

**Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Annual Business Meeting  
Iowa Chapter AFS Meeting – Hilton Garden Inn Council Bluffs, IA  
4:00 PM, Tuesday, February 18, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Ben Wallace. Ben Wallace introduced EXCOM: Secretary/Treasurer: Dan Rosauer, Past President: Kim Bogenschutz. In attendance at the beginning of the meeting were 48 chapter members.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer's report was given by Dan Rosauer. The chapter started the year (1/1/13) with a balance of \$13,393.60 (4,329.33 in cool water, 1,300 in warm water and 7,764.27 available for AFS). Disbursements since the last financial report equaled \$23,021.11 and receipts equaled \$27,958.84. 2013 and the beginning of 2014 had money for two culture meetings being held by AFS resulting in increased bank activity. Both meetings were profitable and a \$100 donation for each meeting was given to IA AFS. There will be money left in the account for the next Warm Water Fish Culture Workshop. Noteworthy activity on the account included 2012 REAP Alliance dues \$150, \$100 for the Iowa Environmental Council, \$250 to Iowa Conservation Alliance, \$500 ISU scholarship presented to Cole Harty. Receipts came from membership dues, annual meeting activities and a continuing education class on PIT tags.

Proposed budget keeps payments to Iowa Environmental Council, REAP Alliance, Iowa Conservation Alliance and 2013 ISU scholarship. Caleb Schnitzler motioned to approve the financial report, Randy Schultz seconded. Unanimous vote, budget approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Audit: Ben Dodd.** Ben Dodd reviewed and approved the financial report. Ben Dodd will remain as auditor.

**Membership: Kim Bogenschutz.** There was an increase to ~100 members last year likely due to the proximity of the annual meeting to the fisheries bureau statewide meeting. The discussion of lifetime membership fee discussed last year has not moved. The proposal was a lifetime membership fee of \$200 and the issue was if the chapter increases the membership fee in the future. The EXCOM will look into the lifetime membership.

**Best Paper: Chad Dolan**

Chad was not present but Ben Dodd mentioned judging would happen for Iowa people.

**Resolutions committee: Donna Muhm.**

Donna was not present

**Nominations: Gary Siegwarth**

Gary was not present

**Program Committee: Alan Pattillo**

Alan was not present

**Student Affairs: Clay Pierce**

No report, he was not aware he was the chair.

**Student Subunit: Carlos Camacho**

Activities this year included: helping with trout stocking at Ada Hayden, habitat projects at Ada Hayden and Dakins Lake, hosting a fly tying class. Several students are heading to New Zealand for a fish ecology class. T-shirts are being sold at the meeting for \$15. The student subunit is looking for opportunities to get into the field more, if anyone has an opportunity please contact Benjamin Dinkins.

**Continuing Education Committee: Clay Pierce.**

Clay provided a handout summarizing the 2013 PIT tag class and history of the continuing education classes. He requested idea for future classes. He thanked Ben Dodd and Andy Otting for setting up the PIT tag class. Chris Larson suggested a GIS course and the discussion turned to how that could satisfy the fisheries FACT training as well as being a continuing education class. Mike Hawkins was suggested as an instructor for the course.

Jeff Kopaska suggested that FAST be updated and reprogrammed within 2-3 years. There were discussions with Slipka at the Midwest meeting to reprogram FAST for Windows 7&8.

**Technical Committee Reports****Walleye Technical Committee: Donna Muhm.**

Donna was not present. It was mentioned that there would likely be a combined meeting this summer between the esocid and walleye technical committees.

**Centrarchid Technical Committee: Lewis Bruce.**

Winter meeting was held at the Midwest meeting. There was also a symposium at the national AFS meeting in Little Rock that had two Iowa presentations. The 2014 summer meeting will be July 22-24 at the Radisson in Madison, WI.

**Rivers and Streams Technical Committee: Greg Gelwicks.**

The spring meeting had a theme of "History of Stream Management", there were good speakers giving different perspectives. Martin Konrad represented Iowa.

There will be a meeting April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the economics of river and stream management. The Iowa DNR will likely have limited opportunity for reimbursement but talk to Greg Gelwicks if you are interested in attending.

Greg Gelwicks is looking for rivers and stream projects to put together a state report, this is typically listed on the technical committee website.

**Salmonid**

Ben Wallace indicated this committee may be defunct. Randy Schultz informed the group Phil Moy is pushing to revive the committee.

**Esocid Technical Committee: Jonathan Meerbeek.**

Jonathan was not at the annual meeting but the notes are on the technical committee website. About half of the states provided reports. Some states are concerned with regulations but there doesn't seem to be a lot of activity overall with esocids.

**Ictalurid Technical Committee: Dan Kirby.**

Dan provided a summary of Iowa activities at the meeting at the Midwest conference but has not seen the minutes for this year yet.

Kim Hawkins asked about the attendance of the technical committees. Jonathan Meerbeek reported one attendee from WI and 3 from MN at the Midwest meeting so there was not a ton of information shared.

**Fish Culture Section: Alan Johnson**

No report.

**NCD: Not able to attend****Awards:**

Past President: Kim Bogenschutz

Secretary Treasurer: Andy Otting

**Best Student Paper: Ryan Hupfeld, "Excessive Summer Shovelnose Sturgeon Mortality in the Des Moines River and Potential Impacts of Climate Change"**

**Best professional Paper: Quniton Phelps, "Fin Ray Chemistry Reveals Sturgeon Environmental History"**

**Best Student Poster (Tie): Kyle Bales, "Age-0 Lake Sturgeon Prey Selectivity"**

**Best Student Poster (Tie): K.J. Stahr, "The Role of Aquatic Vegetation in Regulating Juvenile Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) Growth and Abundance in Iowa Impoundments"**

**Old Business:**

Donation levels to lobby groups was discussed, memberships and payments were mentioned but there were no questions or discussion.

Ben Wallace discussed efforts supported by IA AFS by the ICA

- Letter to Governor Branstad on deer management
- A paddlefish season bill
- Request Farm Bill subsidies be tied to conservation practices

Andy Fowler asked if the Iowa Environmental Council (IEC) activity was worth the donation annually.

IEC seems to be more active in land and water where the Iowa Conservation Alliance represents more consumptive groups. It was mentioned that the REAP Alliance is pretty quiet but remains important to support. Dan Kirby mentioned the IEC in water policy and why we supported in the first place.

Bernard Schonhoff suggested a motion and second to discuss if we need to remove funding. This would clarify what the discussion was about. Ben is going to look into what the IEC does for support. Martin Konrad mentioned IEC contacted him while he was putting together the packet of information for the suggested turtle regulations.

Jeff Kopaska questioned the ICA about pending legislation regarding drones.

- NE has used drones to map habitat along the Niobrara River
- This is a potentially useful tool in fisheries
- The DNR is likely seen as a law enforcement agency and may be limited in use
- The bill number was not known at this time

## **New Business:**

Ben Wallace mentioned the upcoming investment opportunities through the parent chapter.

- Reduced management fees while under the parent society umbrella
- Dan Rosauer brought up the low interest rate at the State Bank and no return on the checking account at US Bank
- Ben mentioned the only money to potentially invest is money not needed for yearly operations
- More information will be available in the future when the parent society gets things finalized and out to the chapters

Scott Gritters wants a resolution on turtle harvest. He is concerned for the species getting pummeled. A resolution for the proposed rules for turtle harvest.

Kim asked Martin Konrad the time frames to get information to Martin before submitting the preclearance information packet to the governor's office on turtle regulations per Executive Order 80. He needs to show that a restrictive season is more important than the impact on commercial fishermen. His goal is to have the preclearance package done by April 1.

Gritters still wants a letter drafted and waiting in the wings for when it would be appropriate. This is based on the concern of the boom and bust cycle we are currently in with turtles. Martin was willing to draft the letter. Jeff Kopaska mentioned this is an area the membership can vote electronically for or against the issue.

Scott Gritters motions to vote on a letter, Jeff Kopaska second. Passed – unanimously.

Michael Webber brought up potentially contributing money to David Willis scholarship.

Dray Walters motioned and Jim Wahl seconded

Mark Flammang discussed the importance of Dave Willis to fisheries and the Iowa DNR

Mike Steuck questioned if this would be a one time donation or an annual donation

The basis for the scholarship is unknown so that question could not be answered

Kim Bogenschutz mentioned that the SDSU foundation already had a scholarship.

Jeff Kopaska amended the motion to allow the EXCOM to spend up to \$500 one time for the Dave Willis Scholarship when it becomes finalized, Mike Steuck seconded. Vote on amendment passed unanimously.

Jeff Kopaska motioned to vote on the motion, Mike Steuck seconded – Passed – Unanimously

## **Adjourn.**

Bernard Schonhoff motioned to adjourn, Caleb Schnitzler seconded. Passed – unanimously at 5:06pm