

MINUTES
MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
44th ANNUAL MEETING

January 31, 2008
Tan-Tar-A Lodge
Osage Beach, Missouri

Call to Order and Quorum: Secretary Phillip Pitts

Welcome/Introductions/Announcements: President Brian Canaday

Ange Corson and Tom Priesendorf announced that the winter meeting of the Rivers and Streams Committee will be held immediately following today's business meeting.

Recognition: Brian Canaday

Past Presidents of the Missouri Chapter AFS – Rich Wehnes, Vince Travnichek, Steve Eder, Harold Kerns, Ron Dent, Chris Vitello, Bill Turner

Awards:

Letters of Recognition

Brian presented a letter of recognition to Terry Finger for his efforts to protect Missouri's aquatic resources. Bob Temper accepted on behalf of Terry. Brian also thanked Bob for his efforts on behalf of Missouri's aquatic resources. Brian then presented a letter of recognition to Spencer Jones and Brian Orr of Great Rivers Engineering for their efforts that resulted in improved stream passages for aquatic organisms.

David Murphy, Executive Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, expressed his appreciation that the American Fisheries Society, as well as The Wildlife Society, the Society of American Foresters, and the Soil and Water Conservation Society, are affiliated with the Conservation Federation of Missouri. He announced that Vince Travnichek and Rob Pulliam will be honored by the Conservation Federation on February 22nd, 2008. Vince will be honored as the Conservationist of the Year and Rob Pulliam will be honored as the Professional Conservationist of the Year.

2007 Business Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Secretary Sherry Fischer. No discussion; motion made to accept by Duane Chapman, seconded by Vince Travnichek. Accepted and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Darren Thornhill presented a report. Motion to accept by Duane Chapman seconded by Jason Persinger. Accepted and approved. Ron Dent made a motion to take \$25000 from the General Account and move it to the Student Support Trust Fund. Chris Vitello seconded the motion. Mike Kruse requested that we table the motion until we discuss the budget and Ron Dent agreed. Vince Travnichek suggested that we have an audit. Darren Thornhill stated that he would find someone to do an audit and work with them. Darren Thornhill

explained that Missouri Chapter previously did not have to report to the IRS because it was below a certain amount. It now has to do so because it is above that threshold.

Words from our President: Brian Canaday expressed pride in the activities of MoAFS, including: providing expert testimony for the legislature; sponsoring events for kids, seniors, and anglers with disabilities, the Endangered Species Run, and the Missouri Natural Resources Conference; and assisting with Zebra Mussel Focus Groups. He encouraged all members to please consider doing something for MoAFS in 2008.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: Election Results: Vince Travnichek announced the newly elected President is Kenda Flores and the newly elected Treasurer is Mary Scott. He thanked Mark Van Patten for being a candidate for President and Rich Cook for being a candidate for Treasurer.

Anglers with Disabilities: Phil Pitts (for Mary Scott) announced that the annual tri-county fishing clinic will be September 20th at the Rolla Lion's Club.

Chapter Historian: Brian Canaday (for Joe Dillard) announced that Joe would like pictures of MoAFS activities. He keeps MoAFS documents available on the web page. He is working on better storage of documents.

Continuing Education: This chair is vacant. Brian Canaday announced that the River and Streams Committee sponsored a workshop with an attendance of 100 and is considering another for 2008.

Finance: Mike Kruse thanked everyone who donated and all who bid at the auction. He reported that canoe ticket sales were going well. Mike proposed a deficit budget for 2008 but remarked that MoAFS usually spends less than budgeted. He allowed \$1000 for postage and printing. MoAFS doesn't usually spend this much but this will allow some flexibility. Vince Travnichek remarked that we should add \$500 for the student colloquium and Mike made the addition. Paul Blanchard commented that if we move money from our General Fund into the Student Support Trust Fund we won't make as much in dividends. Suzanne Femmer questioned why expenses were so much smaller this year. Darren Thornhill explained that money was transferred into savings to get interest. Chris Vitello moved to accept the proposed budget and John Fantz seconded. The budget was accepted. Ron Dent amended his tabled motion to move \$20,000 (instead of the original amount of \$25,000) to the Student Support Trust Fund and to move the funds over the year, not necessarily all at once. Mike Reed questioned whether we would still be able to accomplish activities like helping with the Zebra Mussel Focus Groups if we made this transfer. Darren Thornhill believed we could. Chris Vitello asked what was the original goal for the Student Support Trust Fund. Bill Turner stated that the goal was \$100,000 and that the interest from the fund would be used for student scholarships, etc. Ron Dent's motion, as amended, passed.

Information Technology: John Fantz announced that the Yahoo emails are being returned to him.

Legislative and Environmental Concerns: No report.

Membership: Suzanne Femmer reminded members that their 2008 dues were payable at this time. She asked that members give her their email address when they pay their dues so she can contact them.

MNRC Steering: Mike Smith requested help for the 2010 conference. He needs chairs for the following committees: Social, Workshops, Publicity, and Web Liaison. Jason Persinger will serve as treasurer

Student Support: Jennifer Guyot deferred to the FASS report.

Newsletter: Matt Matheney reported that if anyone has any news, they should send it to John Fantz so he can post it on the website. Matt will take the news articles and edit them for the newsletter.

FASS: Brandie Bryson announced that last semester FASS held a fish fry, went to Montauk for catch and release trout fishing, and did a stream cleanup. The group plans to have another fish fry and another stream cleanup as well as a kids fishing clinic and colloquium during the spring semester. The group is doing a management plan for Bob Distefano. FASS is in need of speakers for their meetings. She asked members to volunteer.

Publicity: Trish Yasger announced the silent auction has raised \$862.50. Canoe raffle tickets are still being sold. Over 2000 tickets have been sold so far. Dues are still being accepted.

Rivers and Streams: Ange Corson announced that a summary of the workshop held today was on the Rivers and Streams web page.

Old Business

Bylaws: Vince Travnichek announced that the revised bylaws have been approved. Joe Dillard and Vince are working on revisions to the operations manual.

Joanne Grady thanked MoAFS for the memorial contribution for her son.

Awards Committee: Chris Vitello asked everyone to take a few minutes to make nominations. It is an important function of MoAFS. The committee will be making some suggestions for improvements in the process.

New Business

Student Colloquium: Vince Travnichek announced the colloquium will be held near Keokuk, IA, at a biological field station associated with Western Illinois University. Vince will seek funds from other state societies and the North Central Division to support the colloquium.

Member Discounts at MNRC: Suzanne Femmer indicated that she has had lots of trouble verifying membership for the registration discount at the MNRC. If a member wants the discount for the 2009 MNRC, the member needs to be a member for 2008. If you pay your 2008 dues through AFS, do so by summer because of the lag. Matt Matheney indicated MoAFS receives about \$400 per year for members that pay their state dues when they pay their national AFS dues. He asked that members email Suzanne Femmer when they pay through the parent society.

New Student Subunits: Jennifer Guyot introduced Shelley Banks from the University of Central Missouri and Ted Alferman from Missouri State University. The University of Central Missouri and Missouri State University are setting up student subunits.

Kenda Flores introduced Adam Boman, a new Department of Conservation employee in the Sullivan office.

Passing the Presidency: Brian Canaday passed the presidency to Mike Kruse. Mike thanked Darren Thornhill for serving as Secretary and Brian Canaday for serving as President and gave each of them a plaque. Mike encouraged the members to be active in the chapter. Mike plans to support all of the functions of MoAFS but especially wants to shift the focus to the Student Support Trust Fund. He would like very much to reach the goal of the \$100,000 trust fund.

Rich Wehnes made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Brian Canaday. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Phillip Pitts, Chapter Secretary.

2008 BUSINESS Mtg Minutes

Charge Darren Thornhill for serving
as Secretary to "serving as
Treasurer"