

**Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Annual Business Meeting
Iowa Chapter AFS Meeting – Honey Creek Resort Moravia, IA
4:45 PM, Tuesday, February 27th, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Meerbeek. Meerbeek introduced EXCOM: Secretary/Treasurer: Kyle Bales, Past President: Jeff Kopaska, President Elect: Scott Grummer, Student Subunit President: Gregory Hand. In attendance at the beginning of the meeting were 58 chapter members.

Michael Steuck moved to approve the agenda, Kirk Hansen 2nd. All were in favor.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasure’s report was given by Kyle Bales. The chapter started report period (2/5/2017) with a balance of \$22,184.02 (\$3,229.22 in the Warm Water Account and \$3,272.80 in Mike Mason Memorial Fund, resulting in \$15,682.00 available for AFS). Disbursements since the last financial report equaled \$15,518.64 and receipts equaled \$9,378.40.

The continuing education class resulted in a total profit of \$33.34. Significant transactions include \$6,830 in registrations, a \$500.00 ETS donation, and \$7,296.66 in expenses. Expenses include James Reynolds instructor expenses (\$2,611.98), Jan Dean instructor expenses (\$2712.02), Lakeside Laboratory expenses (\$1,691.50), cash to make change (\$200.00), and flash drives (\$81.16).

The annual meeting, dues, raffle along with parent society returns brought in \$1,448.40. The annual meeting had \$603.06 in expenses and raffle and auction proceeds from the 2017 IA AFS meeting were split with the ISU Student Subunit for an amount of \$338.00. Money brought in minus total expenses and ISU split resulted in a total profit of \$507.34.

Other noteworthy expenditures included an unfortunate fraudulent charge (\$5,030), a student scholarship (\$500.00), membership in Iowa Environmental Council for 2018 (\$100.00), and an IA AFS grant for Brook Trout genetics (\$1,000.00).

All account activity resulted in a balance of \$16,043.78 on 2/7/2018. The Warm Water Account has \$3,229.22; Mike Mason Memorial Fund has \$3,572.80, resulting in an AFS available balance of \$9,241.76.

Proposed budget continues payments to the Iowa Environmental Council, the REAP Alliance, the Iowa Conservation Alliance, and the student scholarship.

Chris Larson moved to approve treasurer’s report, Rebecca Krogman 2nd. All were in favor.

Committee Reports

Committee reports were sent to membership prior to business meeting for review.

Chad Dolan moved to approve committee reports, Alan Johnson 2nd. All were in favor.

Awards:

Past President: Jeff Kopaska

Past Secretary/Treasurer: Ryan Hupfeld

Best Student Paper winner from AFS 2017: Andrea Sylvia, Iowa State University, “Effects of Angling on a Largemouth Bass Population with High Fishing Pressure”

Best Student Poster: Courtney Zambory, Iowa State University, “The Creation of an Iowa's Own Watershed Health Assessment Framework to Guide Oxbow Restoration for the Conservation of the Topeka Shiner”

Acknowledged Scholarship winner: Stephen Grausgruber

Congratulated Erin Haws on her 2018 Janice Lee Fenske award at Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

Old Business:

Michael Steuck thanked IA AFS for the \$1,000 dollar grant for Brook Trout Genetics. Used for Brook Trout collected from South Pine Creek.

Audit and Best Paper Committees are up for a new chair person. No volunteers.

Chad Dolan will keep Best Paper Committee chair

Ben Dodd will keep Audit Committee chair

Technical Committees – Bylaws state that Technical Committee chairs will come up for appointment every 5 years Walleye, Rivers and Streams, Esocid, Ictalurid, and NCD are all open. If interested please submit a letter of interest to Jonathan Meerbeek, Scott Grummer, or Kyle Bales by April 1st, 2018.

The IA AFS website update responsibilities have been taken over by Kyle Bales.

New Business:

2018 Continuing Education

Clay Pierce mentioned a Human Dimensions course. He said that Human Dimensions is needed to be certified. There was discussion about who might be able to teach the course; Rebecca mentioned that it would not have to be someone close. Larry Gigliotti was brought up as a potential presenter. Another option was a joint course with the Walleye and Esocid Technical committees at Lakeside Lab. Discussion came to the conclusion that because the Technical Committees were at Lakeside Lab this year and will not necessarily be there next year, we should pursue a joint Continuing Education course with them and save the Human Dimensions course for next year. Any other ideas please submit them to Jonathan Meerbeek or Clay Pierce.

Catfish 2020- Jim Lamer is requesting funding for the Catfish 2020 symposium in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Michael Steuck mentioned that we hosted Catfish 2000. Dan Kirby reminded us that we brought in money when we were the host. With a contribution of \$1,500 there is one free registration. Jonathan Meerbeek asked Joe Larscheid if he thought that we would be able to send someone to the meeting if we had the registration. Joe said that covering the registration cost would make travel easier. George Scholten mentioned that we should include a flyer for Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference 2022 in our insert materials for Catfish 2020. Jeff Kopaska moved to fund \$750 for the next two years as long as we would get Silver Sponsorship status and we could put a flyer in our insert materials, Michael Steuck 2nd. All were in favor. **UPDATE 3/2/2018:** Jim Lamer has assured Kyle Bales that we will get Silver Sponsorship status with the two payments of \$750 and that there would be no problem inserting the flyer with our insert materials.

Communications Coordinator

Communication Coordinator gave an overview of how he represented IA AFS on different legislation in Iowa. The coordinator encouraged membership to contact legislators especially Bill Dix to try and motivate them to pass favorable legislation. The coordinator gave an example of legislator’s gratitude to hear angler input from Ames Anglers.

ICA Donation – Kirk Hansen asked how much we donate to ICA each year. Kyle Bales and Jeff Kopaska stated that we pay \$250 for voting member dues each year. Kirk asked if we could donate more, Kim Bogenschutz mentioned that the ICA would love to have more donated. The money is used to pay lobbyist for the ICA.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Meeting 2022 - George Scholten mentioned that we need to start Planning Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference 2022.

First we need a planning committee. Let George know if you are interested in being on the planning committee. Lewis Bruce mentioned that some states are using Delany Services and was wondering if that would help take some of the planning burden off of us. George mentioned that we solicited bids the last time we set up the meeting and used AFS at that time. We also need to discuss with Wildlife.

Newsletter Editor – Kim Hawkins mentioned that if anyone wanted to take over that she would step down as the editor.

Jonathan Meerbeek adjourned the meeting

Additional Business Items (before meeting)

The constitution and bylaw consultant sent the ExCom an email regarding our bylaws. There were a few changes that were made mandatory by AFS. Kyle Bales fixed these issues and posted the new Bylaws on the website. Changes included:

"Governing Board" should be replaced with "Management Committee."

“1. The Bylaws are the defining document for the Chapter and take precedence over all other rules and procedures of the Chapter. The Bylaws cannot be suspended, unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws, and cannot be changed without prior notice to members.

A. The Bylaws of the Chapter may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of approval by those members voting at the annual meeting, provided that prior notice of at least 30 days be given to the membership of the proposed change(s).

B. In accordance with the Society Constitution, an adopted amendment shall be reviewed by the Society’s Constitutional Consultant for conformity with the Constitution, Rules and Procedures of the Society. The Constitutional Consultant presents the adopted amendment to the Society **Management Committee** for approval.

C. Said change(s) do not take effect until the Society’s Executive Director has sent the Chapter written notice of approval by the Society’s **Management Committee**.”

Dues increase – In the past year an increase of dues was discussed. Jeff Kopaska moved to increase dues from \$10 to \$15, ExCom voted. All were in favor.