

SDAFS RESERVOIR COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
2017 Summer Online Meeting/Conference Call
August 7th, 2017

10:00am – 11:30am; Recorded and submitted by Colton Dennis (AGFC)

Note: Statements in bold print are action items.

Attendees

Lawrence Dorsey, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (*Chair*)
Colton Dennis, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (*Secretary-Treasurer*)
Jeremy Shiflet, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
(*Scholarship Chair/Webmaster*)
Dan Michaelson, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Brent Hess, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Patrick O'Rourke, Georgia Power
Sean Kinney, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Cliff Sager, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Ben Batten, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Shane Bush, Missouri Department of Conservation
AJ Pratt, Missouri Department of Conservation
Rick Ott, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Dustin Smith, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Dan Shoup, Oklahoma State University

Introduction

Reservoir committee (RC) chair Lawrence Dorsey called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. Dan Michaelson is stepping away from the RC and his replacement will be John Odenkirk, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Also, Shane Bush is stepping down and AJ Pratt, Missouri Department of Conservation, will now be the Missouri representative. Tn rep? SC rep? **Lawrence sent request to SC but hasn't heard back, will check with TN and other states to find out who their Committee rep will be.**

Financial Report – See scanned spreadsheet

Secretary-Treasurer Colton Dennis gave a brief report on the current finances of the RC and referenced the financial spreadsheet that was emailed to the membership. The RC's mutual fund and money market account balance with Edward Jones Inc. as of the end of July, 2017 was \$16,567.35, of which \$6,688.86 is in the money market account. This is an increase from last year (July 2016) when the total account balance was \$12,029.94. The approximate \$4,500 increase can be attributed to the recovering of some federal income taxes, reservoir habitat workshop donation by sponsors (Pond King, MossBack, and American Fish Tree), reservoir habitat workshop registration, and value changes/interest in investments. Income from workshop registrations and donations totaling \$2,550.00 was all profit as Kurt Kuklinkski (ODWC) arranged for the RC to have use of the workshop room at no charge. Thanks Kurt! Kurt also got deals for the three workshop sponsors in the form of free registration and reduced rates on vendor space in the trade show. The only debit so far in 2017 has been for \$500 paid to the Jenkins scholarship recipient.

Sean Kinney mentioned going before a nonprofit group to request scholarship funding and inquired where to have sponsors send the check to. Lawrence reminded the membership as they recruit scholarship sponsors to have them make out the checks to SDAFS Reservoir Committee and send it to either himself or Colton. Also, membership needs to keep Jeremy in the loop on sponsor recruitment and donations. Once a check is received and deposited a letter on SDAFS letterhead will be sent to the sponsor with the RC's 501c3 tax id# so that the sponsor can claim it as a donation on their taxes.

Scholarship Report

Scholarship chair Jeremy Shiflet reported to the Committee that he received a verbal commitment from David Ewald, owner of Fishiding, for \$500 as donation towards the 2018 Jenkins scholarship. **Colton will follow up and make contact with Mr. Ewald to secure check. Jeremy also reported sending out emails to 2017 workshop sponsors requesting 2018 scholarship donation, but had not received any responses back and will follow up with them in the coming months.** Lawrence reported that Fred Heitman, longterm RC member, had expressed an interest in donating \$500 towards the scholarship and Lawrence will follow up with him in the coming months. Lawrence also reminded membership to encourage students doing reservoir research in their state to apply for the scholarship, although we haven't had problems getting strong applications in the past. Lawrence reminded membership that the Committee decided in 2016 to scale scholarships back from two -\$1,000 to one \$500 scholarship because RC didn't have sponsorships of scholarships and we weren't making enough money on investments to cover the costs. Number and amount of scholarship awards can be changed in future if more donations come in. Jeremy mentioned that we will need a cut-off date, maybe scholarship application cut-off date of (Dec 1) to decide how much money we have and how we want to distribute scholarship funds in 2018.

Website Report

Website chair Jeremy Shiflet reported to the Committee that everything is migrated over to the new server and the RC website is up and running. Jeremy reported that it still needs some work but he has been improving it and focusing on getting membership contact info up to date. Thanks Jeremy! **Jeremy will send new website link out to the Committee and asked that members check for accuracy and let him know of any changes. Jeremy mentioned that the membership needs to decide how much current and old content to keep on website such as meeting archives going back to 1998. Jeremy asked membership to provide him with any suggestions on content or organization of website.**

Lawrence asked if there were any website fees. Jeremy stated that the Parent Society will not charge RC for maintenance costs or hosting of website. Jeremy mentioned he has website administrator access and that Dan can help if there are any issues. **Feel free to send website content to Jeremy.**

Lawrence inquired about the old RC website material and if Jeremy can get it on the new website. Jeremy responded that all the old RC website material migrated to new website including documents and pictures, but that he is now having to rebuild the information into a usable format for retrieving.

Dan inquired about the old RC reservoir habitat manual? **Lawrence stated he would follow-up with Kurt.**

Lawrence stated to membership that he got the SDAFS Reservoir Committee Facebook page up and running. Members have supplied him with some content. Lawrence mentioned that he re-posts a lot of Gene Gilliland's material and requested membership to send him information from personal or agency

Facebook pages or links if we find it interesting. Lawrence stated he had “liked” all agency Facebook pages and tries to get information off of them.

Lawrence reminded membership to be aware that listserv responses are sent to everyone on the listserv, not just to the sole individual.

2018 SDAFS in Puerto Rico

Lawrence prompted a group discussion on who is, or likely to attend meeting and alternatives for RC meeting if membership will not be travelling to Puerto Rico. Group discussion resulted in three Yes’s, three No’s, and five Maybe’s. **Lawrence stated he will send out a call in December to get final head count on who is going and make a decision then on how to proceed with scheduling 2018 SDAFS RC meeting.** May have a hybrid meeting with a call- in line for folks that can’t go. RC needs to have one face to face meeting each year. May try to do an in person meeting at 2018 summer meeting. Only AR and KY will be at 2017 SEAFWA in Lexington KY, so not an option for an in-person RC meeting this fall.

Habitat workshop at 2017 SDAFS in Oklahoma City recap

Group discussion and all agreed that workshop went really well and attendees could have stayed until 9-10pm discussing. Good recap of a lot of techniques and methods state agencies are using. Vendors did a good job with their presentations and it was good experience for them. Vendors got to see some things that they could take back to their business and modify now that they saw how state agencies were using their products. According to the SDAFS hosts in Oklahoma City, the reservoir habitat workshop was one of the more well attended considering the number of workshops available to attendees.

New Projects

Lawrence re-sent prior to the conference call the ODWC angler habitat survey that Cliff provided at the end of the 2017 workshop in OK City. Mark Fowlkes asked if this survey can be modified with ODWC permission for RC needs to circulate to member states and their anglers? Committee project to get a SDAFS wide assessment of anglers attitudes on fish habitat? Colton asked if this was the original ODWC angler habitat survey or the modified version that Kurt developed from RC members feedback and edits a few summer meetings ago? Cliff said it was the original ODWC survey sent to OK license holders in 2008 and repeated in 2012. Cliff stated we have ODWC permission to modify survey and make it more universal for SDAFS use. **Shane went through emails and found the modified ODWC survey that committee members had worked on at Texoma a few summers ago and will send that to Lawrence for distribution and review.** Shane went back through meeting minutes from both 2015 meetings and noticed this topic was discussed. It mentions Kurt contacting fish chiefs about an RC angler habitat survey and the possibility of linking to it from the state agency websites. **Lawrence will check on this with Kurt before he contacts chiefs. Jeremy will check with AFS and see what survey tool is available i.e. survey monkey, etc. so Lawrence can ask chiefs to link to survey once Committee agrees on survey questions and format.**

Lawrence mentioned visiting with longtime Committee member Dr. Steve Sammons and Sammons reminding him that it is time for the RC to start thinking about hosting another reservoir symposium. Lawrence reminded members that we lost a lot of money in the summer of 2007 in Atlanta at the stand alone Reservoir Symposium because we didn’t get the attendance or meet room minimums so we had to pay penalties to the hotel. Lawrence reminded members that we typically host a Reservoir Symposium every 10-15 years and we had no problem with the 1995 symposium. New trend by AFS Committees which are hosting symposiums is that they do not have stand alone meetings anymore.

Sammons suggested possibility of tagging onto the Parent Society meeting in Columbus OH in 3 yrs. No topic at this time, but group discussed Fish Habitat with Human Dimensions and Evaluation? Committee needs to decide within next year to give time to develop topics and invite speakers, book options, etc. What are RC members working on now that will be finished at that time? It would be a SDAFS sponsored symposium and RC would be able to solicit presentations nationally and internationally.

Lawrence brought up Jeff Boxruckers RFP multi-state habitat project that did not get funded. Big project in scope. State agencies probably couldn't tackle on their own, but is there parts of the project that state agencies and committee members could tackle if there was common interest. **Lawrence asked members to review that grant proposal and see if there are parts they are interested in as a state to cooperate on, aspects that several states could tackle, and let him know.** Dr. Dan suggested benefit if we could pursue project using multiple lakes across the SDAFS, providing multiple replicates, because we are all doing a lot of the work now on a smaller scale, typically on one lake, and have one data point at the end of the study rather than several data points. Just will take some coordination on our part in an effort to use same methodologies to pool resources. We can discuss this topic again this winter.

Lawrence concluded meeting at 1130 am.

SDAFS Reservoir Committee Mutual Fund and Money Market Account Balance ending July 2017
prepared by: D. Colton Dennis Sec/Trea Aug-7-2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Withdrawals</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Dec-16	\$13,693.57	\$500.00		\$14,193.57	Pond King wkshop donation
Feb-17		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$14,550.39	MossBack wkshop donation; scholarship
Mar-17		\$1,550.00		\$16,133.72	Wkshop registration (1050) + Am Fish Tree wkshop donation (500)
Jul-17		\$823.78		\$16,567.35	Value changes (interest) to date; includes \$6,688.86 in Money Market acct
Jul-16				\$12,029.94	Total acct balance 1-year ago July 2016