

**MINUTES OF THE
MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
RESOURCE SCIENCE CENTER, SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM
9 NOVEMBER 2016**

ATTENDEES:

Greg Pitchford, President
Tom Priesendorf, President-Elect
Alex Prentice, Treasurer
Dave Michaelson, Secretary
Kat Lackman
Blake Stephens
Andy Turner
Emily Tracy-Smith
Vince Travnichek
Jen Girondo

John Ackerson
Amanda Rosenberger
Mark A. Zurbrick
Joe Dillard
Mary Scott
Trish Yasger
Brad Farwell
Craig Paukert
Eric Rahm
Jennifer Campbell

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Greg Pitchford called the meeting to order at 10:00. It was determined that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded.

A motion to approve the August 2016 EXCOM Meeting minutes was made. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alex Prentice provided an update on how the Chapter finances fared during the AFS Meeting in Kansas City. There is still some outstanding business to conduct, but at this point the Chapter's total income for the meeting was \$18,509.25. Expenses totaled \$7,861.30; however, we still need to meet with AFS to see how much they are owed from these proceeds. Joe Tomelleri, who sold his fish prints at the MOAFS booth at the Kansas City meeting, will donate a portion of his sales to the Chapter.

With respect to the Chapter's general accounts, we still have \$5,000.00 in the Kansas City AFS Meeting fund. Certificate of Deposit #1968 matured after gaining \$188.47, for a total of \$12,688.47. The balance of CD #1968 has been transferred to the Student Support Trust Fund and will be invested according to decisions made by the finance committee.

A complete reporting of the Chapter's finances is presented in Appendix A.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made and seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

UPDATE ON AFS NATIONAL MEETING

Vince Travnichek reported that the AFS National Meeting received mostly “above average” rankings in a survey of meeting participants. There were approximately 1,100 people who paid admittance, with a total of approximately 1,300 in attendance. Comments provided by attendees were mostly positive, with “amenities” and “making people feel welcome” scoring highest. Negative comments included pairing the right room size for the right speaker (some speakers drew larger crowds than anticipated), and “too many sessions.” Overall, however, there were no major negatives in the comments received, and the vast majority of people who responded were very happy with the meeting.

Financially speaking, Vince and others will be meeting with AFS next week to finalize income and expenses associated with the meeting. The meeting made a profit of about \$43,000.00, but what MOAFS will receive of that is still unclear. This issue is one that will be resolved at next week’s meeting with AFS. At issue is AFS’s role in fund raising prior to the meeting: MOAFS was tasked with raising \$50,000.00, but the sponsoring entities that had assisted in the past all declined to help fund this meeting. As a result, AFS stepped into the role and raised about \$87,000.00. Since MOAFS did not raise the agreed-to figure, there needs to be some discussion with AFS as to how the profits will be shared. Vince estimates MOAFS’s share to be in the \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 range.

When asked what AFS executives thought of the meeting, Vince replied that they all were very pleased. It would have been better if the meeting had made more money, but meetings held in the Midwest generally do not make as much money as those held on the west coast and Alaska. Based on the membership survey, people who chose not to attend did so mainly because of their employers’ travel restrictions. People who did not attend also responded that they did not like the location; however, those who did come to the meeting liked the amenities very much.

ANGLERS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

Mary Scott reported that they held two clinics in 2016: Maramec Springs in April; and the Rolla Lions Club in September. They plan to conduct a clinic in Houston, and they may host an event in Columbia at some point in the future.

Mary also mentioned that the committee loans equipment for other fishing events (e.g. Kansas City). If anyone knows people (non-MOAFS members) who would like to host an Anglers with Disabilities type event, she can help them get the necessary equipment.

Mark Zurbrick brought up that all of Missouri’s trout parks have Americans with Disabilities Act accessible fishing areas. Perhaps we could have a few pieces of equipment stored permanently at each park that could be loaned to people who do not have their own.

Brad Farwell said that Maramec Springs already has several fishing rods that they keep for Kids Fishing Days, and keeping a few for the disabled would not be a problem.

Alex Prentice was going to look into getting this information on the MDC website.

Mark Zurbrick mentioned that the Conservation Federation of Missouri would be another group that we could approach about getting involved with the program. They are at least very good about publicizing events.

CHAPTER HISTORIAN

Joe Dillard said that the first 50 years is almost finished. He noticed that there were not many photos available when he was putting materials together. Joe suggested that MOAFS have an official photographer to cover the events that we host.

Amanda Rosenberger said that perhaps MDC might have some photos that would help to fill the void for Joe's current project.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Because Tom Priesendorf is leading the undergraduate education initiative (presented below), Greg Pitchford has volunteered to take a larger role with fund raising efforts than typical of MOAFS presidents. Greg reported that the Outdoor Adventure auction will take place at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) again. Greg has confirmed the following excursions that will be auctioned at the MNRC: a goose or turkey hunt; a guided catfishing trip; a guided Muskellunge fishing trip in Wisconsin; a Canada goose hunting trip in the Columbia area; a fly fishing trip. Greg is also working on the following: a Walleye fishing trip somewhere in Missouri; a fall Brown Trout fishing trip; and another turkey hunt. Greg is looking into opening the bidding to an online audience to expand the pool of potential customers.

LEGISLATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Mark Zurbrick reported that actions taken during the 2016 legislative session are in the latest newsletter. Mark also stated that the overall trend line regarding conservation-related legislation is not good as more bills seem to be introduced every year that are directed against conservation.

Mark presented his letter of resignation from the Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee effective immediately (Appendix B). Emily Tracy-Smith has agreed to take over the responsibilities of the committee.

Greg Pitchford decided that MOAFS should not weigh in on the St. Johns Bayou project. This project is of national significance, so he advised the matter be taken up by AFS.

Because of potential career ramifications, MOAFS members may be better suited in advising the Conservation Federation of Missouri rather than advocating directly.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jennifer Campbell said that MOAFS currently has 177 members. Jennifer has contacted a few companies to pursue product discounts for MOAFS members. REI said that they have a group discount program, rather than corporate recognition. New Balance simply said that they do not engage in these discount programs.

MNRC STEERING COMMITTEE

John Ackerson provided the following written report.

Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) will be February 1-3, 2017, held at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. The host is the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and the theme is Soil Health, The Foundation of Conservation. Early bird registration is open until January 7th, 2017, also don't forget to make hotel reservations. The MOAFS committee is in job shadow role, assisting where we can as we begin planning to host the MNRC in 2018.

The MOAFS is conducting a workshop during the two hour time slot from 1:00-3:00PM on Thursday, February 2nd. After discussion, the chosen topic is *Missouri Careers in Fisheries*. The workshop focus will be to communicate what it takes to get started on a career path in fisheries. The primary objective will be to engage students and young fisheries professionals and fill in knowledge gaps for attendees to better prepare them for success in their career search. Seasoned professionals will benefit from sharing knowledge and experience and potentially finding recruits for seasonal employment. Speakers will be from different disciplines within the fisheries field. One common theme that will be emphasized is the need for a well-rounded employee that seeks out ways to balance formal education and relevant experience. Specific skills that are desirable will be highlighted, as well as existing structure within agencies to continue to train and develop employees. Additionally, examples of pathways to getting to where you want to go professionally will be laid out. Breakout sessions will follow with ample opportunity for students and young professionals to interact with seasoned professionals.

Historically, the MNRC has had lower attendance when the Soil and Water Conservation Society is the host. To offset this trend, the Steering Committee is trying to have each society provide technical training at the MNRC. The plan is to have each society provide \$1,500.00 to host training for their respective disciplines (this money will come from MNRC budgeting and not from MOAFS funds). The training would be a 2-hour block to follow immediately after the plenary session. John coordinated with Jen Girondo, and they surveyed some of Missouri's student subunits to find out what they would like to see. Based on these surveys, the workshop will center on career development. MNRC would help students pay for lodging, which would work toward keeping students at the conference both Wednesday and Thursday, rather than having them leave after Wednesday's activities.

Jen Girondo pointed out that most students don't attend the MNRC for multiple days because of coursework and employment responsibilities. They are going to start getting the message out to students earlier in an effort to get them thinking about going to the meeting and staying for a few days. Students might be more inclined to do so if there is some financial help to get them to the conference.

Mark Zurbrick mentioned that it might help students to have an official letter that they can present to their professors when asking to be excused for the MNRC.

Amanda Rosenberger said that some of the financial support might go toward obtaining transportation for those students who have either no cars or unreliable ones.

Blake Stephens continued with an explanation of the proposed workshop. They want to focus the workshop to be how to become a professional in the fisheries field. Presentations from people currently in the field that outline their career path, required knowledge, and what gave them an advantage in getting to where they are. It would also be advantageous if professionals were to speak on their agency's structure; students often do not know what entry level jobs lead to the career they want to pursue. After conclusion of the formal presentations, students would have the opportunity to speak to the presenters for 15-20 minutes in a breakout session. The panel of speakers could include professionals not only from MDC, but other state/federal agency people, consultants, not-for-profit representatives, and others.

Amanda Rosenberger suggested that students who attend the workshop be given a copy of *AFS Guide to Fisheries Employment*, which lists for \$12.00 in the AFS Bookstore online.

Ultimately, the goal would be to provide students with an idea of the diversity of careers possible with a Biology or Fisheries & Wildlife degree.

Discussion: The question was raised—do we (MOAFS) want to allocate some funds to go toward this effort to supplement the \$1,500.00 MNRC money?

Mark Zurbrick made a motion that up to \$800.00 be re-allocated from the 2016 budget to the 2017 Student Support MNRC workshop if it is needed. Amanda Rosenberger seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor. If any money is needed for the effort, it will come from the General Fund.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Trish Yasger said that they were concentrating efforts on the MNRC. They will work to advertise for the Outdoor Adventure auction and send out a call for silent auction donations. She also asked the EXCOM if there were any additional ideas people could bring up.

Andy Turner said that, regarding funding the Future Professionals Scholarship, the winner of last year's gun raffle (Joe Dillard) gave \$300.00 of the prize back to the chapter. That money could be used to buy another prize that could be auctioned or just raffle the \$300.00 gift card itself.

No decision was made on that point at the meeting. Additional discussions will be had prior to the MNRC.

RIVERS AND STREAMS COMMITTEE

Eric Rahm could not be in attendance, but he passed along that there were no updates to report.

STUDENT SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Jen Girondo said that MOAFS and the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society hosted a student colloquium at Peck Ranch in October 2016.

The \$2,500.00 Future Professionals Scholarship has been awarded, but last year's gun raffle used to fund the scholarship raised \$2,300.00, so the committee will need to borrow \$200.00 to make up the balance.

Jen wanted people to encourage students to apply for the Duffy Travel Award, which goes toward students traveling to the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference.

Money also was awarded to students who wished to travel to the AFS Annual Meeting in Kansas City this past August.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Emily Tracy-Smith said that she will continue to serve on the Newsletter Committee, despite her new role as the Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee Chair. Daniel Metcalf will continue his work in the graphic arts aspect of the newsletter.

The next edition of *The Redd* should be out in January. The committee will work with Joe Dillard to get some of the chapter history information out to the membership.

Vince Travnichek said that we should nominate ourselves for the North Central Division's (NCD) Best Communication Awards (which includes consideration for chapters' newsletters, Facebook pages, etc.), especially due to the high quality of our newsletter.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Brad Farwell reported that they enlisted Susan Steffen to present a course entitled, "Human Dimensions and Conflict Resolution" at the Kansas City AFS meeting. There were a total of 11 workshops at the Kansas City meeting that Andy Turner and Brad helped organize. They are also working with NCD to help organize two workshops at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference.

The Continuing Education Committee is working to have the NCD purchase a copy of Adobe Connect, which is Adobe's version of WebEx (web conferencing software for remote meetings). They would use the software for online training through the NCD. The software costs \$400.00-\$500.00 for an annual license.

Brad and Andy are also working with John Ackerson and Blake Stephens to host a student-focused workshop at the upcoming MNRC.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Kat Lackman had no updates to pass along.

PROPOSED 2017 WORKPLAN AND BUDGET

Outreach

Tom Priesendorf plans to reach out to the MOAFS membership to let people know of the various opportunities to be active (e.g. committee chair positions). Also, he plans to work with the student subchapters and appeal to our membership for them to also work with the subchapters.

Amanda suggested that people who are in leadership roles seek out a colleague to be a backup to assist on occasion. It helps you to do your job, and it also works toward preparing another member for becoming a leader.

Budget

Jen Gironde presented the Student Support Trust Fund (SSTF) budget (Appendix A, page A-3), which shows what has been spent thus far, with the exception of expenditures for the KC AFS meeting. Included in the 2016 expenditures is the \$500.00 Student Achievement Award, the winner of which has their AFS student membership dues paid (\$30.00). There are also the MNRC Student Poster and Student Paper awards, both of which pay for the winners' MNRC registration and AFS student membership dues. The \$230.00 Duffy Travel Award will be used to help a student attend the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. The Student Colloquium that was co-hosted with the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society will require more funding than last year because they chartered a bus to transport students. The \$2,500.00 Future Professionals Scholarship was funded with the high-dollar raffle. Since the raffle is not going to be held this year, there will need to be an alternate source of funding. Some possible sources include: 1) allocating funds from the profits generated by the KC AFS meeting; 2) moving money within the SSTF budget; and 3) seeking out a corporate sponsor in the spring.

The 2017 budget proposed thus far was largely a repeat of the 2016 budget with a few differences that will be presented and discussed at the Annual Meeting.

Alex Prentice said that before the Annual Meeting, he will assemble an official method of tracking income. This method will include making income items more general (e.g. group income under the heading of "MNRC Booth" rather than reporting the sale of pint glasses, t-shirts, silent auction items, etc. separately).

Undergraduate Education Initiative

The white paper has been sent out for review to a working group headed by Tom Priesendorf. Members include Jen Gironde, Steve Fisher, Barry Poulton, Hope Dodd, Dave Michaelson, Mark Zurbrick, and Quentin Phelps.

Regarding education, the University of Central Missouri recently hired a new professor, which brings their curriculum almost into accord with the AFS Certified Professional requirements. Missouri State University has hired two new professors, and the University of Missouri also recently hired two new professors (limnology and stream ecology).

Mark Zurbrick commented that AFS will probably be changing their requirements for certification soon, so the work group needs to take this into consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

The issue of naming our two unnamed scholarships for Lee Redmond and Joe Dillard was brought up at the August EXCOM meeting. After some discussion regarding the emphasis in their respective careers, it was decided that renaming the Citizen's Award for Lee Redmond would be more appropriate, rather than a scholarship. The Future Professionals Scholarship would then be named for Joe Dillard.

Mark Zurbrick made the motion that the name “Citizen Award” be changed to the “Lee Redmond Citizen Award,” and the “Future Professionals Scholarship” be changed to the “Joe Dillard Future Professionals Scholarship.” The motion was seconded by many. All were in favor, and none were opposed. The final disposition of this motion will be decided after a review of the Chapter Bylaws to determine whether this issue needs a vote of the full membership. [After the meeting, a discussion among the full EXCOM took place via email. It was decided that the official name to be considered shall be the “Joe G. Dillard Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship.”]

Greg Pitchford then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1340h.

Appendix A
Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Treasurer's Report

MOAFS Treasurer's Report
November 9, 2016

AFS Conference Numbers

INCOME	
Item	Amount
AFS Seed Funding	\$10,000
RFID Donation	\$1,500
Skinner Silent Auction	\$6,356.77
Spawning Run Income	\$652.48
Total	\$18,509.25

EXPENSE	
Item	Amount
Out-of-Pocket Reimbursement	\$455
Student & International Workers	\$1,940
Spawning Run Shirts	\$1,719.30
Staff Shirts	\$3,747
Total	\$7,861.30

NET: \$18,509.25-\$7,861.30 = **\$10,647.95** (paid to AFS Parent Society)

MOAFS Bank Account Status

Regular Share (AFS Share_00)	\$ 8,497.84
0001968 24 Mth Shr Cert (Share_Cert_#1968)	\$ 0.00
0002381 24 Mth Shr Cert (Share_Cert_#2381)	\$ 12,551.45
0001479 48 Mth Shr Cert (Share_Cert_#1479)	\$ 12,815.89
0002382 48 Mth Shr Cert (Share_Cert_#2382)	\$ 12,580.98
Share Draft Checking (AFS Check_75)	\$ 19,699.16
Share Draft Checking (SSTF Check_76)	\$ 12,714.35
Share Draft Checking (AFS Special Proj Check_77)	\$ 2,381.96
Money Market Share Draft (SSTF MM_Check_78)	\$ 5,012.70
AFS Conference Acct Regular Share (AFS Conference_00)	\$ 25.03
AFS Conference Acct Checking (AFS Conference_75)	\$ 4,920.04

Major Account Transactions since August 31, 2016

- **Close of #1968 certificate**
- **Withdrew \$400.00 for cash box at AFS Booth**
- **Deposited \$11,889.49 from PayPal AFS Meeting**
- **Deposited \$2,841.00 cash from AFS Meeting**
- **Paid \$500.45 for Disabled Anglers T-shirts**
- **Paid \$150.00 to AFS Parent Society for chapter insurance 2016-17**

SSTF Investment Status

Funds were withdrawn from AFS Share Certificate #1968 at a matured value of \$12,688.47 (net \$188.47) and deposited into SSTF Checking as directed by investment plan. Guidance from the Finance Committee is due to the Treasurer by November 30th at which point implementation of investment will begin (excerpt from investment plan below).

“Treasurer will provide SSTF investment performance data and recommendations to the Finance Committee by November 10. The committee will convene between November 10 and November 20 to discuss the SSTF performance and vote on any recommended actions. The Treasurer will begin implementation of approved actions by November 30.”

NEXT STEPS:

- Finance Committee to review investment performance and determine if continued investment of \$12,500 should take place given current interest rates.

Mutual Fund Performance (since year-end)

Name	Year-end Value 12/31/2015	Balances as of 11/08/2016	% Change	\$ Change
Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund Admiral Shares	\$9,758.51	\$10,197.98	4.50%	\$439.47
Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fund Admiral Shares	\$32,549.74	\$34,669.98	6.51%	\$2,120.24
Total Assets	\$42,308.25	\$44,867.96	6.05%	\$2,559.71

Budget Update (as of 11/9/2016)

MOAFS SSTF 2016 Budget	2016 Budget	2016 Actual
2016 Income		
Unspent money over the \$100,000 minimum from 2015 budget	\$961.56	\$961.56
Money Market - interest	\$0.00	\$8.65
Share Certificate 1968 (\$12,500) - Matured 9/7/2016	\$0.00	\$188.47
Share Certificate 2381 (\$12,500) - Matures 11/15/2017	\$0.00	\$0.00
Share Certificate 1479 (\$12,500) - Matures 5/5/2018	\$0.00	\$0.00
Share Certificate 2382 (\$12,500) - Matures 11/15/2019	\$0.00	\$0.00
Checking 76 interest	\$43.31	\$3.24
Gun raffle income	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other income/donations	\$313.00	\$313.00
Total Income	\$1,317.87	\$1,474.92
2016 Expenses		
Student Achievement Award (grad) + AFS membership dues	\$530.00	\$530.00
MNRC Student Poster Award (MNRC registration, AFS & student unit membership dues)	\$67.00	\$67.00
MNRC Student Paper Award (MNRC registration, AFS & student unit membership dues)	\$67.00	\$67.00
Specific Request Funding (normally \$500 + \$1500 "extra")	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Duffy Award (for 2017 Midwest)	\$230.00	\$0.00
2016 Student Colloquium contribution	\$400.00	\$167.11
Future Professional Scholarship (undergrad) + AFS membership dues	\$2,030.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$5,324.00	\$2,831.11
2016 Final	Budget	Actual
Income	\$1,317.87	\$1,474.92
Expenses	\$5,324.00	\$2,831.11
Net	-\$4,006.13	-\$1,356.19

MOAFS 2016 Budget		
Income	2016 Budget	2016 Actual
MNRC Outdoor Adventures Auction	\$2,000.00	\$1,542.33
MNRC 2016 Silent Auction	\$1,000.00	\$423.16
Fundraiser Fish Pint Glasses	\$50.00	\$66.94
Membership dues	\$400.00	\$150.08
Lifetime Membership dues	\$0.00	\$400.00
Membership dues and rebates from National	\$500.00	\$695.20
Account dividends	\$30.00	\$41.42
Other income (donations, AFS Conference)	\$100.00	\$3,634.39
Total Income	\$4,080.00	\$6,953.52
Expenses		
MNRC Raffle and Supplies	\$50.00	\$0.00
Anglers with Disabilities - equipment, fish , tackle, etc.	\$1,000.00	\$500.45
2016 Chapter Awards	\$400.00	\$421.74
Fenske Award (did not contribute in 2015)	\$0.00	\$0.00
A.S. Weithman Best Paper Award contribution	\$50.00	\$0.00
Computer (Web hosting & software update)	\$50.00	\$0.00
Conservation Federation membership	\$200.00	\$0.00
Chapter Insurance	\$150.00	\$150.00
Postage, envelopes, stationery, printing, etc.	\$50.00	\$13.95
Undergraduate education initiative	\$500.00	\$0.00
Missouri Conservation Federation Liaison	\$500.00	\$0.00
Skinner Award for 2016 AFS KC meeting	\$500.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$3,450.00	\$1,086.14
2016 Final		
	Budget	Actual
Income	\$4,080.00	\$6,953.52
Expenses	\$3,450.00	\$1,086.14
Net	\$630.00	\$5,867.38
Actual Account		
	1/1/2016	12/31/2016
Checking Account	\$2,779.66	\$9,051.21
Savings Account	\$8,476.60	\$8,497.84
Total	\$11,256.26	\$17,549.05
Net Difference		\$6,292.79

Appendix B

Mark Zurbrick Letter of Resignation from the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries
Society Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee

Date: November 8, 2016

To: Greg Pitchford, MOAFS president

cc: Emily K. Tracy-Smith

From: Mark A. Zurbrick

Subject: Resignation

For the past eight years, I have served as the chairman and sole committee member of the Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Effective immediately, I resign the chairmanship of the MOAFS Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee.

I will transfer all hard copy and electronic files pertaining to this committee's work from 2009 through 2016 to the incoming Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee chairman, Emily K. Tracy-Smith on November 8, 2016.

Respectfully,


Mark A. Zurbrick