



**2007 Fall Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Wildlife District 1 Office, Columbus, OH
12:50-3:00 pm, 7 December 2007**

- 1) 12:50 pm. Call to Order and Determination that a quorum of members was present.
- 2) Welcome by President Andy Burt
- 3) Officer Reports
 - a) President Andy Burt
 - i) OFWMA, Feb. 1, 2008: The format changes to this year's OFWMA have been finalized, and several changes will directly affect the membership. First, the business meeting has been moved to the end of the conference, causing concerns whether enough members will stay to have full participation. Second, the keynote speaker, Hannibal Bolton, will address the conference during lunch. Lunch can be purchased through the pre-registration process. Finally, the traditional raffle will be altered to fit within new constraints on the activities of Division of Wildlife employees, who will no longer be allowed to participate in the selling or drawing of raffle tickets, and may only purchase raffle tickets during lunch (off the clock). In order to fit within these constraints, larger value prizes (fishing charters, etc.) will be awarded through a silent auction, which can be administered by a smaller number of chapter members. Smaller items or packages will still be awarded through the raffle; however, raffle tickets will only be sold during the lunch period by non-Division employees. Raffle winners will be announced at various times through the afternoon, and a white board will be available with winners posted. A list of past donations was distributed to the governing board, and their help was enlisted to contact some on the list; please continue to coordinate prizes with John Navarro. It was also discussed that if the OFWMA cannot resolve its financial issues (only made more difficult under new restrictions), the OCAFS may have to find an alternative meeting time and location for the Winter Business meeting.
 - ii) Andy is coordinating a welcoming reception for Hannibal Bolton at OSU on January 31st. Details will be made available as travel schedules are clarified.
 - b) President Elect Rich Carter: OCAFS is sponsoring a coffee break at OFWMA; need to check with Ken Cunningham regarding cost.
 - c) Past President Eugene Braig: See below.
 - d) Secretary/Treasurer Eric Weimer: The Chapter currently has 97 members (76 Active, 21 Associate) and \$5839.41 in the treasury. The question was raised whether the chapter should look into an interest-bearing account, such as a money market account, to generate additional funds. It was also suggested that we look into the tax status of the chapter, and whether donations made to the chapter would be tax exempt. Eric will collect additional information for the winter meeting.
 - e) Webmaster Kevin Kayle (via Andy): Items are posted as they are received.

4) Committee Reports

- a) Membership Services (John Navarro): Raffle help is needed; please coordinate with John if you have prizes/services to offer.
- b) Aquatic Stewardship: Andy stated that Patrick Kocovsky was stepping down as committee chair. Anyone interested in serving as the committee chair can contact the Governing Board for committee responsibilities. We hope to have someone in place by the Winter meeting.
- c) Information Transfer and Outreach (via Andy): New chair, Kevin Page, is starting to acclimate himself to his new responsibilities.

5) Old Business

- a) 2008 Student Life Sciences Forum: In an effort to increase regional attendance, Mike Wilkerson will be contacting professors from Heidelberg and Otterbein Colleges to gauge interest in hosting the forum. Hopefully, moving the location every year will give students from around the state the opportunity to attend and participate.
- b) OCASF video: The Governing Board approved up to \$60 to purchase software to convert the fisheries management video from DVD format to mp4 format for placement on the Chapter website. Andy also mentioned that he had been contacted by a teacher regarding the DVD, and had sent a copy off for use in the class.
- c) Fish Sampling Workshop: The October 7th & 8th workshop at Stone Lab was a large success. Two scholarships were provided to undergraduates by the Chapter; Allison Sendelbach and Matt Crowell, OSU, were the two recipients. The governing board discussed pursuing further opportunities for Chapter involvement with the workshop, and Eugene will be trying to get the workshop offered as a 1 credit course through OSU.
- d) Student Travel Award: Due to the recent decision to award the \$100 chapter student travel scholarship (and matching grant from the NCD) to the best student paper (or poster if no paper) from the winter meeting, the governing board decided to announce the paper and poster winners during the same meeting that they were presented. This will require judges to total and submit scores prior to the meeting's end, but will allow students more time to make plans for the Midwest Conference.

6) New Business

- a) Climate Change Workshop and Resolution: Eugene recently attended a workshop on the effects of climate change hosted by the League of Ohio Sportsmen and the National Wildlife Federation. Of interest was a piece of federal legislation sponsored by Sen. Joe Lieberman that provides funding and benchmarks for climate-change related issues, such as carbon reduction. The chapter has been invited to follow the parent society and sign on in support of the Lieberman bill; the governing board will review the legislation and vote via email.
- b) Andy suggested that it might be time to re-examine the layout of the chapter webpage to make it more user friendly. The current version holds all the

necessary information, but is not as easy to use as it could be. Andy wondered if a student at OSU in a computer/web development class might undertake a structural redesign of the website template; content would remain under our control. The governing board decided to look at all options and review this in the future.

- c) In prior meetings, the board has discussed creating a logo for the upcoming Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, then selling T-shirts at the conference for fundraising purposes. The board would like to pursue this, especially in light of the potential problems with the OFWMA raffle, and would like to have the membership submit potential designs. However, several details would need to be worked out before moving on this; for example, whether the state has begun work on a conference logo, and whether proceeds would be shared with the Wildlife Society. There was discussion on having a contest to promote submission of logo designs by the members; if no designs were submitted, Rich suggested working with the screen printers to develop one.
- d) The final portion of the meeting was spent evaluating the chapter's progress and achievements in the Strategic Plan. Overall, the chapter has done fairly well with the goals within the plan, and several of the goals that have not been achieved or pursued should be re-evaluated to determine whether they are achievable, and whether or not they are necessarily important to the chapter at this time.

7) Adjourned at 3:00 pm.