

MISSOURI CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting Conference Building Environmental and Contaminants Research Center Columbia, Missouri July 30, 1997

Chapter President, Jim Czarnezki called the meeting to order and asked those present to introduce themselves. Meeting attendees included Jim Czarnezki, Pam Haverland, Joe Dillard, John Besser, Chris Vitello, Jim Fairchild, Warren Valenti, Dave Mayers, Kenda Flores, Jeff Finley, and Curt Gateley.

President's Update A prepared statement against lead mining on MDC property was not read at the Conservation Commission meeting because Doe Run withdrew the request for a mining permit for exploration.

The Environmental Assessment for exploratory drilling for lead in the Eleven Point was reviewed and commented on. A letter was sent to the Mark Twain National Forest requesting the selection of the alternative that provides the most protection for the aquatic resources in the area.

Letters were sent to the Congress/House for Environmental Management Program of upper Mississippi.

There was a meeting with the presidents of the other societies. There was a vote to move forward concerning the Watershed Conservation Initiative. Each President will nominate two people from the society to a working group on watershed issues. The task of the working group is to come up with a proposal to be presented to the Presidents for approval. The first meeting of the working group will be in February at the 1998 Missouri Natural Resources Conference.

Secretary's Report Kenda Flores presented the minutes from previous meetings in the absence of Secretary Mike Smith. Jim Czarnezki asked for corrections to the minutes from the January, February, and May meetings. Corrections were made. Pam Haverland made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Dave Mayers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer, Dave Michaelson was not present, but had provided copies of the Treasurer's report. Jim Czarnezki summarized the report. He asked why there were two accounts, an organization and a general account. He suggested that if no one knows why that account exists that it be merged with the general account. Warren Valenti asked if a separate account for the 130th National AFS Meeting would be needed. Would MOAFS or MDC receive the money? The answer from Jim Czarnezki was that he didn't know, but if we need a separate account for the national meeting, we would open an account when the time comes. It was decided to leave both accounts as they are for the time being. Pam Haverland made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Warren Valenti and the motion was

passed unanimously by voice vote.

Awards Committee The name of the Award of Excellence was changed at the 1997 Annual Meeting to the John L. Funk Award of Excellence. Chair Pam Haverland presented three options available to change the plaques for the award.

Option 1- replace the top plaque to read: John L. Funk Award of Excellence; the rest of the plaque would remain the same with a footnote that would read: *The name was changed at the 1997 Annual Meeting to honor the Chapter's founder, first President, and professionalism mentor, John L. Funk. We would continue to add twelve more names and in twelve more years add another board to the bottom for more names with eye hooks and chains. We would also add John L. Funk to the top of the recipient's plaque. Costs would include- cost for the new top plaque, \$7 for the logo, \$2.25 per line of type and \$21.99 for the recipient's board. Cost for modifying top plaque (11 lines) $\$24.75 + 7 = \31.75 . Cost for recipient's plaque (13 lines) $\$21.99 + 36 + 7 = \64.99 .

Option 2- Rearrange the bottom plaques to leave a three-row space for a large plaque to explain the name change. Start a new plaque with the top plaque like the one we have adding John L. Funk as the top line. Add John L. Funk to the top of the recipient's plaque. Costs would include- a large board for the new plaque with plaques \$99, \$7 for the logo, \$2.25 per line of type, \$4 for the bottom plaque, \$2.25 per line of type, and \$21.99 for the recipient's board. Total costs for the new large board $99 + 24.75 + 7 = \$130.75$, costs for changing the current board (4 lines) $4 + 9 = \$13$, and costs for the new recipient's board \$64.99.

Option 3- Footnote that the name was changed in 1997. Cost would be \$31.75.

Pam suggested going with option 1. A discussion among the members followed. Pam had brought both the large board plaque and a recipient's plaque, and she explained the changes that would occur and where the added lines would be on the plaques. Jim Fairchild requested a summary of the recipients for an article to be written for the newsletter. Pam made a motion to accept Option 1. Warren Valenti seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously by voice vote. Jim Czarnezki suggested that the old plaque should be given to the historian with a note of explanation about the name and plaque changes that occurred in 1997.

Chapter Historian, Joe Dillard had informed President Jim Czarnezki that he would be at the meeting later in the afternoon. Pam Haverland reported that she knew the Chapter History was recorded and updated through 1995. However, the Bylaws and the Operations Manual need to be updated. According to Pam, Joe Dillard wants to put the Chapter History on the MOAFS Web Page instead of printing hard copies and circulating a copy to every member. Pam wants hard copies available besides putting the document on the Web Page. She thinks a copy should be available to all members and given to all new members. Jim Fairchild suggested that hard copies be put in a ring binder so that new or additional information could be added without having to replace the entire document each time updates were made. There could be a charge for hard copies. Jim Czarnezki said there would be more discussion when Joe Dillard arrived in the afternoon.

Continuing Education Committee Chair, John Besser said that he is organizing a GIS/ArcView

short course to be taught in a two day training session in Columbia. He still needs approval from the director and to talk to the head of computer services about dates. John is considering dates in October for the workshop and his goal is to have an announcement in the August newsletter describing the workshop and suggesting two possible dates. He also needs to know if there is sufficient interest in the workshop. The minimum number of people required is six. There can be up to twelve people in a session and there have been as many as seventeen. He hopes to get responses from the newsletter as feedback about whether this type of workshop would be of interest to the fisheries personnel. It would be possible to have a third day just for fisheries applications. Another alternative would be to have special exercises on the second training day so biologists could use the applications for their own fisheries datasets. Generally there are going to be three sections of the workshop: basic skills, applications, and software pricing. Jeff Finley, FASS President wanted to know if FASS members could attend. John said AFS members would be accepted first, but if there is room in the workshop, FASS members were welcome to enroll. John expressed a concern that there might not be enough interest to have the workshop. Jeff Finley said that FASS members would be interested to have the same training that fisheries professionals were getting. John replied that the University of Missouri has semester classes that students could attend and get college credit. The cost for this workshop is \$400 and there would be no course credit for students. Pam Haverland said that students would benefit by having the same type of software training as future employers.

Disabled Angler Committee Chair, Ross Dames was not able to attend the EXCOM meeting, but he provided a memo to Jim Czarnecki to read. In June the Disabled Angler Committee purchased an automatic fishing reel and an E-Z Cast rod for the Country Villa Healthcare in Humansville. Total cost was \$478.95. They originally requested two of each of these items, but the need for one patient in particular was urgent. Ross purchased just one complete outfit since there was no EXCOM approval to spend more than the budgeted \$500. He had planned to request for approval to purchase additional items at the present meeting, but he has not spoken with the contact person at Country Villa and is not sure the need still exists. He is going to wait until he speaks with her again before requesting money to purchase another outfit.

The Disabled Angler Committee was recently the recipient of \$350 in memorial contributions in memory of Kirk McDowell of Ironton. Ross will send acknowledgements to contributors and a note to the McDowell family. Dave Michaelson should have received the money from Conservation Agent Greg Hitchings. The money received was donated for programs in a youth-oriented home. Pam Haverland commented that the people at the youth-oriented home should know where the money came from.

Financial Committee Chair, Chris Vitello had sent a WordPerfect file to Tom to publish in the newsletter. MOAFS Members will be asked to raise donations for the raffle at the NRC. The raffle and silent auction were explained to FASS representatives. They were told they could raise money for their chapter by soliciting donated items and raffling them at the same meeting. Chris has begun contacting folks for donations. He requested that a minimum bid accompany donated items.

FFA Committee Chair, Jake Allman was in Wisconsin, but sent a report read by Jim Czarnecki.

We will again have a booth at the FFA Career Show. The show is November 12-14. All volunteers are welcome. After this show we will have only one more show. The FFA Convention will move to Louisville, in 1999. The FFA Career Show has been in Kansas City for the last 30 years.

FFW Conference Steering Committee Chair, Kevin Richards was not present. No information was forwarded from Kevin. The biggest change is the name change. There will be a call for papers by Mike Kruse soon. The name change of the conference will appear in the new literature. Chris Vitello will select the next committee representative to replace Kevin. Tell Chris about any volunteers to attend meetings. Pam picked Kevin as the Chair, then let Kevin choose members for the Steering, Programs, and Arrangement committees. Pam said to consider new people available in the organization. This will be a good way for them to learn from two conferences at once before the National AFS meeting in St. Louis in 2000.

Legislative/Environmental Concerns Committee Chair, Jim Fairchild reported that a summary of the committee's actions has been sent to Ron Dent to be included in the National Chapter of the Year competition. The committee had reviewed the Environmental Assessment of proposed lead mining in the Ozark Scenic Waterways. They backed up the recommendations for the lowest impact exploration methods, e.g., a diaper at the drill site, wider buffer zones from streams and roads, and slope restrictions. A position statement is being prepared by Steve Fischer (MDC), Dave Mayers (MDC), Donna Menown (DNR), Joe Hughes (COE), John Ford (DNR). Any comments to be included need to be sent to the EXCOM by September 15. Deadlines need to be met so the statement can be submitted for approval at the October 2 business meeting and published in the December newsletter. The statement will be presented and the Missouri Natural Resources Conference for acceptance or rejection by the members.

Membership Committee Chair, Warren Valenti reported that there are currently 197 members and 2 associate members. Chapter goals were to have 175 members and 5 associate members.

Newsletter Committee Chair, Tom Groshens was not present, but the deadline for August newsletter items was announced as August 1.

Publicity Committee Chair, Trish Yasger was not present, but there was a short discussion on the brochure project. Trish is looking for brochure photos to stimulate membership drives. She was having trouble finding the credits for the photographs she wants to include and now there may be an increase in the price to produce the brochure. Jim Czarnezki volunteered to check on the status of the brochure.

Resolutions Committee There will be a call for resolutions in the next newsletter for the upcoming meeting.

Rivers and Streams Committee Chair, Dave Mayers reported that a summer committee meeting was held July 15 at Bennett Springs. There is a lot of interest in the Rivers and Streams Committee; 25 members attended the last meeting. There was a discussion about the CAFO fact sheet and whether additional fact sheets on other subjects such as fish contamination, pesticide

and toxicity, and the economic value of stream fisheries should be drafted. There was also a discussion about whether an entire committee should be convened just to work on Fact Sheets and whether there should be a standard format for all Fact Sheets. The question asked was whether there was a past standard format that should be followed or to continue with the current format. Chris Vitello suggested that the current format should be followed since the CAFO fact sheet is almost finished. The CAFO fact sheet will be finished in early fall, hopefully in September. Dave said the committee felt that suggestions for future fact sheet topics went beyond the scope of the Rivers and Streams Committee. Jim Fairchild asked whether MDC had a comparable series. Jim Czarnezki replied that there are Annual Fishkill and Chlorodane Reports. Chris said that Natural History has a series of reports on threatened and endangered species. The last few reports had been on aquatic species. Chris asked Dave if he thought there should be a separate subcommittee to suggest topics and develop fact sheets. Dave asked if the subcommittee had to be within the Rivers and Streams Committee. Jim Czarnezki asked Dave if he thought the project was bigger than the Rivers and Streams Committee and asked if they need more people. Jim Fairchild suggested forming a standing committee that could set goals and then assign the development of the fact sheets to other committees. Dave asked for suggestions to look beyond the subcommittee. Jim Fairchild suggested the responsibility could be placed with Education or Public Outreach. John Besser suggested distributing topics and let other committees handle the mechanics. He said to set up an ad hoc group to come up with a list of topics. Chris Vitello advised printing the fact sheet in the December newsletter, asking for topics, then deciding the type of committee to form after the topics have been prioritized.

The Rivers and Streams also discussed the problems of gravel mining. The COE now has the authority to regulate gravel mining again. There is a need for research on the long term effects and the economic costs of gravel mining on aquatic communities. What can we do to educate the public about the environmental costs of gravel mining? Dave said that Arkansas had made a Gravel Mining Video, but he felt that it was a radical approach. He wanted to know what we could do to get the word out to Garden clubs and Environmental groups about the damage gravel mining does. Lee Redmond mentioned Betty Willis of Earthway Productions. She is going to be in Missouri August 4-7 to do a video with Bob DiStefano on crayfish. Rivers and Streams Committee formed a subcommittee to investigate doing a video on gravel mining. Donna Menown is the chair, and Lee Redmond and Del Lobb are on the subcommittee. Jim Fairchild said that videos are potentially inflammatory. Would a fact sheet precede the video? Dave said that a fact sheet and a video could be developed simultaneously. Jim Fairchild would like to see a fact sheet on gravel mining precede the video. It would be good to distribute to the COE and DNR because there is a lack of consistency among agencies dealing with the gravel mining impacts and issues.

Stream Conservation Guide. Dave said they are looking for another author for the stream legislation and agency chapter since Kathy McGrath has left MDC. The first draft is due January 1998.

The next meeting of the Rivers and Streams Committee is February 18, 1998 at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference.

Student Subunit Jeff Finley is the new president and Curt Gateley is the new vice president of

FASS. There are currently 9 to 12 members, but they plan to try to increase membership this semester. Focus of the subunit is to make FASS members more marketable as they apply for jobs. They want a mentor program to gain experience working with employed Fisheries personnel. John Besser suggested that FASS members use the MOAFS newsletter to publicize students job availabilities.

Watershed Conservation Ad Hoc Committee The next meeting will be this fall and the primary topic: Where do we go from here? This ad hoc committee was formed to elevate watershed issues.

Web Site FIN has been absorbed in the Legislative/Environmental Concerns Committee. Visitor numbers to the Web Site have declined. Question- How many people in the room hit the web page for news? Answer- No one in the room, however few in the room from MDC have the hardware or software capability to do so.

Old Business

Nominations. Two nominees are needed for the offices of Treasurer and President-Elect. Contact Ron Dent.

130th National AFS Meeting in St. Louis. Interested people should contact Ron Dent to volunteer. There should be a memorandum of understanding with AFS, MDC and the University of Missouri by spring 1998 outlining responsibilities.

Most Active Chapter Award- The winner will be announced in Monterrey.

Operations Manual. Changes need to be submitted to Ron Dent by September 1 so they can be printed in the December newsletter.

Chapter Historian, Joe Dillard reported that the Chapter History is in WordPerfect format and is ready to go on the Home Page. Joe continues to archive the records. He checked about displaying the "hardware" of the MOAFS (Chapter Awards) in the new school lobby of the School of Natural Resources. Joe volunteers to continue to keep records instead of turning them over to the Missouri Historical Manuscript Society at UM. There was a discussion about mailing hard copies of the Chapter History to members. Joe thinks hard copies should be sent only to members that request it. Pam suggested a copy should be given to associate members. Dave asked if there was any art work on the cover. Joe said no art work. Pam volunteered to work with Joe to complete changes in the history to date. Joe was also asked about a format for fact sheets, but he said there was not an old existing format that he knew of.

Old Business

Dave Mayers reported that 35 copies of a 9-minute film, "Protecting the Future of Missouri's Fishing," had been produced by converting a slide series to a video tape. Most of the copies have been distributed. He asked for help to distribute the remainder of the copies.

New Business

Chris Vitello described the new Bass Pro National Hunting and Fishing Museum project that Johnny Morris is heading. It is a \$40 million project centered on an aquarium designed by the

Cambridge 7. The plans are for visitors to come in at an upper level and follow the drop in gradient of the water. The project is focused on central Missouri waterways. Johnny Morris is donating \$10 million in property. The City of Springfield has designated Bass Pro Shops as a special tax district to fund the museum. The City has been asked to \$7 million and MDC has been asked for \$7.5 million. Bass Pro wants a representative to sit on an ongoing committee for the project. Do we want a committee representative and who should that be? Chris thinks that MOAFS should have a voice in the displays. There is an estimated 2-3 million people per year that will visit the museum. Joe Dillard advised that our committee member should be of the stature of the other committee members. Chris suggested either Lee Redmond or Joe Dillard. Lee could bring in both National AFS and Missouri presence. Chris thought Lee could write a letter to Paul Brouha to inform him of the Chapter's involvement with the project. Joe Dillard made a motion to appoint Lee Redmond to represent AFS and make contact to proceed. The motion was seconded by Pam Haverland. The vote was passed unanimously. Chris will write a letter to Lee outlining his nomination by the EXCOM.

Missouri Clean Water Commission. Jim Czarnezki said there was a need for 6 nominations for the positions to be filled. You can contact John Madras to nominate someone for the position. The members will be appointed by the Governor.

Watershed/Stewardship Meeting. The idea for a clearinghouse for watershed information in Missouri was one objective of a Watershed Stewardship Workshop that MDC co-hosted in April 1996. Joe Dillard was appointed to the task force. There was a consensus for having a centralized tracking system for the many and varied ongoing watershed and water quality programs and initiatives. The clearing house would be unique in that it will emphasize people, activities, and education, not just data about watersheds. The intent is to provide what the clients have already indicated they want. It will provide "one-stop shopping" for people seeking information and data on watershed projects, activities, and initiatives. It will consolidate widely scattered information into a standardized system for all to use, and avoid duplication of effort among agencies. Information will be available by phone, fax, or at a web site.

A motion to adjourn was made by Pam, seconded by Joe and passed unanimously. We adjourned at 2:30 p.m..

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mike Smith
October 2, 1997