

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

**AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 146TH ANNUAL MEETING
SHERATON HOTEL, EXHIBIT HALL B
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
22 AUGUST 2016**

ATTENDEES:

Greg Pitchford, President	Eric Rahm
Tom Priesendorf, President-Elect	Andy Turner
Alex Prentice, Treasurer	Jennifer Campbell
Dave Michaelson, Secretary	John Fantz
Mary Scott	Denise Otto
Brad Farwell	Hope Dodd
Craig Paukert	

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Greg Pitchford called the meeting to order at 15:00h and presented a draft agenda for the day's meeting. Greg asked whether there was a quorum for the meeting, and Dave Michaelson responded in the affirmative. Greg also mentioned that he and others had been busy during the year working on a Missouri fisheries undergraduate education white paper as well as preparing for the AFS Annual Meeting. During the past year Amanda Rosenberger completed work on updating the Missouri Chapter's Bylaws and the Procedures Manual.

A motion to approve the 2015 EXCOM Meeting minutes was made. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alex Prentice provided the following written report (below).

Budget year 2016 looks promising for MOAFS and the Student Support Trust Fund. The MNRC fundraisers (silent auction, outdoor trips, and pint glass sales) netted a \$1,650.69 profit for the Chapter. The Chapter has also collected \$430.00 for annual and lifetime memberships, thus far. MOAFS Operational accounts, as of May 31st, total \$13,809.90.

We have completed implementation of the laddered certificate of deposit (CD) strategy and now have four CDs. There has been a cumulative gain of \$589.73 on the CDs.

We are continuing the SSTF investment plan as outlined at the MOAFS annual meeting. A Vanguard mutual fund account totaling \$45,000.00 was established in April 2015 along with a buffer fund of \$5,000 in the money market account. Since January 2016, the funds have experienced a 7.8% gain totaling \$3,298.21. After making up for the loss in 2015, this brings the total asset value to \$45,606.56.

Alex also provided a table of the Conservation Employees Credit Union accounts (below).

Account	Balance as of 5/30/2016	
MOAFS Operational Share	\$8,491.43	
MOAFS Operational Checking	\$5,318.47	
MOAFS Special Projects Checking (Gun Raffle)	\$2,380.77	
SSTF Money Market (Buffer fund)	\$5,008.90	
SSTF Checking	\$2,265.80	
SSTF CD 1479	\$12,815.89	↑ \$315.89
SSTF CD 1968	\$12,665.31	↑ \$165.31
SSTF CD 2381	\$12,551.45	↑ \$51.45
SSTF CD 2382	\$12,580.98	↑ \$80.98
Cumulative CD Value	\$50,613.63	↑ \$613.63 (+1.23%)
SSTF Mutual Fund (as of 8/15/2016)		
Stock Market Index Fund	\$35,194.12	↑ +3.1% (\$1,444.12)
International Stock Index Fund	\$10,412.44	↓ -7.4% (\$837.56)
Cumulative Returns YTD (Jan-Aug 2016)	\$3,298.31	↑ +7.8%
Mutual Fund Total Assets	\$45,606.56	↑ +1.4%

Alex reported that he opened a separate account to track expenses for the annual meeting. AFS contributed \$10,000.00, and the Oregon Chapter contributed \$1,500.00 to help the Missouri Chapter pay for the annual meeting.

An action item was discussed regarding a certificate of deposit (CD) that was set to mature on 7 September 2016. This CD was the one that currently has the lowest interest rate. It was decided that the money would be withdrawn from the CD and reinvested according to the Investment Strategy.

Last year's market was trending downward, but since January our investments have gained about 7.8%. This increase has allowed our investments to make back what was lost last year. Alex stated that the market is expected to continue increasing.

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

ANGLERS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

Mary Scott reported that MOAFS would be hosting a fishing event at the Rolla Lions Club on 17 September 2016, and another will be held at Maramec Springs Park on a Friday in April 2017 (exact date to be determined).

Mary was approached by a group in Springfield who wants to start a partnership to have these events in the Springfield area. Mary will follow up with them.

John Fantz asked whether we are advertising these events enough so that the North Central Division and the AFS can help to spread the message so that more chapters might get the notion to start anglers with disabilities programs of their own.

CHAPTER HISTORIAN

Craig Paukert reported that Joe Dillard is continuing to put material together for the Chapter history. Joe provided the following narrative prior to the meeting.

A History of History; MOAFS that is...

Can you believe it? I am still working on MOAFS history! Twenty-five years ago I volunteered to be the Chapter Historian and only gave up the job this year. (You might consider me a slow learner, a history addict, or both.)

So what am I working on now you ask? Well, I'll tell you.

It is a little (actually 173 pages as we speak) ditty entitled, "Our Activities, Accomplishments and Annual Meetings, 1963-2015"; a year by year snap shot of each MOAFS annual meeting, including business meeting highlights. There is also an "other highlights" section that describes activities, actions and accomplishments that happened after the annual meeting, but before the next one.

This information is condensed from extant records of those meetings as well as EXCOM or other mid-year planning meetings and reflects what was reported or recorded. The information on "Fisheries Presentations" was taken from the printed program (as printed including capitalization inconsistencies) and do not necessarily reflect what was or was not actually presented (for instance there were some late minute cancellations and substitutions to the papers presented).

This is the format that I am following

Year: - Which is actually the president's year (the president takes office in one year and conducts the business meeting the following year)

President's Remark: - I asked each Past-President to summarize their experience as president in a sentence or two.

Officers: - A listing of the offices and incumbents for that year.

Committees: - As you can imagine our committees and even our committee names have changed a lot in 50 years.

Number of Members (for that year): - When available.

Business Meeting: - Date and place. It hasn't always been at Tan Tara A!

Attendance at Business Meeting: - When available.

Dues: - Increased from \$1 to the current \$10.

Awards: - A listing of the awards awarded and the names of the awardees.

Resolutions: - A brief description of each resolution and its fate (there have been 88 and only two did not pass – one was withdrawn and the other one tabled).

Meeting Highlights - This section includes the following items.

Conference Theme: - This was the theme of the conference after we joined up with the other wildlife societies.

Fisheries Presentations: - Title and author. It is interesting to look back and see what were the hot topics of the day.

Business Meeting Notes: - Mostly from business meeting minutes (all of which are now posted on our website - <http://www.moafs.org/archive.html>)

Other Highlights During the Year: - This section captures any other notable activities, actions, or accomplishments that occurred that were not referenced at the annual meeting.

Well now, I bet you can hardly wait until it is done. Me neither!!

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Andy Turner reported that the committee arranged a continuing education workshop for the AFS Annual Meeting in Kansas City entitled, “Human Dimensions and Conflict Resolution in Fisheries.”

They are also working with the Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) to host an undergraduate education opportunity for each of the disciplines represented at the conference (Fisheries, Wildlife, Forestry, and Soils). Currently there is \$1,500.00 dedicated for each by the MNRC as part of the budget.

The continuing education committee also worked with Jen Gironde (Student Support Chair) to send a College of the Ozarks student to the annual AFS meeting.

They are also working with the NCD on training to be held at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. They are discussing ways to record training with an Adobe-type upload program and post it online. There would be a license cost that NCD expressed interest in helping to fund.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tom Priesendorf had nothing to report at this time.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

John Fantz reported that the latest newsletter has been posted to the website.

They will also work with Jennifer Campbell (Membership Chair) to conduct an audit of the MOAFS membership.

John also noted that he would like volunteers to help with the IT Committee. He is considering retirement at some point and would like someone to transition into the committee as he gets ready to leave.

LEGISLATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Greg Pitchford presented on behalf of Mark Zurbrick.

Greg wrote a letter on behalf of MOAFS to Governor Jay Nixon to oppose the proposed changes to Missouri's Clean Water Commission. This bill was vetoed. Although there were a number of bills introduced that would have had potential effects to either the Department of Conservation or Department of Natural Resources with respect to aquatic resources, this bill concerning the Clean Water Commission was the only one that made it to the Governor. [Secretary's note 9/23/16: Governor Nixon's veto on the Clean Water Commission language was overturned during the 2016 veto session].

AFS submitted an information request to MOAFS regarding the New Madrid Floodway/St. John's Bayou levee project. The AFS is considering commenting on this project.

Mark Zurbrick is looking for assistance to take over the lead on this committee. Emily Tracy-Smith has expressed interest.

The Conservation Federation of Missouri also has done a good job of advocating on behalf of aquatic resources.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jennifer Campbell reported that the current MOAFS membership number is in flux due people paying dues this week at the annual meeting. She expects to have a final count by the next meeting. (9/11/2016 follow-up: after the figures were tallied for the annual meeting, the membership count was 173 members and 10 new members. These new people have never been MOAFS members in the past).

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Tom Priesendorf reported on behalf of Trish Yasper.

Thus far the MOAFS booth has been doing well here at the AFS Annual Meeting. Joe Tomelleri is sharing the proceeds of his fish prints with MOAFS. There are still volunteers needed to work at the booth; volunteers should show up earlier than usual to their shift due to the relative complexity of the sales (more merchandise types, credit card/debit card payment options).

RIVERS AND STREAMS COMMITTEE

Eric Rahm reported that the committee is planning a *Hydrilla* event that will involve floating the James River. A MOAFS event is still in the planning stages.

STUDENT SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Alex Prentice said that they have reached their budget allocation of \$2,000.00, and they were able to help four or five students come to the AFS Annual Meeting. Also, the awards have all been paid out.

Alex also said that they could use more volunteers to help with the Student Speed Mentoring event that was to take place in the adjoining Exhibit Hall from 16:00 to 17:00.

NEWSLETTER

There was no news to report on the newsletter, but Greg pointed out that the committee did an exceptional job with the current edition.

SPECIAL REPORT—UNDERGRADUATE FISHERIES EDUCATION

Greg Pitchford provided an update on the MOAFS study of undergraduate fisheries education programs in Missouri. Greg pointed out that the problems related to fisheries education are not unique to Missouri, but that they are nationwide (refer to the August edition of *Fisheries*). After the February 2016 meeting, Greg and Mark Zurbrick have worked to produce a white paper on this subject. They have completed a draft, with the exception that a “Recommendations” section has intentionally been left out. At this point in the document, they are looking for more input so that it is an inclusive MOAFS production and not just a Greg-and-Mark document.

The Recommendations section should include information so that educators can provide the kinds of skills employers are looking for. The goal is to have volunteers review the white paper so that it can be presented at the November EXCOM meeting. At that point, the EXCOM will vote whether to present it to the membership at the annual meeting in February.

John Fantz recommended contacting Bill Turner, who did a similar project and may have some of the work already completed. Bill collected a list of skill sets desired by fisheries professionals and queried universities to see whether they offered courses to provide those skills. The AFS Young Professionals criteria were used as a template.

Greg suggested that we ask MOAFS members from each of our major employers (e.g. MDC, FWS, NPS, USGS, DNR, COE) to be on a task force. A motion was made to create such a task force. The motion was seconded and approved with all in favor. Greg will follow up by seeking volunteers for the task force.

NEW BUSINESS

- Naming a student support scholarship has been discussed in the past. Up to this point, the problem has been that we have had two widely-acknowledged members that we would like to honor in this way, but only one scholarship. There is now a second scholarship, so now is a good time to name them for Lee Redmond and Joe Dillard. Both have been presidents of MOAFS, NCD, and AFS as well as spending years being active at all levels of AFS.

The Bylaws will have to be changed to accommodate this change, which will require a vote of the membership. John Fantz said that he would work on setting up an electronic vote of the membership (exclusive of Lee and Joe) so that the announcement can be made at the annual meeting in February, if not sooner.

- The question was asked—how much money has been made for the chapter at the annual meeting thus far? At this point, no one was sure because of a couple of unknowns. One of these was that, since AFS did a lot of fundraising that the chapters usually do for the meeting, it is unclear how that money will be apportioned. The membership will have to

decide at the February meeting how to distribute whatever funds are gained from the Kansas City meeting.

- The next EXCOM meeting is typically held in November. Greg will spend some time working on choosing the venue for the meeting.

Following a discussion on potential meeting locations, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 16:00h.