

Southern Division American Fisheries Society
Spring Executive Committee Meeting
Charleston, SC
Thursday, 20 January 2022

President Cindy Williams introduced herself and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Secretary-Treasurer Jessica Baumann announced a quorum was present. President Cindy Williams called the EXCOM meeting to order at 1605 hrs.

Proxies were identified and included Robby Maxwell for the Warmwater Streams Committee.

Executive Director Doug Austen was present and thanked everyone for their continued support of AFS and gave an update on the upcoming annual parent society meeting in Spokane, WA.

President Williams presented the Spring EXCOM meeting agenda.

Motion to approve agenda: Dennie Reicke

Seconded by: Joey Ballenger

SDAFS President Report

President Cindy Williams updates the group on the status of the 2022 SDAFS briefing book and indicates that there are still missing reports from state chapters and technical committees. President Williams remembers Past-President Tom Kwak, who passed away unexpectedly in November 2021. She notes that this is the first time that an acting EXCOM member has passed away during service to SDAFS and highlights the impact that Tom had on the society and on its individual members.

The rest of President William's report stands as written.

SDAFS Officer Report

President-Elect Jason Olive began by thanking Dennie Reicke and Amy Cottrell for their continued work on the SDAFS list-serve. He noted that he provided oversight for the 2022 annual SDAFS meeting and organized the past president's luncheon. He also highlighted his involvement in the AFS Governing Board and local state chapters of AFS.

The rest of President-Elect Olive's report stands as written.

Vice President Mark Rogers introduced himself. He indicated how honored he felt to hold a position on the SDAFS EXCOM. He also congratulated SCAFS on a great job putting together the 2022 annual meeting even with the difficulties encountered by the global pandemic, COVID-19.

The rest of Vice President Roger's report stands as written.

Past-President Tom Kwak passed away while serving his final term on SDAFS EXCOM. It is a huge loss for the society as a whole and he will be greatly missed. Past-President Wes Neal stepped up to perform those duties left by Tom's passing. President Williams thanked Wes for his willingness to help EXCOM in such a difficult time.

Past-President Kwak's / Neal's report stands as written.

Secretary-Treasurer Jessica Baumann's reports were handled individually. She noted that the meeting minutes from the 2021 EXCOM meeting are posted on the SDAFS website and were released in the SDAFS newsletter.

Secretary-Treasurer Baumann provided an overview of the 2021 budget. Several income and expense items were highlighted, including \$2,000 in AFS rebates. It was noted that the 2021 AFS membership rebates will be included in the 2022 budget due to the Parent Society switching payment forms from physical checks to electronic deposits. Secretary-Treasurer Baumann noted that the SDAFS is holding funds for the Pollution Committee (\$1,800) and highlighted the issues that are encountered by committee's trying to establish individual bank accounts. The ending SDAFS balance for 2021 totaled \$42,878.46 and included \$13,273 in the strategic reserve funds.

An audit of the 2021 financial information was completed on January 10th, 2022 by the SDAFS Audit Committee Chair Kelsey Roberts. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the committee was unable to meet in person with all members present. The Audit Committee report can be found in the briefing book and there were no errors identified in the 2021 financials. The Division's original investment into AFS's managed investment program of \$10,000 in October of 2018 has grown to \$13,273 as of June 2021. It was noted that the Audit Committee Chair suggested the Division look into a more aggressive investment to complement our financial portfolio.

The proposed 2022 SDAFS budget was discussed. Secretary-Treasurer Baumann noted that typical levels of income and expenses were expected in 2022. Highlighted was the proposed donation to Past President Tom Kwak's children college funds.

The current bank balance is sufficient to maintain SDAFS operations.

Secretary-Treasurer Baumann's report stands as written.

Student Representative Report

Representative Zach Moran indicated that his report stands as written.

Chapter Reports

Host Comments – 2022 Annual Meeting Chair, Joey Ballenger, highlighted that the SC Chapter has been focused on hosting the 2022 SDAFS annual meeting for most of the year. He noted that even with the rise in COVID-19 cases nationwide and the resulting cancellations related to the meeting, the 2022 meeting has gone smoothly. Joey noted that he feels the 2022 annual meeting in Charleston, SC will be a success.

Alabama – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Arkansas – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Florida - Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Georgia – No representative present.

Kentucky – Currently inactive.

Louisiana – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Mississippi - Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

North Carolina - Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Oklahoma – No representative present.

Potomac - No representative present.

Puerto Rico – No representative present.

South Carolina – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Tennessee - Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Texas - Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Tidewater – No representative present.

West Virginia – No representative present.

Technical Committee Reports

Alligator Gar – No representative present.

Aquaculture – No representative present.

Catfish – No representative present.

Morone – No representative present.

Pollution – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book. Requested a financial report from Secretary-Treasurer Baumann for the funds being held by SDAFS.

Reservoir – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Small Impoundments – No representative present.

Trout – No representative present.

Warm Water Streams – Report stands as written in the 2022 SDAFS Briefing Book.

Resolutions Committee Report

Resolutions Committee Chair Dennis Riecke noted that no resolutions were brought forward to the Resolutions Committee in 2021. Chair Riecke highlighted the internal resolution of appreciation to the host chapter, South Carolina, for planning the 2022 annual meeting.

Old Business

President Williams again highlighted the missing reports needed to complete the 2022 briefing book.

President-Elect Olive highlighted the need for better communication within the society. Noted that during his presidency he will focus on increased communication between SDAFS EXCOM and the leaders of both the chapters and technical committees.

New Business

The SDAFS EXCOM member's announced their decision to rename the Distinguished Service Award in honor of the late past-president Tom Kwak. The new name of this SDAFS award will be the Tom Kwak Distinguished Service Award.

Secretary-Treasurer Baumann brings forth the topic of how the society handles student rooms at the annual meeting and the need to decrease the number of students assigned to a room from four to two. This was received with general agreement from those in attendance.

Executive Director Austin highlighted the issue of enforcing AFS's code of conduct during annual society meetings. He stressed the importance of having a contact person at each meeting in which issues can be reported to onsite and then to make sure those issue are reported to AFS. Director Austin also stressed that AFS takes violations to the code of conduct very seriously.

A general discussion was held regarding the low turnout for student based elections and the low number of students that are also members of the Parent Society. Don Jackson suggested that the Division help fund student memberships through student awards and registration fees.

Motion for meeting adjournment: Dennis Riecke

Motion Seconded: Robby Maxwell

Meeting was adjourned by President Cindy William at 18:05 hours.