



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

MONTANA CHAPTER



To: Montana Chapter AFS Members
From: Windy Davis, Secretary-Treasurer
RE: **Minutes from 2009 Annual Business Meeting (11 Feb 2009, Kalispell)**

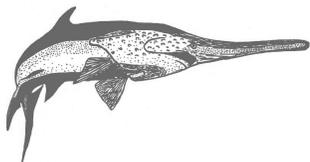
Agenda

- I. Opening of meeting and call for quorum
- II. Introduction and opening comments
- III. Additions or Changes to Agenda
- IV. Read and Approve Minutes of 2008 business meeting
- V. Treasurer's report

- VI. Old Business
 - a. MCAFS Logo
 - b. MCAFS-MCWS Joint Meeting

- VII. Committees and Subunits: Reports and Chair Status
 - a. Awards – Travis Horton, Trevor Selch
 - b. Continuing Education – Lisa Eby, Matt Corsi
 - c. Past Presidents Committee – Leanne Roulson, David Schmetterling
 - d. Historian – Paul Hamlin
 - e. Intermountain Journal of Science – David Stagliano
 - f. Resource Management Concerns Committee – John Syslo
 - g. Legislative/Lobbyist – Scott Bosse
 - h. Membership – Kristi Webb, chair needed.
 - i. Newsletter – Amber Steed
 - j. Public Outreach – John Wachsmuth
 - k. Raffle – MSU Student Subunit
 - l. Species of Special Concern – Craig Barfoot, Bob Bramblett
 - m. University of Montana Student Subunit
 - n. Montana State University Student Subunit – Kris Homel, Lora Tennant
 - o. Web Page – Adam Peterson
 - p. Climate Change – Robert Gresswell, Bruce Farling

- VIII. New Business
 - a. Proposed officer rotation bylaw change (A)
 1. Addition of 1st Vice President Office
 2. Four Year Presidential Cycle, five member EXCOM
 - b. Resource Action Fund (RAF) modifications
 - c. RAF Grants
 1. MSU Student Subunit - Western Division Student Colloquium (\$1,000)



2. Federation of Fly Fisheries – Undaunted Anglers educational booklet (\$1,000)
3. East Yellowstone Chapter of TU – Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (not funded)
- d. EOS Request for Annual Meeting Travel Support (\$500)
- e. WDAF Request for Meeting Support
 1. Denied donation
 2. Provide up to \$1,000 for student and professional travel to WDAFS.
 - i. Priority to presenters.
 - ii. May be asked to conduct official MCAFS business.
- f. Westslope Chapter of Trout Unlimited Scholarship
- g. WDAFS Grants Endowment Fund – long term savings (A)
- h. Past Presidents Committee responsible for officer candidates prior to annual meeting (A)

- IX. Elections
- a. Secretary-Treasurer
 - b. President-Elect
 - c. *1st Vice President*

X. Open Floor

XI. 2009 Summer Workshop

XII. Time and Location of 2010 Annual Meeting

XIII. Adjourn

---- Minutes ----

- I. Opening of meeting and call for quorum
Chapter President Carter Kruse opened the meeting at 12:32 by Carter Kruse. At least 35 Parent Society members were present, making it a quorum.
- II. Introduction and opening comments-Carter thanked everyone for attending.
- III. Additions or Changes to Agenda-Carter asked for additions to the agenda. There were no changes requested.
- IV. Read and Approve Minutes of 2008 business meeting- A motion was made by David Schmetterling and seconded by Pat Clancy to approve the minutes from the 2008 Business Meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- V. Treasurer's report david approved, scott seconded any opposition, moved passed
Treasurer's Report: Secretary-Treasurer Windy Davis 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 \$55,291.94 and had decreased by \$10,557.89 since the last business meeting. Five RAF awards totaling \$10,000 had been granted since the last meeting. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by David Schmetterling and seconded by Scott Barndt. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously
- VI. Old Business
 - a. MCAFS Logo-New logo was designed by Al Zale. Thank you Al.
 - b. MCAFS-MCWS Joint Meeting- Carter started a discussion about the chapter's thoughts on the joint meeting and asked for the group to submit comments after the meeting.
- VII. Committees and Subunits: Reports and Chair Status
 - a. Awards – Travis Horton, Trevor Selch- 6 awards will be given out tonight. Trevor Selch will be taking over the committee.

- b. Continuing Education – Lisa Eby, Matt Corsi- Lisa thanked the group for contributing ideas and helping with participating in the workshops. Matt Corsi will be taking over the continuing ed for 2010.
- c. Past Presidents Committee – Leanne Roulson, David Schmetterling- Leanne Roulson left her position at Garcia and Associates and is back in school. No report.
- d. Historian – Paul Hamlin- no report
- e. Intermountain Journal of Science – David Stagliano- They are compiling abstracts and will be submitting them to IJS. Please continue to submit other papers and abstracts to the journal. Gary Dusek, editor of IJS, gave an update. The journal has been printed for 15 years. The 2008 issue will be printed and available soon. Some manuscripts are already in the hopper for 2009. Gary thanked the group for their support. The journal was intended to be quarterly, but that has only occurred three years. Publication rate is fairly high. Gary has helped many authors get their papers in shape to be published. Personal subscriptions are low, but the library subscriptions are the bulk of the audience.
- f. Resource Management Concerns Committee – John Syslo- The group commented on two TMDL plans and Carol Endicott took a lead on these. Windy Davis submitted comments on a DNRC oil and gas lease sale. John plans on continuing to be the chair until August.
- g. Legislative/Lobbyist – Scott Bosse- Last year the group decided to not re-hire a lobbyist. Scott and Ex Com have been active in the legislative session. We gave testimony against the bill that would have made walleye a native species. The bill was tabled. We will be commenting on the Big Sky Rivers Act to support development set backs on 10 major rivers. David Schmetterling encouraged people to get involved with the process because it provides you an opportunity to work through AFS to weigh in on topics. A member asked if we are going to get involved with climate change legislation and the streamlining of permitting for coal plants, etc. Scott Bosse advised that AFS wants to be careful to be involved with policy versus science advising. An alternative would be to have TWS and AFS submit a science advisor letter about climate change to the legislatures. A member asked about our involvement in the stream access issues and Carter said that we would not be because it is a social issue, not a science issue.
- h. Membership – Kristi Webb, chair needed.- Kristi made a plea for a new chair person that is savvy with Access databases. We had over 180 people register for the meeting. Carter outlined his plan for getting our database lined out and the future plans for making the database part of our website so people can search and filter through the membership for help. Clint suggested that people just update their information at registration. We are going to continue with the database plan.
- i. Newsletter – Amber Steed- Took over the job.
- j. Public Outreach – John Wachsmuth- Nothing happened in the past year, but there are some plans to get things going next year.
- k. Raffle – MSU Student Subunit- Buy tickets. Mike Duncan will commit to doing the raffle in 2010.
- l. Species of Special Concern – Craig Barfoot, Bob Bramblett- They are continuing to update the status of species and are trying to get an S ranking associated with each one. Dave Stagliano wrote a status letter about the status of sturgeon chub and there is a work group to reassess the status. The group has gotten together and re-ran the status model. The model ranked it out as a 2.75 which suggests that it would be classified as an S3, but there is recent evidence for declines in the Powder. The work group made a recommendation for an S2-3 ranking to the committee and they voted 12 to 3 to approve the rank. This will be forwarded to ExCom for a vote.
- m. University of Montana Student Subunit- Lisa Eby gave an update. They have had lots of speakers come in and they have had several field trips to learn more about the profession.

- n. Montana State University Student Subunit – Kris Homel, Lora Tennant- The student group has remained active hosting three speakers, ecology banquet, and the WDAFS student colloquium with students from all over the west. The colloquium was a success and included field trips, talks, social events, etc. CSU has agreed to host next year.
- o. Web Page – Adam Peterson- New website is up and running. Carter emphasized that Adam has been great about getting things posted.
- p. Climate Change – Robert Gresswell, Bruce Farling- The group was not particularly active. They had 4 main goals that they identified in the spring including a white paper on climate change and fisheries, recommendation for a policy statement letter to the parent society, etc. Bob Gresswell stated that the group needs help to get things accomplished.
- q. Cutthroat Trout Restoration (Ad Hoc)- Buddy Drake- We may not need this committee in the future.

VIII. New Business

- a. Proposed officer rotation bylaw change (A)-
 - i. Addition of 1st Vice President Office
 - ii. Four Year Presidential Cycle, five member EXCOM Carter announced this in the newsletter and on the web. Carter proposed that it would be beneficial to have an extra year on the ExCom so that they can help plan the meeting, gain the institutional knowledge of the ExCom before you become president, and then it would give a person the opportunity to plan out their goals for the president term. This would also provide an odd number of people for voting. Buddy motioned to pass, David seconded. Opened to discussion:
 - o Pat Byorth-What do people thinking about becoming an officer in the future think of a longer term?
 - o Carter- We are able teleconference, etc and the time commitment is 3-4 ExCom meetings.
 - o Brad Shepard- We split out the Secretary-Treasurer from the 4 year cycle which makes sense, but we need to think about this.
 - o Scott Barndt- We need to plan much further in advance for the annual meeting and this would help facilitate getting the meeting planned.
 - o Clint Mulfeld- I don't think the workload has changed and I was burnt out at the end of the 3 year term. What exactly is the proposed change in the by-laws?
 - o Buddy Drake- I agree with some of the benefits, but we have difficulty getting people nominated. If you vote yes then you need to be willing to commit that much time to yourself.
 - o Chris Guy- He has had experience on the education committee and has experienced burn out. Also we need to consider having people that want to continue on to Western Division or other higher AFS duties and we don't want to add on years to service.
 - o Gresswell- We need to start recruiting new people to get involved with the ExCom.
 - o Kristi Webb- Would the burn out be significant if the duties were split up?
 - o Sue Camp- Through my job I cannot commit to serving as an officer, but I would be able to serve on a committee.
 - o Tom McMahan- There are three major parts to the meeting- the facility, the program, and the abstracts, etc. If we broke up those duties it may be better. Tom McMahan was the last person to be on the 4 year cycle and he enjoyed it.
- b. A vote was called for: 13 in favor, 21 opposed. Motion denied.
- c. Resource Action Fund (RAF) modifications- Carter reported that ExCom streamlined the application process. If the request is less than \$2k they can submit requests anytime, if it is more they have one chance to submit for ExCom review.
- d. RAF Grants- Carter gave a report on the RAF requests and allocations.

- e. MSU Student Subunit - Western Division Student Colloquium (\$1,000)
- f. Federation of Fly Fisheries – Undaunted Anglers educational booklet (\$1,000)
- g. East Yellowstone Chapter of TU – Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (not funded)
- h. EOS Request for Annual Meeting Travel Support (\$500)- Carter announced that we were supporting the EOS travel program with a \$500 sponsorship.
- i. WDAF Request for Meeting Support
- j. Denied donation
- k. Provide up to \$1,000 for student and professional travel to WDAFS.
- l. Priority to presenters.
- m. ii. May be asked to conduct official MCAFS business.
- n. Westslope Chapter of Trout Unlimited Scholarship- We have worked with this group and set up guidelines for a scholarship. We have selected the first recipient.
- o. g WDAFS Grants Endowment Fund – long term savings (A)- There is potential to buy into this fund as a group. We may want to look into this for the future. There was a question about how you would get funds out. Carter said that it is similar to normal fund options. We should look into their performance.
- p. Past Presidents Committee responsible for officer candidates prior to annual meeting (A)- Currently ExCom has been pressing people at the meeting for nominees. Gresswell made a motion to approve, David seconded. Sheppard asked who is the chair- the first past president. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Elections- terms will begin in September.

a. Secretary-Treasurer

The floor was opened for nominations. David Schmetterling nominated Leo Rosenthal. No other nominations were made. Leo gave a brief bio and accepted the nomination. Floor was closed. Unanimous support, motion passed.

b. President-Elect

The floor was opened for nominations. David nominated Todd Koehl. No other nominations were made.. Todd accepted the nomination and gave a brief bio. Floor was closed. Unanimous support, motion passed. Todd said he is looking forward to getting to know MT people better and getting involved.

X. Open Floor- Carol Endicott thanked Pat Byorth for his legal mumbo jumbo help with TMDL comments. David thanked Scott Barndt for all his help with the meeting. Scott thanked everyone else for their help.

XI. 2009 Summer Workshop- If someone has a useful summer workshop idea bring it forward to ExCom, but ExCom will not be planning one if the group does not see the need.

XII. Time and Location of 2010 Annual Meeting-

We do have some issues with our meeting size and finding a facility. Scott was asked how difficult it was to get a facility away from your hometown. Scott was able to use local help in Kalispell to get the meeting planned from a distance. Gresswell had help from local people as well when he had the meeting. There was discussion that in the past we have hired a person to help put on some of the symposiums, which could be an option in the future.

XIII. Adjourn:David made a motion to adjourn, Carter seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm.