



Agenda: 2016 Spring Business Meeting

Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

University of Toledo, Lake Erie Center and online via GoToMeeting

1. Call to Order and determination of quorum
Meeting called to order at 10:10. Chris Mayer (CM), and Marty Simonson (MSi) were present at Lake Erie Center. Mike Sovic (MSo), Kristi Arend (KA), Eugene Braig (EB), Curt Wagner (CW), and Brent Glover (BG) attended via GoToMeeting.
2. Welcome by President
 - a. Chris thanked everyone for attending and trying out the new technology (GoToMeeting).
3. Officer Reports
 - a. President: Chris Mayer; UT
CM reviewed progress on the initiatives she set out at the beginning of her term. She reported that student involvement has increased, largely through the formation of the new Rocket Student Subunit. She had also hoped to work on increasing diversity within the OCAFS. She noted that MSo is planning to step down as secretary/treasurer, and that this might be an opportunity to recruit someone from a group such as Fish and Wildlife or OEPA that traditionally hasn't been as well represented in the Chapter. EB noted that we need to clarify that anyone who moves in to this position has to be a full member and not just an affiliate member. Several names were proposed as potential replacements for MSo. EB and CM will begin contacting some of these individuals to gauge interest.
 - b. President elect: Kristi Arend, OWC / OH-DNR
Nothing to report.
 - c. Past President: Tory Gabriel (not attending)

Tory is currently out of contact, nothing to report.
 - d. Secretary /Treasurer: Mike Sovic, the OSU

MSo reported the current balance is \$5602.33. Expenditures since the last meeting include a \$250 contribution to the Skinner Fund and Milt Austin Awards. We are now registered with Amazon Smile. Shop from smile.amazon.com and 0.5% is returned to the organization you choose.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Ohio Fisheries Leadership: Nick Radabaugh (not attending report via email)
Nick Radabaugh reported through e-mail that there has not been much going on in terms of website since the last meeting. CM asked about the process for keeping the membership list up to date. MSo reported that he keeps track of this list, and suggested that CM just e-mail him to check for updates prior to e-mailing the membership.

- b. Education/continuing Education: Eugene Braig

Milt Austin awards were given out. Traditionally, OCAFS has awarded a first, second, and third place award, and one honorable mention. This year and last year, we have awarded one extra HM, because under pressure from the Ohio Academy of Science, the award has been extended to advanced 5-8th graders, and not just 9-12, expanding the number of entries. Discussion centered around whether there was a formal guideline for how these awards should be given out (i.e. how many), and there doesn't appear to be. Eugene suggested formalizing this process, and as part of this, giving 2 Honorary Mention awards instead of one each year. Amounts of the awards are \$150 (1st), \$100 (2nd), \$50 (3rd), \$25 (HM). Eugene motioned that we give 2 HM awards going forward. Motion passed.

Eugene teaches a Fisheries Techniques workshop at Stone Lab each year, and OCAFS typically awards scholarships for this. These are awarded based on essays submitted by the applicants. Offering these scholarships requires consideration and a motion each year. Fee this year is \$217 for the workshop. MS motioned that OCAFS offer up to two scholarships for this year's workshop, conditional on there being two applicants that are deemed worthy based on the application materials submitted. CM seconded. EB abstained, BG abstained. Motion passed.

- c. Value of Membership: Chris Aman (not attending)

Nothing to report. Chris will be involved as necessary in identifying a replacement for the secretary/treasurer position.

- d. Student Sub Units: Buckeye Subunit, James (Brent) Glover and Rocket Subunit, Martin Simonson

MS reported there has been some activity with the Rocket subunit recently. This is the first meeting that BG and MSi have both attended. They will start more communication between the two subunits going forward. BG introduced himself – he is an undergraduate student in Fisheries, Forestry, and Wildlife at OSU. This will likely be his last year at OSU. He thanked everyone for inviting him to attend the meeting, and reported he is currently planning for fall semester. He hopes to organize some education and/or networking events for the fall that will stimulate student interest in the group. If anyone would like to be involved/possibly speak to students, please let him know.

CM noted that the by-laws have one vote assigned from the student subunit, and asked how we best deal with this now that we have 2 subunits? Eugene suggested the possibility of a rotation (i.e. annual, meeting-to-meeting) for who would serve as this voting member. After discussion, meeting-to-meeting might be best, as often each officer might only be in office for a year, and possibly wouldn't have the opportunity to vote if it were on an annual basis. Eugene recommended that representatives from both attend all meetings, even if they weren't the formal voting member, but if only one is in attendance, that person will vote. CM will draft a procedure for this to attach to the by-laws.

e. Meeting Planning: Curt Wagner and Joe Conroy (not attending)

i. Summer meeting at Stone Lab

CW said he doesn't have much to report regarding the summer meeting. Joe Conroy is taking the lead on this and started initial contact to make sure dates are available – likely in Sept. He and CW will be working more on this soon.

CW is taking the lead on the upcoming joint meeting with Indiana. Curt reported that this meeting is coming together nicely, and there seems to be a good group to work with on IN side. They have had some teleconference calls and divided responsibilities. Another call is scheduled for the 19th of July. A save the date will go out once the date is finalized. As of now, it is probably going to be Feb 15-17, 2017. This avoids Midwest FWC, Research Review, and an agency meeting on the IN side. The meeting will be in Muncie. Ball State University alumni center will likely be the location – IN chapter has used this in the past. The only downside will be that the place to stay will not be walkable to the alumni center, so the socials will be at/near the hotel. A few workshops ideas have been discussed, and include and intro to Bayesian statistics in fisheries science, a workshop for R, etc. Plenary speakers are also currently being discussed.

ii. 2020 Annual Meeting in Columbus

Nothing new to report from CW. CM said she and Tory Gabriel have had a couple of phone calls to start planning. This meeting will be in Columbus in 2020. National AFS will be doing a lot of the planning, but there will be plenty of opportunities for the Chapter to be involved.

f. North Central Division Technical Committee Reports

CM will append reports from each of the technical committees to the minutes.

- i. Centrarchid; Steve Tyszko
- ii. Esocid; Curt Wagner
- iii. Ictalurid: Ethan Simmons
- iv. Reservoir: Joe Conroy
- v. Rivers and Streams: Jeremy Pritt
- vi. Salmonid: Kevin Kayle
- vii. Walleye: Matt Faust

5. Old Business

- a. Strategic Plan- thanks to Joe et al.

Joe and Eugene were both involved in this, and at this point, this document is complete as far as we know. Need to confirm with Tory.

CM noted we received a request from John Navarro for a letter of support regarding State Wildlife Grand funding. Chris signed a letter of support on behalf of the Chapter and sent it to around 20 member of congress in Ohio. She has heard back from 3 or 4 of these offices thanking her for the interest in the issue.

6. New Business

- a. Secretary Mike Sovic to step down. Replacement needed.

See notes above under Officer Reports.

- b. Determine voting procedure for student sub-units

See notes above under Committee Reports.

CM made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Action Items:

- 1.) Identify individual to take over as secretary/treasurer (EB/CM/CA?).
- 2.) Draft procedure for how to determine student subunit vote rotation (CM).
- 3.) Continue planning summer meeting at Stone Lab (JC/CW).
- 4.) Add technical committee reports to minutes (CM).
- 5.) Verify that strategic plan is complete (CM).