



Governing Board Meeting Minutes Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 1:00-3:00 pm, 23 May 2007

- 1) 1:12 pm. Call to Order and Determination that sufficient governing board members were in attendance (3 of 4) to proceed.
- 2) Welcome by President Andy Burt
- 3) Officer Reports
 - i) President Andy Burt
 - (1) 2008 OFWMA format changes: The OFWMA is undergoing some changes to reinvent itself. The most significant change is associated with the keynote speaker, who will be giving his presentation during the lunch hour. Two invited speakers will present during the morning session to make use of the time vacated by the keynote speaker. This year's keynote speaker will be Hannibal Bolton, USFWS employee who works with habitat initiatives including the Eastern Brook Trout Initiative. All attendees will be encouraged to stay at the conference facilities for lunch (whether provided for free or at a nominal charge is undetermined). The social will no longer be held at the conference, which will save the OFWMA money; the raffle will be modified to have winners announced sometime following lunch. The raffle will also move away from multiple, small items to fewer, larger items to reduce time and space limitations. Andy also mentioned that the OFWMA was discussing charging each chapter a fee of \$200 for hosting the annual business meetings. The governing board held a lengthy discussion on the current usefulness of the OFWMA, and agreed that the OFWMA's role is as conference organizer, and that we weren't comfortable with the current justification for charging additional fees to the chapters on top of the conference registration fees charged to the attendees. The question was posed whether the OFWMA, if it could not continue to organize the conference under the same circumstances as in prior years, was rendering itself obsolete, and perhaps the chapter should consider alternatives for the annual meeting. Andy will relate our concerns at the June OFWMA planning meeting.
 - (2) OFWMA raffle coordinator: The OCAFS is in charge of the raffle this year. Rather than appoint a single individual to coordinate the raffle, a small committee will be formed under Member Services to collect raffle items. As mentioned above, the committee will be seeking larger items for donation. Specifically, member donated fishing, hunting or canoeing trips will be sought, such as a day fishing for walleye on Lake Erie, a member guided steelhead trip, or a float trip on one of Ohio's smallmouth bass streams would be encouraged. Please contact Andy or John Navarro if you would be interested in providing a trip or serving on the raffle committee.
 - (3) State Wildlife Grant funding support: Andy heard that the Senate gave the 2/3 support needed for the full budget allotment.
 - (4) *Mainstream* submission: We are one of only two chapters to get their submissions in. Thanks, Andy!

- ii) Past President Eugene Braig
 - (1) Summer Meeting: The summer meeting will be held on August 31 at 'The Wilds' facility in Cumberland, Ohio. A room for up to 30 people has been reserved. In addition to the business meeting, a guest speaker from the facility is scheduled to educate us on the opportunities to conduct research at 'The Wilds'. Finally, we have been given exclusive access to a few of the quarry ponds at the facility for catch and release fishing. These ponds do not get fished, so this will be a real treat. Those interested in attending need to contact Eugene or Eric soon to register. A boxed lunch will be provided by 'The Wilds' for \$7.75; we will need a confirmed head count by August 3rd to place our order.
 - (2) Stone Lab scholarships: The scholarships have been awarded to John Tallman—BS in Biology, University of Findlay (applying to enter grad school at OSU), award: \$1,000, enrollment: Ichthyology term 1, Fish Ecology term 2—and Matthew Williams—Biology major, The Ohio State University, adviser: Dr. David Wells, award: \$300, enrollment: Ichthyology term 1, Fish Ecology term 2. A third scholarship recipient had to withdraw; the governing board agreed to donate the \$200 from the third student to student #2, allowing one of the other donating organizations to put their money back in trust.

- iii) Secretary/Treasurer Eric Weimer: The Chapter currently has 96 members (70 Active, 26 Associate) and \$6948.34 in the treasury.

4) Old Business

- i) Kevin Page has volunteered to serve as the new Information Transfer and Outreach Committee chair. Please support Kevin in any way possible.
- ii) Report from Tri-Chapter (OH-MI-IN) Meeting 13-15 February 2007 @ Pokagon State Park, IN: The meeting was great, very well done and well attended by MI and IN (and OH, too, considering we had our winter meeting two weeks earlier). The workshop was very informative. All chapters made money from the meeting. There is discussion on holding another similar meeting in the future.
- iii) Summer Statistics Workshop update: The Statistics workshop is scheduled for August 14-15 at the ODNR OIT Training Facility in Columbus. Dr. Dan Hayes, Michigan State University, will be the instructor. Ken Cunningham is in the process of getting Continuing Education credits assigned so there will be the possibility of tuition support/reimbursement for state employees. Contact Ken Cunningham for more information or to enroll.
- iv) Student Life Sciences Forum hosted by Dr. Lance Williams, OSU: While attendance was low again, the forum was really well done; thanks to Dr. Williams for his efforts. It appears that the forum will have to move around to different schools in order to provide students from other regions with the opportunity to attend and present. The next forum will likely remain in Central Ohio (perhaps at Otterbein College), but look for this event to head to the northwest or northeast in the near future.
- v) 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Ohio: Here's what we know: the conference center and hotel reservations have been made at one of the hotels in Columbus. The Division of Wildlife will be organizing committees this fall to begin

planning; all members are encouraged to get involved. The Chapter is discussing sponsoring a symposium or social during the Conference.

5) New Business

- i) Video on OCAFS website through Google: Andy is in the process of getting the Fish Management video on the chapter website through Google Video. If anyone has experience with converting DVD formats to a media player-friendly format, please contact him.
- ii) Improved email list: Eric is working on an improved 2007 membership email list.
- iii) Hutton Award: Recently, some inconsistencies with the Hutton program have raised questions among some members as to how the program assigns mentors to students. The governing board is waiting to see an explanation from the parent society as to whether the program is only available in states that contribute to the Hutton program (which we currently do not). Stay tuned.
- iv) Walleye Technical Committee book: The WTC is seeking financial support for a book on 'Walleye Management in North America'. The book is intended to be a resource, not a text book. It seems to be in the planning stages still, as a full list of authors and topics have not been announced; however, early indications are that very little information regarding Lake Erie walleye, Ohio River sauger, or inland saugeye management will be included, leaving the governing board to wonder what, if any, support the chapter should provide. We will request more information before committing either way. Contact Deb Walters for more information.
- v) The Southern Division meeting will be held at the Oglebay Resort in West Virginia on February 28th-March 2nd. Should be a great opportunity to network with other professionals outside the Midwest.

6) Adjourned at 3:00 pm.