizer of the Freshwater Mussel Symposium recently held in St. Louis. Pam Haverland and Mark Wildhaber received letters of recognition for organizing, advertising, and conducting a successful multivariate statistic workshop. Pam Haverland then presented letters of recognition to Kathy McGrath, Chris Vitello, Donna Menowan and Bill Turner for their work with the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding instream sand and gravel mining general permit.

The Missouri Chapter's FFA Committee was recognized for receiving an award from the FFA for having a booth at the FFA National Convention for 30 years. Phil Jefferies, Committee Chair, has participated in the booth for 17 or 18 years.

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Lee Redmond, Parent Society Past President, reported news and activities from the Parent Society.

- ▶ Paul Brouha recently underwent neck surgery.
- ▶ Paul is trying to improve AFS governance. The Parent Society EXCOM is making changes to the governing board. They are proposing a five-member Management Board (five officers) and a six-member Management Committee.
- ▶ Work plans are changing from strategic to operational
- ▶ The Parent Society has 23 natural resource policies which they are binding together.
- ▶ AFS2000, a campaign to fund endowments which will support improved communications (book preparation, computer upgrades, etc.) has been launched.
- ▶ The Parent Society is revisiting its ethics and advocacy policy.
- ▶ The Parent Society is having budget problems. Raises in publication costs and low attendance at the national meetings are to blame.
- ▶ There are currently 39 committees with 400 members within the Society.

Kevin Richards, Chair of the Parent Society's Endangered Species Committee, reported on his trip to Washington D.C. to promote wise re-authorization of the Endangered Species Act. He is currently reviewing three different bills. Representative Saxon has prepared the best bill. Kevin urged the membership to write to their legislators.

Steve Fischer, FAN Committee Chair, urged members to participate in AFS2000 and announced that the Missouri Aquatic Workers Directory would be available soon.

Jim Czarnecki, *ad hoc* Watershed Conservation Committee (WCC) Co-Chair, discussed the impetus for assembling the committee. In December 1993 a white paper authored by MOAFS members pointed out the need for action and a coordinated approach to stream and watershed issues. The WCC approached Watershed Stewardship Committee, an interagency committee chaired by Joe Dillard, and asked if MOAFS could host a panel discussion immediately after the Watershed Stewardship Committee to try and get the top administrators and non-governmental agencies to voice and agree to solutions. It was decided that if a Governors Conference on watersheds in 1997 was warranted, MOAFS would try to convince the Governor that a watershed task force is need. The WCC will approach the Soil and Water Conservation Society to see if they want to join forces. Jim reminded everyone that coordinated watershed management is a long term goal. The Chapter is handling registration for the Watershed Stewardship Conference for a portion of the registration fees. Copies of another white paper detailing the expected outcome is available from Jim Czarnecki.

Joe Dillard gave an overview of the upcoming Watershed Stewardship Conference. The workshop on April 2 and 3, 1996 hopefully will be the first of two. At the first conference state, Federal and non-governmental organizations will present different approaches and success stories. Joe is hoping the first conference will spark enough interest to call a second conference titled the Governors Watershed Conference. The second conference will be geared towards citizens. The Watershed Stewardship Committee's ultimate goal is citizen driven watershed improvement.

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Dr. Noltie, Student Support Committee Chair, asked for all of the students to stand. Ten students stood. He reported that student interest in a conclave was low and that the “adopt a college” initiative was on hold. He reported that the Committee and the EXCOM has been discussing ways to invest and spend proceeds from the student support endowment. Some of the expenditures discussed were small grants, student awards, field trips and social activities. He reported that the Chapter funded a portion of Scott Sowa’s travel to the 1995 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. He also reported that Michelle Cople, the 1994 Midwest Fish and Wildlife travel grant winner wrote a thank-you note to the Chapter. Dr. Noltie also asked for submissions to the Student Corner article in the next issue of the Chapter newsletter. The Student Support Committee made two academic awards in 1995. Mark Weiland won the Best MS Thesis Award for his thesis “Evaluation of causes of decline in Lake Taneycomo rainbow trout.” The Student Achievement Award went to Scott Sowa.

Travis Moore, Resolution Committee Chair, introduced five resolutions. The resolutions in their final form are attached. The motions to accept and results of the written balloting are reported in the following table.

Abbreviated Resolution Title	First Motion to Accept	Second Motion to Accept	Votes		Comments
			Yes	No	
Neosho Fish Hatchery	Spencer Turner	Jim Czarnecki	72	10	
Big Muddy NWR	Mark Wildhaber	Dave Galat	84	0	
Initial Version of Air Pollution and Agriculture	Spencer Turner	Joe Dillard	-	-	Del Lobb made a motion that a committee of interested members amend the resolution and that the membership vote on the spirit of the resolution.
The spirit of Air Pollution and Agriculture	Del Lobb	Paul Michaletz	49	33	
The spirit of Further Restrictions on CAFOs	Chris Vitello	Dave Galat	75	1	
Wildlife Diversity Funding	Mark Wildhaber	Joe Dillard	68	3	

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New Business

Kathy started the new business portion of the meeting by recognizing and thanking the EXCOM Officers and Committee Chairs for their hard work.

Cathy informed the membership that the Parent Society approached the Missouri Chapter in regards to hosting the Society's international meeting in the year 2000 and that the EXCOM would be asking for feedback in the future.

Cathy also encouraged the membership to become more familiar with computer assisted communication (e-mail, Internet, etc.). The Chapter has been and will be conducting quite a bit of business with the help of computers.

Kathy officially turned over the gavel to president elect Ron Dent. Kathy received a standing ovation as she received the Past-President Certificate from Ron.

Ron reported that it appears that the silent auction and raffle will gross \$1,400. He recognized the hard work that James Civiello and Warren Valenti put into the fund raisers.

Ron made a motion to adjourn at 6:04 P.M. The motion was seconded by Mark Wildhaber.

This minutes respectfully submitted by

Brian Todd

Secretary of the Missouri Chapter of the American
Fisheries Society

Proposed attachments to be included in official copy but not in this draft:

- ▶ *Treasurer's Report*
- ▶ *final version of all resolutions introduced*