

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

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
RESOURCE SCIENCE CENTER, CONFERENCE ROOM B  
1 AUGUST 2017**

**ATTENDEES:**

Tom Priesendorf, President	Jen Girondo
Clint Hale, President-Elect	Eric Rahm
Alex Prentice, Treasurer	Joe Dillard
Brandon Baumhoer, Secretary	Brad Farwell
Greg Pitchford	John Fantz
Mark Zurbrick	Kat Lackman
John Ackerson	Jennifer Campbell
Mary Scott	Andy Turner

**INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME**

Greg Pitchford called the meeting to order at 1005h on behalf of Tom Priesendorf who was held up in a traffic accident in route to the meeting. It was determined that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded. At 1120h, Tom Priesendorf arrived and led the meeting from that point forward.

A motion to approve the February 2017 Annual Meeting minutes was made. This motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Alex Prentice was pleased to report that the 2017 budget for MOAFS and the Student Support Trust Fund are in great shape. The Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) fundraisers netted a profit of \$1,733.00 for the chapter. The chapter also collected \$920.00 in membership dues. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017, MOAFS operational accounts total is \$22,820.45.

The four Certificate of Deposits (CDs) are due to mature in November and should yield around \$200.00 for the Student Support Trust Fund (SSTF).

Alex also reported that the SSTF investment has gained \$7,544.15 (6.5% return rate) since its inception. Since January 2017, the investment has increased \$4,595.69 with \$3,683.93 to aid in funding the 2018 budget.

The Conservation Employees Credit Union account balances can be found in appendix A.

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

### **UMO White Paper Activity**

Greg Pitchford was pleased to report that positive discussions have taken place with the University of Missouri's (MU) Dean regarding the Fisheries/Wildlife Department. Greg also noted that the fisheries program is still accepting students, but classes are being adjusted as needed due to changing roles within the faculty.

Greg also announced that Missouri State University (MSU) Fisheries Department will carry a maximum of five faculty members at this time and will not be filling positions of retiring professors. Kat Lackman volunteered to reach out to MSU to learn more about their situation moving forward.

Greg also reported that he is looking forward learning more about and working with University of Central Missouri (UCM) professor Aaron Geheber. Greg mentioned that UCM is hoping to offer a techniques course in the future, but noted it will likely be several years.

### **ANGLERS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE**

Mary Scott announced that a clinic will be held at the Rolla Lions Club on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. Mary also mentioned that the committee plans to loan equipment to a group from Columbia.

### **CHAPTER HISTORIAN**

Joe Dillard reported that the first 50 years of MOAFS history is almost complete. The intent is to publish a hard copy version (~250 pages) and a web version (~500 pages). The web version would include scanned annual and EXCOM meeting minutes (241 pages) and a section on guiding documents.

Joe also noted a lack of photographs in MOAFS archives, and suggested that MOAFS have an official photographer to cover the events we host.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Brad Farwell reported that the committee helped organize two continuing education workshops at the 2017 Midwest conference, and will also help organize two more continuing education workshops for the 2018 Midwest conference.

Brad Farwell and Andy Turner are also working with John Ackerson on organizing the student job fair, resume building, speed networking, and interviewing/applying for jobs at the 2018 MNRC. Brad also noted that students who attend multiple classes will have the opportunity to enter a drawing for a prize that includes the following: interview clothing, briefcase, tablet, portfolio, and Universal Serial Bus (USB). The funding for this prize package will come from the MNRC budget and is estimated at \$1200.00.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No updates to report at this time.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

John Fantz announced he is stepping away from the Information Technology Committee. Alex Prentice joined the committee as John's replacement. John has offered to lend a helping hand if needed.

Kat Lackman mentioned the need to purchase a yearly subscription of Adobe Creative Suite software program to more efficiently conduct MOAFS business.

A motion to purchase a yearly subscription of Adobe Creative Suite software ( $\leq$  \$500.00) was made and seconded. The motion passed all in favor.

### **LEGISLATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Campbell reported on behalf of Emily Tracy-Smith who was not able to attend the meeting.

Emily Tracy-Smith and Mark Zurbrick have been discussing ways to get involved with the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM). They are also discussing a variety of ways to keep MOAFS members well informed on legislative and environmental concerns. These details will be provided in the upcoming newsletter and the Annual Report.

Jennifer Campbell also added that Emily Tracy-Smith participated in the CFM annual convention where she reviewed and prepared resolutions. Emily's advisory position has been a great way for MOAFS to engage with CFM and stay connected on legislative issues.

MOAFS members, Zach Morris and Brooke Widmar, have agreed to become members of the Legislative and Environmental Concerns committee. Zach and Brooke are both heavily involved with CFM. Zach Morris played a significant role in the resolution concerning the WOTUS Rule.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Campbell said that MOAFS currently has 220 professional members and 150 student members. Jennifer also noted there are many Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) fisheries professionals who are not currently MOAFS members.

### **MNRC STEERING COMMITTEE**

John Ackerson provided the following written report.

MNRC 2018 will be from January 31st through February 2nd at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. The theme will be Resource Users/Resource Managers and our plenary speakers will be Dr. Stanley Temple (Aldo Leopold Foundation) and Dr. Mark Morgan (Univ. of MO). We will have great opportunities for student development and educational workshops for professionals. Despite the change in ownership, Tan-Tar-A will remain the name of the resort until Spring 2019. There are improvements underway including the exterior, restaurants and sleeping rooms.

All four host societies were polled to determine if the timeslot (3:30PM on Thursday) was the best for the society business meetings; the other three options were Wednesday

(1-3PM), Friday early morning (8-10AM) or Friday late morning (10:15-12:15). The MOAFS members were polled (52 respondents) and Wednesday afternoon was the preference with no change being the second option.

From 1-3PM on Thursday, February 1st, the MOAFS will have an opportunity to host a workshop. Last year, the workshop was focused on careers in aquatic resource management and was well received by students and young professionals.

A sampling techniques or passive and active gears workshop for students was discussed as an option to fill the open timeslot on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Another option was to have an additional poster session for students during this time.

A motion to accept the MNRC poll results regarding society business meeting timeslots and to have John Ackerson act accordingly in scheduling was made and seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

#### **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

No updates to report at this time.

#### **RIVERS AND STREAMS COMMITTEE**

Eric Rahm reported that the aquatic invasive plant hydrilla has been found in Fellows Lake near Springfield. MDC is working to contain and eradicate hydrilla across the state. The Rivers and Streams Committee is searching for ways MOAFS membership can help locate, not eradicate, hydrilla in the Pomme de Terre watershed.

#### **STUDENT SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

Jen Girondo reported that the Student Support Committee awarded recognition to outstanding student presentations at MNRC and the MOAFS annual scholarship.

Winners include:

- Best student poster: Nichole Weedman (MSU)
- Best student paper: Julia Guyton (MU)
- Student Achievement Award: Tyler Ham (SEMO)
- Duffy Memorial Travel Award: Corey Dunn (MU)
- Future Professionals Scholarship: Cheyenne Stratton (MU)

Jen also noted that the Student Support Committee has been working with student units on keeping new advisors and elected officers updated. The committee has also been urging subunits to submit end of spring semester activity reports.

Student Support Committee and the Finance Committee are trying to redistribute added funds from AFS-KC to increase amount available to students this upcoming year.

Kyle Winders submitted a funding request to the Education Section for the student colloquium with The Wildlife Society (TWS) this fall.

Jen also mentioned the committee is looking for donations for a student support raffle taking place at the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers meeting.

AFS is looking for sponsors/funding from state chapters to help fund the Hutton program. The sponsorship would cost MOAFS \$3,000.00 per year. MOAFS is not contributing at this time.

#### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Campbell reported on behalf of Emily Tracy-Smith who was not able to attend the meeting.

The summer newsletter is on track to be published in August. The committee has been gathering information, but wanted to hold off until student units resumed school and had time to submit their activity reports. The winter newsletter should be published sometime in February.

The committee is open to suggestions for different timing or frequency of newsletters, but noted this timing has worked well in the past. After a short discussion, it was decided the Newsletter Committee should continue working however they feel is best.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The issue of having an official photographer was discussed. It seemed unreasonable to expect one person to photograph every outreach event. Creating a digital media manager coordinator that would serve on the Publicity Committee was proposed. The digital media manager would coordinate pictures to be taken at various outreach events, and store the pictures digitally. Kat Lackman noted that a flickr account may be the most efficient way to store large volumes of photos.

A motion that MOAFS should create a digital media manager coordinator within the Publicity Committee was proposed and seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Publicity Committee chair, Trish Yasger and John Fantz will write the digital media manager job description.

It has been noted that fisheries professionals have expressed a concern that many undergraduates lack field experience after graduation, thus, making them less appealing in the hiring process. The idea for creating a field techniques course for undergraduates that would count for credit was discussed. The course could give undergraduates an additional opportunity to gain field experience. A suggestion was made to hold the course at the fall colloquium. Jen Gironde stated that the majority of motivated students seek temporary or hourly employment throughout the summer that exposes them to field work.

After deciding the field techniques course should be tabled for now, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made and Tom Priesendorf accepted the motion. The motion was seconded and passed with all but one in favor, John Fantz. The meeting adjourned at 1240h.

**Appendix A**  
Conservation Employees Credit Union Account Balances

<b>Account</b>	<b>Balance as of 6/30/2017</b>
MOAFS Operational Share	\$8,514.78
MOAFS Operational Checking	\$14,305.67
MOAFS Special Projects Checking	\$3,767.45
SSTF Money Market (Buffer fund)	\$10,003.30
SSTF Checking	\$4,083.36
SSTF CD 1479	\$12,976.84    ↑ \$476.84
SSTF CD 2381	\$12,654.69    ↑ \$154.69
SSTF CD 2382	\$12,744.06    ↑ \$244.06
SSTF CD 2720	\$12,587.27    ↑ \$87.27
Cumulative CD Value	\$50,962.86    ↑ \$962.86 (+1.93%)
SSTF Mutual Fund (as of 6/30/2017)	
Stock Market Index Fund	\$34,676.45
International Stock Index Fund	\$11,724.91
Cumulative Returns YTD (Jan-June 2017)	\$1,401.36