

MINUTES OF THE
MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

February 2, 2012

ANNUAL MEETING – MNRC – TAN-TAR-A

Attendees:

Travis Moore, President
Melissa Scheperle, Secretary
Jason Persinger, Treasurer
Allen Brandes
Doug Novinger
Jake Faulkner
Mike Roell
Craig Paukert
Jason Harris
Josh Ward
Tom Boersig
Ryan Luekenhoff
Andy Austin
Sharone Nehorai, FASS
subunit
Mike Smith
Alex Prentice
Stephanie Payne
Ryan Steffens, UCM subunit
Adam Boman
Eric Rahm
Jennifer Campbell-Allison
Greg Stoner
Tom Priesendorf
Tyler Bax
Shannon C. Thompson, UCM
subunit
Mike Gossett
Mark Zurbrick
Mark Van Patten
Lynn Schrader
Jake Allman
Scott Voney
Kyle Rinne
Paul Horner
Jake Colehour
Brian McKeage
Bruce Drecktrah
Ange Corson
Matt Neal

Kyle Winders
Shawn Banks
Scott Williams
Amy Meier
Bill Mabee
Heidi Dunn
Mike Kruse
Steve McMurray
Kevin Hempen
Mark Boone
Paul Blanchard
Dan Scoggin
Michelle Dalbey
Michael Allen
Mary Culler
Nate Gosch
Kelly Whitsett
Jen Girondo
Andrew Branson
Kara Trecht
Craig Fuller
John Fantz
Dave Mayers
Paul Spurgeon
Chris Landstud
Brad Farwell
Sherry Fischer
Kenda Flores
Phil Pitts
Kathi Moore
Mary E. Scott
Paul Calvert
Laura Ruman
Paul Michaletz
Vince Travnichek
Bob Distefano
Jerry Wiechman
Joe McMullen
Dave Knuth
Hope Dodd
Emily Pherigo

Jamos Ciriello
Tom Whelan
Clint Hale
Matt Matheney
Mike Siepker
Brian Canaday
Lee Redmond
Joe G. Dillard
Darren Thornhill, Past
President
Wes Swee
Justin Pride
Nathan Recktenwald
Trish Yasger

Introductions and Welcome:

Travis called to order at 3:33pm, Melissa seconded that we have a quorum.

Travis started the meeting by recognizing MOAFS past Presidents including two from national AFS, Joe Dillard and Lee Redmond.

Melissa said last year's annual meeting minutes are posted on the website if anyone has any questions or comments on them. There was a motion by Kathi to accept the 2011 annual meeting minutes. Mary seconded. All were in favor. They were accepted.

Treasurers Report – Jason Persinger (Report attached)

Jason gave the minutes from the Treasurers Report (Slide show attached). The general fund made approximately \$1100, but we didn't spend much this year. The student support had approximately \$1300 available and \$700 was spent with the rest to carry over.

In 2012 we have approximately \$1500 to spend and we expect to spend about \$1300 of that.

For 2013 we'll have about the same to spend.

Jason spoke to the group about the bad interest rates and CDs. He only bought one 36 month CD last year. Interest rates are really going down in these certificates compared to the money market.

Travis has talked to other societies about funding and what they were doing. It seems that everyone is in the same boat and that our interest rates are actually a little better than others.

Travis asked if there were any questions. None. Mary motioned to approve the report, Kathi seconded. All were in favor.

Disabled Angler – Mary Scott

Mary asked that if anyone wanted to borrow the disabled angler's equipment, they could. She said the event they had in September was good. This September will be the 9th year for the event. Rain or shine.

There is a fishing clinic set up for Meramec Park. Wes Swee is helping to set it up. There is a News Release. She will need money for the fishing, t-shirts and parking. She needs donations for food. The event will be Friday, April 13. There is a limit of 50 and they must pre-register. She will need the student support to help work the event. If the event is good, they may try Montauk next.

Chapter Historian – Joe Dillard (Report attached)

We need to think about our 50 year celebration events. Our turn to host MNRC (2014) may be a good time.

Travis reiterated that the Continuing Education Committee is still without a chair. He has been investigating opportunities to host a workshop at the 2014 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Kansas City.

Finance – Wes Swee (Report attached)

Wes covered the prizes for the raffle. The Arizona trip fell through this year which is why it was not a raffle item. The 2012 budget is similar to the 2011 budget.

A member asked about the A.S. Wietherman Award and why it isn't requested anymore. Travis, Darren and Jason said it hasn't been in years.

Mike made a motion to accept the Finance report, Mark seconded. All were in favor and they were accepted.

IT Report – John Fantz

There is an email glitch going on where emails are going to member's Junk box.

The software is in desperate need of updating and Kat Lackman will be rebuilding the site this year.

Legislative and Environmental Concerns – Mark Zurbrick (Report attached)

Last legislative session there two handfishing bills and two "right to fish/hunt" bills. None of them went anywhere. The main attack for the bills and resolutions proposed is on MDC's rights. This session there are 10 bills and resolutions proposed. The handfishing bill has not been introduced yet this year.

Four bills address the Conservation Commissions' composition. Mark testified at one hearing. Most opposed the bill.

Other bills include one that talks about permit revocation. This would cause MDC to refund the permit cost times three if the permit is revoked. Another proposes to put the Design for Conservation sales tax back up for a public vote and impose a sunset provision. There is also a resolution promoting the use of sound scientific research and data that is produced from unbiased studies" and also "demands that federal and state agencies as well as their commenting groups base past and future decisions and practices involving any stream activity inside the high banks on unbiased scientific university studies along with practices that have been proven effective over generations of landowner implementing".

Mark closed by saying that all of us and all MDC employees should be members of the Mo Conservation Federation. They were the original group that created MDC.

Links to the bills and resolutions are on Mark's report.

Membership Report – Mike Siepker (Report attached)

There is an increase in membership this year because of students joining. A lot didn't pay their dues last year because of the snow storm/weather. We may break 300 this year.

In 2011 there were 5 new lifetime memberships. Mike broke the membership down into employers. 39% of the 2011 membership are MDC staff, 38% are student subunit members, 9% other state and federal agencies, 3% university staff, 2% private organizations, 2% retired staff and 7% other.

Mike reiterated that the annual membership went up to \$10 this year and the lifetime membership will go up to \$200 the day after MNRC.

Since the annual meeting, Mike reports there were 17 lifetime memberships purchased at MNRC as well as 51 annual memberships. This brings a total of 52 lifetime members and total membership for 2012 is 261.

MNRC Steering Committee – Clint Hale (Report attached)

Clint reported that the committees and chairs are filled. These people will shadow the 2013 committee's and assist in any way they can.

If there are suggestions on theme's or help out please call or email him.

Travis discussed the 501(c)(3) and the agreement between all four societies. The MOU was signed by all agencies today. Next is to review and update the Operations Manual. We will be recommending that in the future all aquatics presentation will go to that chair instead of who hosts. This will keep us involved in getting to decide what presentations go forward.

Student Support Report- Jen Girondo (Report attached)

Jen had the University students stand and each got a raffle ticket. Two tickets were chosen to receive hard copies of the Transactions of 2nd International Catfish Symposium.

UCM student subunit Treasurer, **Ryan Steffens**, spoke about the events they have been having over the last year. They have had a fishing event off campus, a bake sale fundraiser, and a homecoming parade display. They had a business meeting and 3 club meetings and participated in a Bioblitz. For the spring semester, they are looking at doing another Bioblitz, having a "pizza with anchovies" event and taking over the stream team activities.

FASS/UMC student subunit historian **Sharone Nehorai** spoke about their events. They have had two fundraisers, a fish fry and bake sale. They are taking on a research project with MU faculty. They have had a litter pick-up and are biomonitoring the Hinkson and Grinstone Creeks. Plans for the spring semester include a student outreach project with 7th graders.

Jen gave a brief summary of the funds spent and future budget. The student achievement award (\$500 scholarship) was given this year to DeAnna Anglin. Two best student presentation awards were to be awarded at this year's at MNRC – one winner was Andrew DeWitt and the other is TBA at the close of the conference. Winners will receive one year memberships to AFS parent society and one membership to either our chapter or their subunit. Two special funding requests were received in 2011; a \$100 travel grant was awarded to Myranda Clark to help her present her research at MNRC, and a \$200 match was awarded as part of the Duffy travel award to attend the Mid-West Fish & Wildlife Conference in Iowa (Jake Faulkner). Several special funding requests to assist students traveling to MNRC have been made recently and will be granted according to the constraints of the 2012 Student Support Trust Fund budget.

There are extra emails going out when Jen sends out job announcements, conference reminders, etc.

The Conservation Federation of Missouri Scholarship winner for fisheries is chosen by MOAFS. The Ed Stegner and Carl Morrow winners were announced. They were Joshua Canaday and Sarah Ettinger-Dietzel.

There was general discussion on the student paper workshop at MNRC. The proposal was a 1 day session at Runge around mid-April. Most thought they would try to attend this if it was arranged and was a good

idea. Other discussion was whether the MNRC session should be a mix of student and professional papers. The majority opinion was that a mix was good.

Paul Calvert suggested that all students be invited, not just our subunits.

Travis reminded everyone they are looking for volunteers to participate in the "Pizza with Anchovies" event at UCM. Basically talk to the subunit about your career or answer any questions.

Newsletter /Website – Joe McMullen

Joe asked that we continue to send in information for the Newsletter and anything that needs posted. He thanked Andrew and Pat for their help.

Publicity – Trish Yasger

Trish reported that so far, \$251 has been made on the silent auction items. The lifetime membership drive was going well and the raffle was still going on.

Rivers and Streams Report – Mary Culler (Report attached)

The committee will have their annual meeting right after this one. The workshop is tomorrow morning. Last summer's meeting covered the workshop topics that were canceled at the MNRC meeting. If you want to be on Mary's email list, let her know. They are hosting a funding and grants workshop on March 13 at Runge if anyone is interested in attending.

Awards/Nominations – Darren Thornhill

Darren awarded Lee Redmond the Golden Membership Award.

The Letters of Recognition Award was given to Phil Pitts.

The Citizen's Award was given to Diane Orley.

The Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award was given to Craig Fuller.

The John L. Funk Award of Excellence was given to Jeff Koppleman.

Nominating and Election Results – Darren Thornhill

President-Elect – Jason Persinger

Treasurer - Jennifer Campbell-Allison

Travis had the plaques updated through 2012. We asked for ideas about where to post them. Chris Vitello volunteered to take them to Central Office/Headquarters in Jefferson City to post them.

Old Business – Travis Moore

No comments.

New Business – Travis Moore

Travis's last act was to pass the gavel to Wes Swee. Wes starts his first duty, to present Travis Moore with a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as President.

Wes also presented Jason Persinger with a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as Treasurer.

Wes called to adjourn the meeting, Brian made motion to adjourn, Mary seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.