



**Agenda: 2015 Winter Business Meeting  
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center—Erie, Pennsylvania  
8:30 am–9:15 a.m., 26 February 2015**

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1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Quorum established and meeting called to order at 8:31 AM.

2. Welcome by President

3. Officer Reports

a. President: Chris Winslow, Ohio Sea Grant

Chris Winslow (CW) addressed progress on goals he set at the beginning of his term. The first was compiling/increasing a listserve of people to contact regarding Chapter activities. He has been circulating the list to various Chapter members to try to gather as many relevant contacts as possible. This is still in progress. A second goal focused on developing OCAFS merchandise. Not much progress on this yet, but he hopes to continue to work on it in the coming year. A third goal was developing new workshops at Stone Lab that will focus on developing skills specific to state agency jobs. This summer Chris Vandergoot will lead a fish aging workshop and a fisheries techniques course. Eugene Braig will also continue to teach a fish sampling workshop in the fall.

CW has been in contact with Jeff Sharp (chair, SENR) and Libby Marschall (chair, EEOB) to take a hard look at the courses offered at Stone Lab to make sure that they are the proper courses to best educate the upcoming workforce.

b. President-Elect: Tory Gabriel, Ohio Sea Grant

Tory Gabriel (TG) deferred to New Business

c. Past President: Joe Conroy (filling role for Tony Sindt)

Joe Conroy (JC) deferred to New Business

d. Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Sovic, The Ohio State University

Mike Sovic (MS) reported we have a current balance of \$5949.89. Over the past year, we had \$816 in revenue from chapter dues, and expenditures were mostly in the form of student awards, including two fish sampling workshop scholarships (\$217 each), state science day awards (\$350), and awards at last February's meeting (\$100 total). We also paid ~\$65 in website-associated fees, and \$25 for a past-president plaque for Tony Sindt.

JC asked about financial projections for the current meeting. CW said that we needed ~100 paid attendees to cover the costs for the meeting, and the total number looks like it will be very close to this. MS said he will work with Mary Walsh and Doug Fischer after the meeting to get these numbers finalized.

MS reported that he has added an additional tab in the ledger to keep itemized accounts for Chapter meetings.

4. Committee Reports

a. Ohio Fisheries Leadership: Nick Radabaugh

Nick Radabaugh reported that he has been updating the website over the past year. He said that we have paid for commercial web hosting through next August, and discussion followed about having AFS host after that point. Doug Austin said that AFS now hosts about half of the chapter websites, and that they can provide hosting and training, but the pages are maintained/updated by the individual chapters.

- b. Education/Continuing Education: Eugene Braig  
Defer
- c. Value of Membership: Chris Aman  
Defer
- d. Buckeye Student Subunit: Not Present  
JC suggested that we try to reach out to Jake Marina and/or Mazeika Sullivan to re-engage the student subunit. CW suggested targeting underclassmen (freshman/sophomores) for leadership positions in the subunit in the future so that they have more time to engage.
- e. North Central Division Technical Committee Reports:
  - i. Centrarchid: Steve Tyszko  
No update.
  - ii. Esocid: Curt Wagner  
No update.
  - iii. Ictalurid: Ethan Simmons  
Ethan Simmons reported that the Ictalurid subcommittee is working on assembling regulations relating to catfish from each state. Once consolidated, these will be posted on their website.
  - iv. Rivers & Streams: To be filled
  - v. Walleye: Patrick Kocovsky  
Tory Gabriel reported that Patrick is not doing much walleye work anymore, and has suggested that it may be better for someone currently working more closely with walleye to take this position over. Further discussion was deferred to new business.

## 5. Old Business

- a. Chapter Awards: Joe Conroy
  - i. Fisheries Science Partnership Award, Link to NCD Joan Duffy  
JC reported that we have not awarded a Fisheries Science Partnership Award in a couple of years due to a lack of applicants. This award provides travel funds for undergraduate or graduate students to present research at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Anyone working with students should encourage them to consider applying for this.
  - ii. Milt Austin Award: Judges Needed for State Science Day (16 May 2015)  
Eugene Braig and Nick Radabaugh judged last year. Judges will be needed again this year for the event, which is on Saturday, 16 May. CW commented on the high quality of projects at this event, and noted that the time required of volunteers is typically just a few hours.
  - iii. F.T. Stone Laboratory Fish-Sampling Techniques Workshop Scholarship  
Eugene Braig reported that two scholarships were awarded this year. The awardees were Anna Giordano, a senior sustainability major at Baldwin Wallace, and Kaylie Ruth, a sophomore fish and wildlife student at OSU.

- b. AFS & NCD Updates

JC attended the executive committee meeting at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in place of CW and provided the following updates from that meeting...

1.) The current president of the NCD is Vince Travnichek from Missouri and the president-elect is Melissa Wuellner from South Dakota State University. Their main focus is on making NCD function better as a bridge between AFS and the state chapters. They also want to better connect members from different states with each other. Finally, they are working on revising the NCD strategic plan and other organizational documents.

2.) Ohio will likely be hosting the NCD meeting in 2019, so we might want to start thinking about this soon, as they recommend starting to think about things like dates and locations approximately three years out.

3.) Doug Austin presented a number of services that AFS provides to chapters, such as website hosting, Survey Monkey accounts, teleconference lines, etc. that we may want to consider taking advantage of.

JC introduced AFS executive director Doug Austin, who noted that in addition to the things JC pointed out, AFS also offers opportunities for Chapters to invest funds to get a better return on monies that they hold. He said that there is a big push within AFS to enhance continuing education opportunities, and also that AFS is currently working with the Wildlife Society to plan a joint meeting in 2019.

## 6. New Business

### a. Past-President Recognition and Installation of President

CW introduced new president Tory Gabriel, who is fisheries extension agent and fisheries outreach coordinator with Ohio Sea Grant in Oak Harbor.

### b. President's 2015–2016 Initiatives: Tory Gabriel

Tory pointed out that the Chapter's strategic plan ran through 2014, and so revising and updating this is a major goal over the next year. He encouraged volunteers to assist in this effort. A second goal is to increase the frequency of meetings, possibly that incorporate activities such as fishing outings – he will aim for four meetings this year. A third goal is to continue efforts on initiatives from the previous year that included expanding the Chapter's listserve and developing OCAFS merchandise.

### c. Installation of President-Elect

JC nominated Chris Mayer, associate professor at University of Toledo, as president elect. Chris Aman seconded the nomination. JC noted the scarcity of academicians on the governing board in recent years, and that electing Chris may help in growing the Chapter to include more folks on the academic side. Vote was unanimous in favor of Chris Mayer as president-elect.

### d. Technical Committee representation: Joe Conroy

#### i. Rivers & Streams

JC nominated Jeremy Pritt as representative for the Rivers and Streams technical committee. Jeremy is a new biologist at the Inland Fisheries Research Unit who recently completed his PhD with Chris Mayer at University of Toledo. Vote was unanimous in favor of Jeremy Pritt as Rivers and Stream technical committee representative.

#### ii. Reservoir (New)

JC volunteered last year to be the chair of the Reservoir committee. However, this requires that he serve as a representative at the state level. Eugene Braig nominated JC as Ohio representative to the Reservoir technical committee. Chris Aman seconded the nomination. Vote was unanimous. JC reported that they are beginning to develop a work plan for that technical committee, and he encouraged suggestions for things to focus on.

iii. Walleye

CW asked if anyone was interested in taking Patrick Kocovsky's place as walleye technical committee representative. JC suggested that someone from Erie might make sense given that they are very involved in managing walleye. CW will try to recruit someone for this position.

7. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 AM.

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