



**Agenda: 2015 Fall Business Meeting
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Seneca County Extension Office—Tiffin, Ohio
9:30 AM–12:30 PM, 15 December 2015**

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum
Meeting was called to order and a quorum established at 9:35 AM.
2. Welcome by President
Tory Gabriel (TG) welcomed everyone. In attendance were Chris Aman (CA), Curt Wagner (CW), Chris Mayer (CM), Marty Simonson (MS), and Eugene Braig (EB).
3. Officer Reports
 - a. President: Tory Gabriel, Ohio Sea Grant
Deferred to Old Business.
 - b. President-Elect: Chris Mayer, University of Toledo
CM introduced Marty Simonson who is a master's student at University of Toledo, and is in attendance to talk about a possible new student subunit (New Business).
Deferred further to New Business.
 - c. Past President: Chris Winslow, Ohio Sea Grant
 - d. Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Sovic, The Ohio State University
MS reported that the current balance is \$6444.96. He reminded all OCAFS officers to pay national dues for 2016, as this is a requirement for officers. Expenditures since the last meeting included the balance for the meeting at Toledo (\$145.82) and two Fisheries Techniques Workshop Scholarship awards - \$217 each.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Ohio Fisheries Leadership: Nick Radabaugh
 - b. Education/Continuing Education: Eugene Braig

OCAFS awarded scholarships to two students for the Fisheries Techniques Workshop Scholarship at Stone Lab. The scholarship winners were Ohio State student Austin Roby and Bowling Green student Ally Corrigan. Austin is currently working as a fisheries biologist for the City of Columbus.

John Navarro submitted paperwork to the Ohio Academy of Science for EB to take over in one of the two administrative roles for the Milt Austin Award. John N. will remain in the second role.

After Tory's e-mail encouraging participation in committees, EB reported getting one new volunteer for his committee.

Curt Wagner asked about the status of the Joan Duffy Award, which offers matching funds for student travel to present research at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. OCAFS has had funds available to provide an award at the Ohio Academy of Science, with the intention that this award winner would then serve as Ohio's nominee for the Duffy award. However, this award has not been claimed for a number of years, including this year. CW noted that Ohio seems to be one of the few states that has not been sending Duffy award nominees. Some discussion occurred regarding streamlining this process for identifying an Ohio student that

could be a Duffy nominee. Discussion occurred regarding the possibility of making a travel award available this year for \$200 to a student member presenting at the MFWC that would be based on abstracts submitted for the MFWC.

CM motioned that we solicit a call for accepted MFWC abstracts from current OCAFS student members that will serve as applications for a 2015 OCAFS Midwest Travel Award (\$200). The winner of this award will serve as Ohio's nominee for the NCD Joan Duffy award, which provides additional matching funds. The deadline for submitting abstracts will be 28 Dec, and a winner will be identified by 31 Dec. EB seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

For awards in upcoming years, discussion centered around the possibility of making decisions about this award prior to the deadline for abstract submission to MFWC, so that students can know whether or not they can count on this money prior to abstract submission. The possibility of increasing the amount of the award in future years was also briefly discussed, and will be re-visited in upcoming meetings.

- c. Value of Membership: Chris Aman
Defer to New Business
- d. Buckeye Student Subunit: Jake Marina
- e. North Central Division Technical Committee Reports:
 - i. Centrarchid: Steve Tyszko
 - ii. Esocid: Curt Wagner
CW reported that a muskie symposium will occur March 13-15 in Minnetonka, Minnesota. An associated AFS special publication is planned, and 3 Ohio abstracts have been submitted (from Scott Hale, CW, and Kevin Page).

CW also reported that muskie folks in the southern division are trying to establish something similar to the ETC, and are interested both what is involved in organizing a divisional technical committee and also whether there would be value in communication and connectivity among groups such as theirs and the ETC. Representatives will sit in on ETC meetings at MFWC to discuss this. CW reported that currently the ETC is a pretty well-functioning and useful technical committee.
 - iii. Ictalurid: Ethan Simmons
 - iv. Reservoir: Joe Conroy
(by e-mail to TG) Joe Conroy (JC) has worked on organizing a symposium at MFWC titled "New Solutions to Old Problems: Innovative Approaches to Reservoir Fisheries Management". This will be a half day symposium that will include 9 presentations, and will occur on Tues 26 Jan.
 - v. Rivers & Streams: Jeremy Pritt
 - vi. Salmonid: Kevin Kayle
 - vii. Walleye: Matt Faust

5. Old Business

- a. President's 2015-2016 Initiatives

i. Strategic Plan

Joe C. is currently on a committee to draft the next NCD strategic plan, and has offered to help the three committee chairs (CA, EB, and Nick Radabaugh) with drafting our new strategic plan to try to ensure that it aligns well with the NCD plan. The three chairs are continuing to work on the updated plan. Once finalized, a version will be sent to the membership for review, and a vote for adoption of the new plan is targeted for the next OCAFS business meeting on 29 Jan. Goal is to have the draft to the membership by 22 Jan.

ii. Summer, Fall, and Annual meeting dates and topics

TG reported that the current plan is for a business meeting to occur following the OSU research review on 29 Jan, as many folks will already be at the research review. MS will talk to Melissa Marburger to find out what the current plans are for the research review, and whether there will be space available at the same location for the business meeting. If not, MS and/or EB will check in to other locations for this meeting. A larger meeting is being planned for this summer at Stone Lab, possibly in late Aug.

CW reported that the Michigan chapter may be interested in a joint meeting in 2017, but their new president elect is responsible for planning this, and that election will happen in Jan. There was some thought that Michigan's interest in a joint meeting in 2017 may be lessened because of the effort they will be putting into planning the MFWC. In this case, Indiana or Kentucky may be other options for a joint meeting in 2017. CW will follow up once the new Michigan president elect is in place.

CW asked for clarification about the specific goals/responsibilities for the new meeting subcommittee. After discussion, the past president will retain responsibility for planning the summer meeting (this is in the procedural portion of the by-laws), and the new meeting planning committee (established at the last meeting) will focus solely on the annual meeting each year.

6. New Business

i. Support for ETC/Muskie Symposium- Curt Wagner

At the summer meeting in Toledo, there was discussion regarding whether to contribute financially to a planned publication associated with the upcoming Muskie symposium (see Esocid technical committee report above). After discussion at that meeting, CW agreed to look in to what types of contributions other chapters are making for this, and what the total costs will be. He reported to TG by e-mail that there is a range in amounts that other chapters are contributing, with some larger chapters such as Minnesota and Wisconsin contributing in the \$1000-\$3000 range. CW further reported that while the symposium will be sponsored by both Muskies, Inc. and AFS, Muskies, Inc. will focus most of their money on getting agency personnel to the meeting by reducing/deferring registrations costs, and AFS will be funding the publication. The plan is for the national society to come up with half of the publication costs, and the other half to come from regional chapters. Each split is expected to be ~\$12,000-\$15,000. After discussion, there was a general consensus that there

may be some value in this publication to Ohio fisheries, but that this value would be relatively small compared to other states with larger muskie fisheries. As such, a contribution along the lines of what was discussed at the summer meeting seems appropriate. EB motioned to contribute \$200 to the muskie publication, CA seconded. Motion passed. CW will get information to MS about where to send this money.

ii. Leader for meeting subcommittee

CW asked whether this subcommittee had been formalized. TG reported that the subcommittee was created at the last meeting, but no leader was formally assigned. TG appointed Curt Wagner and Joe Conroy as co-chairs of this Meeting Planning subcommittee. CW and JC will draft a specific statement clarifying the specific responsibilities of this special committee.

CW asked whether there will be an expectation that representatives of this special committee will attend governing board meetings going forward? TG noted that it has been helpful having CW and JC at this and previous meetings, and we will play this by ear going forward. EB noted that there is a line item for special committee reports in the suggested meeting agendas.

CW also asked about freedom of decision making, esp. regarding spending money for planning meetings. After discussion, one approach going forward may be for the board to vote for expenditures up to a given amount, giving this special committee flexibility to spend for various meeting-related items within this constraint. MS noted that for the past few meetings, registrations registrations have been set such that costs associated with meetings are recovered, so there has been little or no net expenditure associated with each meeting, and that will probably be the goal going forward.

iii. UT Subunit

Marty Simonson (student at University of Toledo) reported that they are in the process of trying to form a new student subunit. He read the purpose statement that has been adopted for the proposed subunit, and presented a petition for recognition of the subunit to the board that was signed by a faculty advisor (Chris Mayer) and 6 active student OCAFS members. He also said that he has been in touch with the AFS constitutional coordinator who has approved their constitution, and they have had officer voting for 5 positions: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and communications director. He is currently working on getting recognition as an official student group at UT. He said that if the OCAFS board approves the petition, the next step will be for them to submit another petition and their board of officers to the Unit Services Coordinator. TG asked about how much interest there has been outside of the signatures on the petition. Simonson reported that so far a total of ~12-15 students had expressed interest, most of which are graduate students. CM noted that this process of trying to establish this new subunit has been very much student driven. EB noted that there is one position for a student representative on the governing board, and that to date this position has been filled by the president of the Buckeye Student Subunit. However, if we were to have multiple student subunits, we will need to identify a method for identifying this representative. He also noted the importance of communication between subunits, as this individual will represent student subunits as a whole.

TG asked for a vote of the officers present regarding approval of the petition submitted by Marty Simonson, and the petition was approved by the officers.

An agenda item will be added to the next business meeting to follow up about this. EB recommended that Marty Simonson touch bases with the current president of the Buckeye Student Subunit.

- iv. President Elect search
CM has sent some potential names to CA. They will begin to start contacting individuals directly to gauge interest. CA will also send an e-mail to the membership as a whole to ask for nominations. Once nominees are identified, CA will send a ballot out to the membership.
- v. Duffy award winner
See information above under committee reports.

7. Adjourn @ 12:30

CA motioned to adjourn at 12:37 PM. Motion passed.
