



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**April 6, 2021**

### **Virtual Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am CST and a roll call of the SDAFS Catfish Management Technical Committee members was conducted by Kris Bodine. It was determined that a quorum was not met; the meeting was called to order.

#### *Officers:*

Chair – Kris Bodine (TX)

Chair Elect - Vacant

Secretary/Treasurer - Joe McMullen (MO)

Webmaster - Dan Shoup (OSU)

#### *State representatives participating:*

Justin Homan (AR), Tim Bonvechio (GA-proxy), Joe McMullen (MO), Chris Whisenhunt (OK-proxy), Kris Bodine (TX), Margi Whitmore (VA- proxy), Nate Taylor (WV)

#### *SDAFS Officers:*

President – Tom Kwak (NCSU)

Vice President - Jason Olive (AGFC)

#### *Members and guests:*

Allison Asher (AGFC), Chelsea Tucker (AGFC), Tyler Thomsen (AGFC), Chris Brooke (MDC), Heather Evans (NCWRC), Sean Kinny (LDWF), Morgan Winstead (SIU), Warren Schlechte (TPWD), Victor Wesley (TTU), Clint Morgeson (VADWR).

#### *Welcome:*

Kris Bodine introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the Catfish Management Technical Committee meeting. Attendee introductions ensued. An agenda was distributed and finalized.

### *Old Business:*

The 2020 meeting minutes are available for review on the website and need to be approved; no comments have been received.

### *New Business:*

#### *Treasurer's Report*

Joe McMullen discussed financial details from the committee's BB&T Bank Account. The Committee accounts have remained static since last year. Catfish 2020 funds are at \$33,434.73; anticipate a final payment for proceedings (estimate \$9,098.00). After the final payment for proceedings, \$24,336.73 will be available to split between SD and NCD Committees (\$12,168.36 each) No Catfish Management Scholarship Award was given this year (no applicants). The Committee's 2020 tax information was submitted to Jess Baumann (SDAFS Secretary/Treasurer) in March.

#### *Webmaster's Report*

Dan Shoup: The website needs reorganization. The focus has been on providing literature. We need more information on how the Committee works and how to participate. The site should be more welcoming to new/interested people. If members have ideas for updates/organization and marketing, please contact Dan.

Kris Bodine: A list of members and contact information is needed. The Alligator Gar Committee page could be used as a model.

Sean Kinny: Do small projects, one step at a time. There is too much work to take on all at once.

Dan Shoup: We need a better landing page to make finding information easier. That would be a good first step.

Kris Bodine: Do/should we have a social media presence?

Dan Shoup: Reservoir Committee has 326 followers on their Facebook page (business format).

**\*Dan Shoup will look into getting a Facebook page set up.**

#### *Catfish 2020*

Jason Olive updated the group on Catfish 2020 and thanked everyone for the work/involvement. The symposium had 200 attendees, 74 oral presentations and 17 posters. Three workshops were attended by 52 people. Conference profits should be split with NCD at the next meeting in Charleston, SC. The Committee will need to decide how to utilize the profits from the conference which could be used to increase the travel award. The Catfish 2020 website has a link to the YouTube channel with podcast of all the oral presentations. The domain for the

Catfish 2020 website will be good for one more year afterwards it will need to be transferred to the Committee website.

**\*Dan Shoup will add a link to the presentation recordings to the Committee website.**

Tom Kwak updated the group on Catfish 2020 proceedings which will be included in a special issue of NAJFM. The proceedings will be widely available online with open access to students and internationally at a reasonable cost. There were 50 manuscripts submitted; the final will likely include 40 plus papers. Mark Porath and Tom Kwak are editors and edits will be completed soon (2 outstanding manuscripts). If you attended Catfish 2020 you will receive a hard copy in the mail. Some articles are already available. Thank you to Jason Olive and Jeremy Tiemenn for their work/involvement.

Kris Bodine: We should make record of Catfish 2020 so there is a playbook for Catfish 2030.

**\*Jason Olive will work with committee chairs to compile Catfish 2020 records.**

*Student Travel Scholarship:*

No one applied.

Kris Bodine: We have in excess of \$20k in Committee funds. Should we think about ways to build those funds?

Tom Kwak: Fundraising is sufficient; there is no need to invest/risk committee funds.

Kris Bodine: We could consider changing our scholarship offering (e.g., two \$500 awards, or one \$1,000 award).

Tim Bonvechio: The Reservoir Committee offers a scholarship to one Master's and one PhD student. We could also consider a woman's award.

Tom Kwak: The award amounts/structure is at the discretion on the Committee officers. SDAFS is emphasizing minority/women involvement. We could advertise only one \$500 award but give out two if there is interest.

Kris Bodine: We should try a one-time trial offering of two \$500 awards and rebrand the 'travel award' as a 'committee award'.

*Nominations:*

There is need for nominations for Chair. We should email Fish Chiefs to get nominations and there may be a need to get universities involved to serve in leadership roles.

Ben Ricks (NC) was nominated to serve as the next Secretary/Treasurer.

#### *Committee Playbook:*

Kris Bodine: Aaron Bunch created a Chair playbook that has been helpful.

**\*Joe McMullen will add a Secretary/Treasurer section.**

**\*Dan Shoup will add a Webmaster section.**

**\*Kris Bodine will share with the Committee once an advanced draft is ready.**

#### *State Reports:*

Written summaries of reports were sent to Kris Bodine via email prior to the meeting. Brief state reports were given by some state representatives.

#### *Discussion:*

Jason Olive: Bill Dance has founded the American Catfishing Association (ACA) which is advocating for new regulations, particularly '1-Over' rules. The '1-Over' rule originated in TN and is catching on in other places. There is little/no data to support such rules, but some states are indicating that even if it won't improve fisheries at least it won't hurt them. New research/papers are indicating that '1-Over' rules are not improving catfish fisheries. Bill Dance is advocating for a statewide '1-Over' rule in AR. There may be a need to educate Bill Dance and the ACA about the science surrounding this type of management strategy. We could host a meeting and invite ACA founders to present the science to them.

Kris Bodine: Education is needed; can we leverage Bill Dance's 'star power'?

Chris Brooke: NCD has suggested an additional summer meeting that could serve as a platform.

Kris Bodine: We could plan a joint SD/NCD summer meeting.

Jason Olive: Invite Bill Dance to speak and attend/view presentations.

Kris Bodine: Who should invite him (Chair/President/Chiefs)?

Jason Olive: The meeting would have to have a larger agenda.

Joe McMullen: DU Headquarters in Memphis is a potential location for the meeting and would be close to home for Bill Dance.

#### *Adjourn:*

Kris Bodine adjourned the meeting.