

MOAFS Annual Meeting

Wednesday February 2nd, 2022

Margaritaville Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri

Call to order – Quorum reached 33+ in attendance

Introductions and Welcome

Kyle Winders called the meeting to order and it was determined there was a quorum. Kyle acknowledged the current committee chairs and the past presidents and officers of MOAFS, the North Central Division (NCD), and the American Fisheries Society (AFS).

Committee Reports

Anglers with Disabilities - Mary Scott reported that there will be a spring event in April and another also in September. The spring event will be at Maramec Spring. As always if interested in helping, contact Mary.

Chapter History – Vince not in attendance. A history slide show presented to the group.

Continuing Education Committee – Brad Farwell did not have much to update given Covid. Discussion continued and it was asked of the group what thoughts or ideas on possible training or workshops? Possible incorporated into the conference or meeting next year. If you have ideas to share, please contact Brad.

Information Technology Committee – Kat Lackman was not in attendance but provided an update to be read. There have been 44 email campaigns over the last year that have reached over 400 people. The website is still in need of an overhaul due to being on an unsecure server. It is still unknown who owns the domain name and how to access it to increase security. This would help to secure membership data, which is stored online, elections, etc. More to come.

Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee - Emily Tracy-Smith provided a report. The committee used bill tracking by Stream Teams United and CFM to watch over 100 bills related to water resources, aquatic life, or other natural resources within the state. Notable legislation in the current cycle includes bills concerning proposed CAFOS and changes in the use of ONSR lands regarding horses. To stay informed you can watch Join Stream Teams United mailing list:

<https://www.streamteamsunited.org/> to receive “This week in #MOWater” and the “Legislative Lookout” Sign-Up for the Conservation Federation of Missouri’s NEW and improved Legislative Action Center <https://www.confedmo.org/lac/#/>

Other advocacy resources include:

Missouri Coalition of the Environment – <https://moenvironment.org/>

Missouri Rural Crisis Center – <https://morural.org/>

Great Rivers Environmental Law Center – <https://greatriverslaw.org/>

Sierra Club of Missouri – <https://www.sierraclub.org/missouri>

Newsletter – The newsletter is on the website and will be included into the summary document for the archives.

Membership – Jenna Stiek provided a update on membership, we currently have 300 active members. She encouraged everyone to pay your dues and update the appropriate information as needed.

MNRC Steering Committee – The members of the steering committee were recognized. This year the conference had 490 registered, gave 38 refunds and had 272 attendees stop by and pick up their name lanyard at the conference registration table. 89 of which were students. We had 36/42 exhibitors show up, 44/51 poster presenters.

Publicity – Trish not in attendance, Jenna provided update and the AFS booth auction and raffle expected to bring in over \$200.

Rivers and Streams – Tom Boersig provided an update to the group. The committee represented MOAFS at the Clean Water day at the capital this past year. The 2022 date is March 8th. The MNRC session went well this year. The WOTUS comment is due to the EPA by February 7th.

Treasurer's Report

Joe McMullen gave an overview of our fiscal situation in 2021. This year was a good year for our accounts. We closed some outstanding CD accounts and continued to make gains on our investment accounts. Detailed account balances and budgets can be found in the Treasurer's Report.

Finance Committee

Kyle Winders began the discussion and gave the floor to Eric Rahm to present information on the Missouri Fishes Poster project proposal.

Eric presented information on the project including what the posters would look like, cost of production and the amount that would need to be produced. This led to a discussion on several sales scenarios that we could choose from to market the posters. There was quite a bit of discussion from the floor on vendors, marketing, etc. Ultimately, Joe McMullen made a motion to use \$3,000 to begin the poster production. Jen Girondo gave a second, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Jacob W. then presented a proposed 2022 budget for discussion. He outlined chapter income and foreseeable expenses in the coming year. There was discussion about Facebook fundraisers and Giving Tuesday fundraising. Kyle W. made and motion to accept, Mike second.

Jen Girondo gave presentation on SSTF budget. There were no questions from the group. Eric made a motion to accept, Tom B. gave second.

Awards (see highlights at end of report)

Kyle then made presentation as he passed the gavel to Jacob as our new president. Jacob gave a brief acceptance speech before announcing chapter election results:

2023 President Elect – Tom Boersig

2023 Treasurer – Chris Rice

Outgoing President - Kyle Winders

Outgoing Treasurer – Joe McMullen

Jacob thanked EXCOM and committee members for their continued work with MOAFS.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The motion passed all in favor.

Chapter Awards

John L. Funk Award of Excellence - Originally named the Award of Excellence, it was renamed to honor Slim Funk, the founder of the Missouri Chapter, for his professionalism and commitment to Missouri aquatic resources. The recipient of this award is recognized for their professionalism and their long-term contributions to the aquatic resources of Missouri.

Winner: James Civiello

The A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award - This award was created to honor A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. for his long-term and outstanding leadership to the Missouri Chapter and Missouri's aquatic resources. The recipient of this award is recognized for their leadership qualities which continue the leadership standards Steve established.

Winner: Emily Tracy-Smith

Lee Redmond Citizen's Award - This award is given to persons not directly employed in the aquatic field who make a substantial contribution to Missouri's aquatic resource.

Winner: Bob Virag

Letter of Recognition - A letter of recognition is given to an aquatic professional, a citizen, or a group to acknowledge one-time or short-term contributions that may not be covered by the other awards.

Letter for the 2022 MNRC Planning Committee Chairs

Student Awards

Joe G. Dillard Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship – seeks to support up-and-coming aquatics professionals during their undergraduate studies in Missouri

Winner – Ashley Hrdina, University of Missouri

Duffy Memorial (Mid-West Fish & Wildlife Conference) Travel Award – The Missouri Chapter and North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society sponsors a travel grant to the annual North Central Division fisheries meeting in conjunction with the Mid-West Fish & Wildlife Conference. The grant covers up to \$200.00 for travel expenses and registration.

No winner this year – there were no applicants

Student Achievement Award - recognizes combined excellence in academic achievement and extra-curricular involvement in the fisheries or aquatics field by a student attending a Missouri college or university.

Winner – Bailey O’Brian, University of Missouri

MO Natural Resources Conference

Best Student Aquatic Presentation: Jackson Winslow, Missouri State University

Title: *Searching the hyporheic zone: Does immediate pump sampling give and accurate picture of the invertebrate community?* (Jackson Winslow and Deb Finn)

Best Student Aquatic Platform Presentation: Austin Mueller, University of Central Missouri

Title: *Using environmental DNA (eDNA) detection to determine the current distribution of Topeka Shiner (Notropis topeka) in Missouri* (Austin Mueller and Arron Geheber)