



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

MONTANA CHAPTER

To: Montana Chapter AFS Members
From: Matthew Jaeger, Secretary-Treasurer
RE: **Minutes from 2007 Business Meeting (15 Feb 2007, Missoula)**

AGENDA

- I. Opening of meeting and call for quorum
- II. Introduction and opening comments
- III. Minutes of 2007 business meeting
- IV. Treasurer's report
- V. Elections
 - a. President-elect
 - b. Secretary-Treasurer
- VI. Committees and Ad-Hoc Committees: Reports and Chair Status
 - a. Awards
 - b. Continuing Education
 - c. Past Presidents Committee
 - d. Historian
 - e. Intermountain Journal of Science
 - f. Resource Management Concerns Committee
 - g. Legislative/Lobbyist
 - h. Membership
 - i. Newsletter
 - j. Public Outreach
 - k. Raffle
 - l. Species of Special Concern
 - m. University of Montana Student Subunit
 - n. Montana State University Student Subunit
 - o. Web Page
 - p. Westslope Cutthroat Steering Committee Representative
 - q. Whirling Disease
- VII. New Business
 - a. Procedures Manual
 1. RAF application and evaluation process
 2. Student subunit voting rights
 3. Excom-Meeting Committee report
 - b. New MCAFS logo
 - c. Election Results
 - d. RAF requests
 1. Pearl Dace
 2. Shields River Yellowstone cutthroat trout data review.



- e. Meeting hosting
- VIII. Open Floor
- IX. 2007 Summer Workshop
- X. Time and Location of 2008 Annual Meeting
- XI. Adjourn

---- Minutes ----

- I. Opening of Meeting and Call for Quorum: Chapter President Leanne Roulson opened the meeting at 3:50 pm on 15 February 2007 in Missoula, Montana. At least 35 Parent Society members were present, making a quorum.
- II. Introduction and Remarks: Leanne Roulson recognized the efforts of David Schmetterling in successfully planning this meeting and introduced Bob Hughes (Western Division AFS President). Bob Hughes recognized and thanked Leanne and MCAFS for their efforts in planning the Western Division Annual Meeting in May 2006 and noted that meeting was the most financially successful Western Division to date. Bob also noted that several other successful Western Division projects are also being led by MCAFS members and that he was looking for a Western Division Vice President nominee from our chapter. Bob gave update on the upcoming Western Division/Parent Society Annual Meeting in San Francisco.
- III. Minutes of 2006 Business Meeting: A motion was made by David Schmetterling and seconded by Pat Clancy to approve the minutes from the 2006 Business Meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Secretary-Treasurer Matt Jaeger presented the Chapter's current assets and liabilities relative to those at the time of last year's business meeting. The Chapter's total assets were \$81,817.05 and had increased by \$26,047.43 since the last business meeting. Four RAF awards totaling \$10,975 had been granted since the last meeting and the Chapter allocated an additional \$10,000 to the Wally McClure Scholarship Fund, which will allow awards to be granted strictly from earned interest each year. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Pat Clancy and seconded by Buddy Drake. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- V. Elections: Scott Bosse and Carter Kruse were nominated for President-elect. Both were present and accepted the nomination and Leanne presented their bios. The floor was opened to additional nominations. No additional nominations were made and Al Zale moved and Leanne Roulson seconded a motion to close nominations. A vote took place on paper. Carter Kruse was elected and will start his term in September 2007. Carter briefly introduced himself. Windy Davis was nominated for Secretary-Treasurer. Windy was present and accepted the nomination. The floor was opened to additional nominations. No additional nominations were made and Al Zale moved and Buddy Drake seconded a motion to close nominations. A vote took place on paper. Windy Davis was elected and will start her term in September 2007.

VI. Committees and Ad-Hoc Committees: Reports and Chair Status

- a. Awards: No report.
- b. Continuing Education: Chair Lisa Eby gave an overview of the successful continuing education course offered at this meeting (How to Move Fish, Water and Wood through Culverts) and recognized Past-president Kate Walker's efforts in helping with planning. This workshop had 100 attendees making it the Chapter's most well attended continuing education course. Lisa asked the membership to provide her with ideas for next year's continuing education course.
- c. Past Presidents: No report.
- d. Historian: Chair Paul Hamlin received several boxes of material to archive over the past year and all is going well. A proposal exploring use of alternative media for archiving the Chapter's records will be presented to the Membership in the future.
- e. Intermountain Journal of Science: Chair Carter Kruse resigned his post to serve as the Chapter's President-elect. Carter reported that Journal activities went well over the past year and requested volunteers from the Chapter to serve in a regional pool of reviewers and editors. He also requested that Excom make an early or more expedient decision on whether abstracts from the annual meeting will be published in the Journal. Last year only abstracts of Montana chapter members or Montana issues were published (as opposed to all Western Division abstracts).
- f. Resource management concerns committee. Co-chairs Kiza Gates and Leslie Bahn reported that a MCAFS comment letter was written to address concerns related to the proposed Three Creeks timber sale EIS in the Swan River State Forest and they are currently working on a comment letter for the Draft Supplement to the Montana Statewide Oil and Gas EIS and Amendment of the Powder River and Billings Resource Management Plans. This letter will be issued in April or May. They also requested that agency personnel keep the Committee better apprised of issues that may require MCAFS comment. John Syslo volunteered to take over as Chair of this committee.
- g. Legislative/ Lobbyist: Chair Leanne Roulson reported that the Chapter had contracted with Janet Ellis of the Audubon Society to serve as our lobbyist during the 2007 legislative session. Leanne also gave a brief overview of fish-centric bills.
- h. Membership: No report. Kristi Overberg has volunteered to replace Clint Sestrich as chair of this committee.
- i. Newsletter: No report.
- j. Public Outreach: Chair John Wachsmuth gave an update of the Committee's efforts to produce a MCAFS t-shirt for fund raising and outreach purposes and presented an option for a logo. The t-shirt could also be used as the meeting t-shirt at the next annual meeting. John emphasized that it was one design idea and he would like to see other ideas from the membership. Al Zale offered to help redesign the logo and also requested that the membership provide him with ideas.
- k. Raffle: Chair Windy Davis reported that raffle went well and that several items were going to be auctioned specifically to benefit the Wally McClure scholarship and memorial. Windy also noted that because of revolving membership the student subunits would have to be solicited to coordinate the raffle each year. New Montana State University Student Subunit president Peter Brown indicated that he would coordinate the raffle for the 2008 meeting.
- l. Species of Special Concern: Chair Bob Bramblett reported that Craig Barfoot had volunteered to serve as Co-chair. Bob reviewed the process of updating status review papers and listed the species whose papers were currently being revised. Sturgeon chub

status was recently changed to S3 and that status paper will need to undergo formal review based on new distribution and abundance information and Nature Serve Model output. Bob also requested a volunteer to write the status review paper for spoonhead sculpin. There were no volunteers. In the near future the committee may need to formally examine the status of a number of taxa that are currently ranked SU (possibly in peril, but status uncertain). Many of these are prairie fishes and there has been substantial work in this region in the past 5 to 10 years. Bob Bramblett will be reviewing the status of prairie fishes in the next year as part of his prairie fish synthesis. The Committee will also pursue information and education outreach opportunities related to Species of Special Concern such as publishing articles in Montana Outdoors in the coming year.

- m. University of Montana Student Subunit. Adam McMahon reported that he was recently elected as the new subunit president and that they are working to increase general awareness of fisheries issues and with a watershed education network for outreach. Over the past year they have established a website and designed a t-shirt for fundraising activities.
- n. Montana State University Student Subunit. Subunit president Kiza Gates reported that over the past year the subunit has held five meetings and two socials, organized and coordinated the MCAFS raffle, and submitted a proposal to Montana State University to initiate a long-term monitoring project on Mandible Creek, which flow through campus. New Subunit officers are as follows: President Peter Brown, Vice President Mike Meeuwig, Secretary Ben Cox, and Treasurer Ben Goodman. Peter Brown reported that planned activities over the coming year will be to place more emphasis and focus on recruiting undergraduate students and initiating Mandible Creek sampling efforts.
- o. Web Page: No report. Leanne gave an overview of the parent society web page changes and described the Committee's efforts to update our web page during these changes.
- p. Westslope Cutthroat Steering Committee Representative: Buddy Drake indicated that this is an ad hoc committee that should be either dissolved or folded into the Species of Special Concern Committee. Al Zale made a motion that was seconded by David Schmetterling to fold this committee into the Species of Special Concern Committee. The motion passed and Buddy Drake was nominated to serve as the Species of Special Concern committee liaison for the Westslope Cutthroat Steering Committee.
- q. Whirling Disease: The benefits of renaming this committee the Aquatic Nuisance Species Committee were briefly discussed but it was determined this change was unnecessary. Brad Shepard moved to dissolve the Whirling Disease Committee and Bob Wiltshire seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

VII. New Business

- a. Update on procedures manual: Kate Walker will review and update the procedures manual as necessary.
- b. Student subunit voting rights: David Schmetterling made a motion to grant student subunit presidents voting rights on Excom and Peter Brown seconded the motion. Pat Clancy questioned why this change was needed. David described that student subunit presidents currently attend Excom meetings but were not granted voting rights and the change was needed to increase equality. The effect of having two voting Excom members that weren't elected by the general Chapter membership was discussed and Brad Shepard made an amendment to the motion that a single student representative will be elected for Excom by the entire Chapter membership as opposed to only the respective student subunit memberships. The amendment to the motion was seconded by Buddy Drake. Chris Guy argued that the students likely know each other best and that they, not the membership, should elect their representative and

Brad Shepard responded that it was not necessary for everyone to know who they are voting for. Leslie Bahn and Windy Davis expressed that the subunits found the current arrangement acceptable and that voting rights on Excom were not necessarily needed or desired. Chris Guy suggested that we listened to and respected the students desires to not be included as voting members of Excom. The amendment to the motion that a single student representative will be elected for Excom by the entire Chapter membership was voted on and failed. The original motion to grant student subunit presidents voting rights on Excom was voted on and failed.

- c. MCAFS Logo redesign: Leanne Roulson noted that because the current color logo was not readily reproducible it needed to be redesigned as a black and white logo. Al Zale volunteered to redesign the Chapter logo.
- d. RAF Applications:
 - i. Pearl dace (\$2,000): ExCom voted to fund this RAF request by Dave Stagliano at the 12 February 2007 Excom meeting. Leanne Roulson provided a brief overview this RAF request.
 - ii. Shields River Yellowstone cutthroat trout data review (\$5,000): Leanne Roulson introduced and provided a brief overview of this RAF request and Pat Byorth provided more detailed description of this request. This funding request sought to combine existing Shields River data from various sources into a unified, single project that would result in development of flow targets in critical reaches. Pat Byorth made a motion to fund the request at \$5,000 and Buddy Drake seconded the motion. Bob Wiltshire questioned amount and source of matching funds listed in the RAF request and stated that he didn't feel we should fund requests that didn't have significant matching funds. Sue Camp questioned where funds for RAF awards come from within the Chapter (the chapter checking account and trust fund) and requested that the balances of relevant accounts be reread to the membership (\$18,904.57 and \$43,466.95, respectively). Bob Wiltshire stated that he felt Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks should fund this work and Carol Endicott responded that the proposed work was really part of the TMDL process and not necessarily part of typical Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks responsibilities. Bob Wiltshire moved to make an amendment to the motion to fund the RAF request at \$3,500. The amendment failed. The motion to fund the request at \$5,000 was voted on and passed.
 - iii. RAF process review: Leanne Roulson gave an overview of the Federation of Fly Fishers grant application process as one the Chapter could emulate and presented the idea of having two submission periods for RAF requests. Our current RAF application process was discussed. Buddy Drake made a motion that we remove the stipulation that RAF requests must be received 30 days prior to the next Excom meeting and Pat Clancy seconded the motion. Bob Wiltshire noted that the 30 day period was established to prevent people from standing up at meeting and requesting funds. Buddy withdrew his motion.
- e. Meeting Hosting-
 - i. ExComm/Meeting committee report: Having Excom share the responsibilities of meeting planning worked well and Kate Walker will change the procedures manual to reflect distribution of duties.
 - ii. Parent Society meeting request: The Parent Society has issued a request for proposal to the Billings Chamber of Commerce to host the 2011 annual meeting. Leanne noted that Excom was not interested and would reply

accordingly. Jim Darling made a motion to issue a letter stating opposition to holding an annual meeting in Billings and Sue Camp seconded the motion. Leanne gave overview of workload required to host a Parent Society Meeting and suggested that it wasn't in our best interest.

- f. Announcement of Best Paper Awards: Travis Horton will make this award announcement at the banquet.

VIII. Open Floor

- a. Bob Hughes thanked MCAFS for donating \$500 to the upcoming Western Division Meeting.
- b. Al Zale made a motion that we purchase 20 University of Montana Student Subunit Meeting t-shirts. Chris Guy seconded the motion. A point of order was made that the Membership does not need to vote on this motion and it is at the discretion of Excom. Excom resolved to buy 20 University of Montana Student Subunit Meeting t-shirts at \$18 each.

- IX. 2007 Summer Workshop: A tour of barriers and culverts was suggested by Buddy Drake. Sue Camp suggested that the potential summer workshop highlight the removal of Milltown Dam. David Schmetterling gave an overview of construction work that would be occurring this summer at Milltown Dam. No resolution occurred.

- X. Time and Location of 2008 Annual Meeting: Carter Kruse stated that he was open to suggestion and would inform the Membership of the meeting venue in the near future.

- XI. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.