

**Iowa Chapter American Fisheries Society Annual Business Meeting
Quality Inn & Suites – Ames, IA
January 21, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Hayes. President Hayes presented the meeting agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jay Rudacille and seconded by Mike Mason. Motion passed unanimously. Bryan Hayes introduced EXCOM: President-elect: Andy Fowler, secretary/treasurer: Kim Hawkins, Past President: Alan Johnson, and NCD member: Randy Schultz. In attendance were 35 chapter members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was given by Kim Hawkins. The chapter started the year (12/31/08) with a balance of \$5327.92. The past year's disbursements equaled \$7880.22 and receipts equaled \$6551.59. Currently the Iowa Chapter has a balance of \$3999.29; with outstanding bills for raffle items (\$250 rifle) and plaques (\$50). Activity on the account included REAP Alliance dues \$150, \$100 for the Iowa Environmental Council, \$100 to the ICA, a \$500 donation to the NCD 2010 Catfish Symposium, \$500 donation for the AFS Paddlefish Publication, \$500 for the Little Turkey River Grant-approved in 2008, \$500 ISU scholarship presented to Matt Mork, and also two \$100 awards to Rebecca Burch and Jesse Fischer for the 2009 Joan Duffy Award. No grants were awarded for the 2009/2010 fiscal year due to budget restraints. Receipts came mainly from dues and raffles collected at the 2009 Iowa AFS/TWS Joint Meeting in Ames, IA. Chris Larson motioned to approve the budget, Mike Mason seconded. Vote unanimous, budget approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit: Ben Dodd. Ben Dodd reviewed and approved the financial report.

REAP Committee: Ben Dodd. 2 new plates have been added to the current plates – a deer and a brook trout.

Attendance at the REAP assemblies was down (7%) however, 35 legislators did attend. The assemblies this year focused on more money for conservation Education & Support for sustainable funding. REAP congress was held on the 9th; emphasized conservation education and sustainable funding but Ben has not heard any results.

Sustainable funding – legislation being drafted to put a formula in code delineating how sustainable funding would be spent. REAP is also hiring a campaign consultant, campaign manager, and communications team. Two fund raising consultants have already raised \$450,000. REAP is also forming Iowa's Water and Land Legacy (IWILL) coalition – PF and other wildlife organizations are joining, but lacking angling groups. They need to know: How do we reach our anglers? - develop a club listing from tournaments, etc. They need these folks to join the promotion.

Resolutions committee: Don Herrig/Donna Muhm. Chris Larson wanted Iowa AFS to write up a letter in support for the sustainable funding initiative. The question was – who do we send the letter to? Martin Konrad suggested contacting Marion Conover b/c he is on a committee for sustainable funding; therefore he would know who we should send our letter to. Suggestions: AFS should draft a letter for support as an editorial to be sent out to papers across Iowa. Theresa Shay would also like to see the AFS show its support for an Ethanol cap. Others agreed we need to keep an eye on it, but sustainable funding should be our focus right now. Don Herrig will find out more information of a possible Federal mandate for Ethanol.

Continuing Education Committee: Clay Pierce. Clay was unable to attend; Bryan read the report from Clay. The 2009 continuing Ed Course offered was “Routine fisheries Analysis using the R Program” taught by Mike Colvin, ISU PhD student. It was held in July and was a 1 ½ day course. There were 16 participants.

Potential Course Offerings for 2010:

- Identification of Iowa Fishes – offered in 2007
- Identification of Iowa Aquatic Plants – 2nd place in the 2009 survey, Clay would need significant help gathering specimens, instruction, ect. – the class would need to be timed with availability of live specimens – Darcy Cashatt volunteered to help get specimens.
- Other ideas:
 - o General Management Statistics refresher
 - o fish/turtle identification of Iowa

Bryan will notify Clay to have an electronic survey for a vote.

Nominations: Donna Muhm. Donna was not able to attend but she will soon be asking people to step up for presidency. Kim Hawkins has agreed to stay on as Sec/Treasurer for as long as needed.

Student Affairs: Mike Quist. Mike was not available, Rebecca Burch Student Subunit President presented information.

2009 Awards:

Joan Duffy Award—Jesse Fischer, Rebecca Burch
Janice Fenske Award—Fisheries—Rebecca Burch
C.R. Musser/ISU Ag Endowment Scholarship—Nick Hogberg
Raymond and Mary Baker Excellence in Ag Scholarship—Rebecca Burch
Newman L. Lyle Memorial Award—Chris Smith
Kenneth Carlander Memorial Award—Mike Colvin
Carlander-Vasey Fisheries Scholarship—Nick Hogberg
Ding Darling Award—Jesse Fischer
Sherry Fisher Award—Rebecca Burch
Dennis Healy Memorial Scholarship—Chris Smith

2009 Most active subunit NCD: ISU

Student Activities: New public outreach – Fish Day Program – held for scout groups, elementary schools
The subunit is growing – now up to about 24 members.

Program Committee: Andy Fowler. Andy looked into other in-state sites for the 2011 meeting. With budgets tight, the Quality Inn in Ames has been the most reasonable hotel found. Chris Larson would like to meet with other states – Martin Konrad agreed. We have met with the TWS the past 2 years. Attendance might get even lower if we continue. It was agreed we will look at the budget mid-summer to see if going somewhere else is possible.

NCD: Randy Schultz. NCD President Mark Porath's Plan of Work for 2009-2010: 1. Strengthen connection between units & AFS: officer attendance at chapter meetings, communicate member service impacts/issues, evaluation level of AFS participation within Chapters. 2. Revise the NCD Procedural Manual & Bylaws. 3. Revise NCD strategic Plan. If you would like to assist, contact President Porath. 4. Establish Special committees – updated the 2005-2009 strategic plan, form a Midwest conference coordination committee.
Communication Items: Parent Society Finances: dues will increase for general members from \$76 to \$80.

Electronic services issues: many members have voiced trouble with electronic journal access. A survey to evaluate level of AFS participation w/in Chapters will be forthcoming.

Much discussion among the management committee & governing board as to future of print journals – they are thinking about eliminating and going all electronic. Email Randy Schultz if you want to voice your opinion.

The NCD is not retaining young professionals – surveys will be conducted to determine reason in both the AFS and NCD. 1541 dues paying members in the NCD: 19% students, 5% young professionals.

Technical Committee Reports

Walleye Technical Committee: Donna Muhm. Donna was not present, Bryan Hayes read the report. The WTC is producing a book entitled: “The Biology and Management of Walleye and Sauger” that will be published by the AFS Books Department. The book has an estimated cost of \$30,000, of which the WTC is responsible for ½ (\$15,000). Compensation for the managing editor is \$20,000, so the WTC fundraising goal is \$35,000. To date, the WTC has commitments for \$33,950, though only \$27,950 has been secured. The Dakota Chapter is hosting a special walleye session for their 2010 Chapter meeting and would like to invite the WTC to participate. It will be held Monday February 22nd through Wednesday February 24th at the Spearfish Convention Center. The overall theme is: New Fisheries Solutions for a New Decade, with the special walleye session entitled: Changing Percid Management to Meet Changing Angler Expectations.

The 2010 meeting was discussed with the Centrarchid and Esocid Committee attendees. After some discussion, the WTC tentatively settled on a 1-day age and growth workshop during the 3rd or 4th week of July -in either Dubuque, IA or LaCrosse, WI.

Centrarchid Technical Committee: Lewis Bruce. The Centrarchid Committee met with the Walleye and Esocid Technical Committees for their 2009 meeting. A joint meeting is expected in July.

Esocid Technical Committee: Andy Fowler. Andy did not attend the annual meeting. No news from the Esocids.

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee: Greg Gelwicks. Spring meeting was in Rock Island. They sponsored a workshop at the Midwest meeting: Responses to Stream Restoration. The Rivers and Streams committee wanted to thank all who sent in information on streams in Iowa.

Salmonid Technical Committee: Andy Fowler. The Salmonid Committee might get back together and be reinstated.

Ictalurid Technical Committee: Dan Kirby. Kirk Hanson is now a chair on the Committee. Catfish 2010.org – the first meeting was very successful. They are going to put on another meeting. Dan thought it would be nice to get a few people there – It will be June 20-22nd, 2010 in St. Louis. Chris Larson pointed out because of budget restraints, people needed a letter of support from the AFS to go to the meeting as well as a recommendation from your supervisor. People also have to contribute to the meeting in order to get approval. Ben Wallace will be taking his personal vehicle down and offered a ride to anyone wanting to go. Dan will compile a list of people who want to go and put in the request.

Awards:

Don Bonneau was presented the 2009 AFS Fisheries Excellence Award by NCD member Randy Schultz

2009 Best Professional Paper: Mike Quist

2009 Best Student Paper: Jesse Fischer

2009 Best Student Poster: Scott Bisping & Matt Mork

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Chris Larson motioned to authorize the Iowa EXCOM to write a letter of support for sustainable funding with a donation of up to \$100. Jim Wahl seconded motion.

Discussion: Larson/McGhee/Gritters: \$100 is not enough – maybe up it to \$500. – We need to ask Marion what amount would be suitable. This would be a one-time donation. If we needed to, we could cut back on other donations.

Chris Larson – new motion: authorize the Iowa EXCOM to write a letter of support for sustainable funding with a donation level up to \$500. Alan Johnson seconded the motion to approve up to \$500. Vote: – passed – unanimous.

Martin Konrad urged people to personally vote and donate to this cause.

Grants:

There are three grants on the table:

1. Taylor County (Dray Walter) – fish habitat – was denied
2. Hansen – Sturgeon tags – tabled
3. ISU subunit - \$350 – approved – they need materials immediately

Rebecca Burch announced the ISU subunit had 11 youth PFDs to donate to someone – they will not be using them and would like to give them to someone. Please contact her if you want them.

Adjourn.

Mark Flammang motioned to adjourn, Rebecca Burch seconded. Passed - unanimously.