

Southern Division American Fisheries Society
Annual Business Meeting
Norfolk, VA
Friday, 3 February 2023

President Jason Olive welcomed everyone to the 2023 SDAFS annual business meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Jessica Baumann announced a quorum was present. President Jason Olive called the 2023 SDAFS Business Meeting to order at 1632 hrs.

Steve Lochman made a motion to approve the agenda, which was then seconded by John Odenkirk. No discussion ensued and no abstentions were reported.

President Olive recognizes special members in attendance, including AFS President April Croxton, AFS First Vice President Miguel Garcia-Bermudez, and all past SDAFS Presidents.

AFS President April Croxton Remarks: President Croxton thanked everyone for their continued support of AFS and highlighted her upcoming goals of increasing internal communications with the parent society and its membership. She mentioned the upcoming Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress to be held in May 2023. She highlighted the society's Hutton Scholar Program and the upcoming changes to the award nomination process.

President Jason Olive's Report: President Jason Olive started by personally thanking the many members of SDAFS that have supported him over the last year. He highlighted actions that addressed his presidential goals of increased communication between EXCOM and its membership, especially communication with individual chapter Presidents and committee chairs. He stressed the importance of nominating your fellow members for the many awards offered by SDAFS and highlighting the good work that is done by so many SDAFS members.

Secretary-Treasurer Jessica Baumann's Report:

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 on the SDAFS list serve.

Secretary-Treasurer Baumann provided an overview of the 2022 budget. Several income and expense items were highlighted, including \$16,915 in AFS rebates. It was noted that the 2021 AFS rebates were 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 the Diversity and Inclusion Committee (\$13,300). The ending SDAFS balance for 2022 totaled \$48,358.40 and included \$13,921 in the strategic reserve funds.

An audit of the 2022 financial information was completed on January 17, 2023 by the SDAFS Audit Committee Chair Kelsey Roberts. The Audit Committee report can be found in the briefing book and there were no errors identified in the 2022 financials. The Division's original investment into AFS's managed investment program of \$10,000 in October of 2018 has grown to \$13,921 as of December 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 2023 SDAFS budget was discussed. Secretary-Treasurer Baumann noted that typical levels of income and expenses were expected in 2023. Highlighted was the proposed donation to the Latin American and Caribbean Congress (\$1,500) and SDAFS D&I Committee student travel award (\$3,000).

The current bank balance is sufficient to maintain SDAFS operations.

Gus Engman made a motion to approve the 2023 budget and that motion was seconded by Brett Timmons. No objections were brought forward by members.

Host Meeting Report: General Meeting Chair Brad Fink expressed their gratitude to the 2023 SDAFS Annual Meeting Planning Committee that helped organize this meeting. He also sent gratitude to the SCAFS and SDAFS EXCOM members for their support. He acknowledged that they were able to host over 400 registrants, 180 technical talks, 7 technical committee meetings, 14 continuing educations workshops and 17 vendors.

President-Elect Mark Rogers's Chapter Activity Report: President-Elect Rogers summarized the 2023 annual reports submitted by AFS Chapters within the Southern Division. He highlighted the positive feedback that was given in regards to the updated process for briefing book submissions. He stressed that chapters should reference the SDAFS briefing book for ideas on how other SDAFS chapters are handling common challenges faced by chapters.

Vice President Anthony Overton's Report: Vice President Overton stressed the need for SDAFS members to be more involved in our technical committees and highlighted challenges faced by the committees and high turnover from agency members.

He also highlighted scholarship funds that are offered by various technical committees and the issue of them going unused due to lack of award submissions.

Resolutions Committee Report: Chair of the Resolutions Committee Dennis Riecke presented the Resolution of Appreciation to Host to acknowledge the appreciation SDAFS has for the members of the Virginia Chapter for hosting the 2023 annual meeting. Chair Riecke also presented the Resolution for Water Quality Monitoring on the Mississippi River.

Committee Chair Riecke requested a motion for approval of the resolution. Gus Engman made a motion to approve the 2023 resolutions and that motion was seconded by Amanda Rosenberger. No objections were brought forward by members.

Ballot Committee Report: Past President Cindy Williams announced the winners of the election held electronically in 2022. The new officers for 2023 are Jessica Baumann (Vice President), Brandon Peoples (Secretary-Treasurer), and Austin Lisowski (Student Representative to the EXCOM).

Presentation of Awards: President-Elect Mark Rogers announced the following SDAFS Awards while President Olive congratulated recipients and presented awards:

The Jack F. Dequine Best Paper Awards were given to the two best papers/presentations presented at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. First place was given to Sean Lusk of Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. The runner-up award was given to Chris Middaugh of Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Plaques and checks for \$100 (first place) and \$50 (runner-up) were given to each first author. Co-authors received certificates.

The Best Student Sub-Unit Award was presented to the University of Tennessee- Knoxville.

The Outstanding Small Chapter Award was presented to the Georgia Chapter.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Hae Kim for all his leadership and participation within the SDAFS in regards to maintaining the SDAFS website.

The Best Student Presentation Award from the 2022 SDAFS Meeting was awarded to Amanpreet Kohli. Runner-ups for Best Student Presentation Award were given to Suraj Vaddi and Jackson Glomb. The Best Student Poster Award went to Bailey O'Brian and runner-ups for best student poster presentation went to Kiah Wright, Jeff Stevens, and Haley Miller.

Jim Burroughs of the SDAFS Warmwater Streams Technical Committee presented the Jimmie Pigg Memorial Outstanding Student Achievement Award to two recipients. The first recipient was Matthew Lewis, a PhD student from the Auburn University. The second recipient was Katie Morris, a Master's student from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

Resolution of Appreciation to Host plaques and certificates were given to the Virginia Chapter and key members of the meeting planning committee. Plaques and certificates were presented to the Virginia Chapter members.

Old Business:

Installation of 2023 Officers: New officers were Austin Lisowski, Student Representative to the EXCOM; Brandon Peoples, Secretary-Treasurer; Jessica Baumann, Vice President; Anthony Overton, President-Elect; and Mark Rogers, President.

Newly Installed President Mark Roger's Remarks: President Rogers' first official duty was to recognize the work of Past-President Jason Olive with a special plaque and a gift of Puerto Rican Rum.

President Rogers expressed his gratitude for being elected an officer of SDAFS EXCOM. He personally thanked Past-President Olive for his leadership and mentorship.

President Rogers then highlighted his goal for the upcoming year: 1) his first goal is to increase communication between EXCOM and the student membership; and 2) his second goal is to engage more with the various membership focused committees.

New Business: President Rogers invited members of the Tennessee Chapter to speak about the 2024 SDAFS meeting to be held in Chattanooga, TN.

Motion to adjourn: Jessica Baumann

Seconded by: Jason Olive

Meeting was adjourned by President Rogers at 1802 hrs.