

**Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Joint Meeting with the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
February 20, 2002
Airport Holiday Inn, Moline, IL**

Acting-President Mike Steuck called the annual business meeting to order. The meeting was attended by 49 members. President Steuck requested approval of the agenda. Tom Boland moved to approve the agenda and the motion carried unanimously.

Acting president Mike Steuck introduced the executive committee (EXCOM) and explained his status as acting president. **President Andy Thompson** resigned mid-term after taking a job in Minnesota. The EXCOM decided, based on chapter bylaws, to allow then President-Elect Mike Steuck to finish out President Thompson's term as Acting President. Acting president Steuck will then serve his own term as President. **Greg Gelwicks** is currently serving as **secretary/treasurer**. **Past-President** is **Don Kline**. **Newsletter editor** is **Kevin Hanson**.

North Central Division (NCD) **President Tim Goeman** was invited to our meeting. He was not able to make it to our meeting but sent his regards. Newly elected **NCD secretary/treasurer Don Kline** gave a report on NCD activities in his absence. Don announced that there would not be a Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference this year but there would be a Fisheries Midwest in the Quad Cities Dec. 2-4. He encouraged the chapter membership to submit paper to give at the meeting. NCD technical committees will not hold spring and summer meetings and will be asked to hold their annual meetings at the Fisheries Midwest in December. The NCD will be making the Mainstream newsletter available online. Hard copies will still be available upon request. Don encouraged chapter members to take check into the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program offered by the parent society to attract high school students from underrepresented classes to careers in fisheries. Information on the program is available on the AFS web site. He also encouraged student members to apply for the Joan Duffy travel grants offered by the NCD to help defray the cost of attending professional meetings. The NCD donated some money for a sculpture at the D.C. Booth Historical Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, S.D.

Approval of the 2001 business meeting minutes was requested by acting president Steuck. Bernie Schonhoff moved to approve the minutes, Mike Mason seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Acting president Steuck provided highlights of the Iowa Chapter's activities during the past year. The chapter had a booth the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Des Moines. The chapter sold conference T-shirts and held a raffle at the booth. The chapter also held a continuing education course in January that provided training for using the Fisheries Analyses and Simulation Tools (FAST) software developed at Auburn

University. A joint annual meeting with the Wildlife Society was also held last year at Iowa State University.

Acting president Steuck also explained that the EXCOM decided to begin holding elections of officers at the Annual Meeting as stated in chapter bylaws. Holding elections at the annual meeting matches up terms with the NCD and parent society, and gives new officers more time to prepare to assume their new duties.

Financial Report – Secretary/Treasurer Greg Gelwicks summarized the treasurer’s report and concluded a balance of \$6522.94 as of Dec. 27, 2001. Recent activity due to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference resulted in a balance of \$7583.21 as of Feb. 16, 2002. Income was a combination of chapter dues, annual meeting registration and auction, the X-Gobi continuing education course, the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference booth T-shirt and raffle ticket sales, and interest on the checking account. Auditing committee chairman Mark Winn approved the financial report.

Committee Reports

REAP – Dick McWilliams was not able to attend the meeting and Mike Steuck gave the REAP committee report in his absence. The Governor has requested 11.5 million for REAP for next fiscal year, but it’s hoped that REAP will maintain the 10 million it had last year. There has been a bill introduced to change the funding formula of REAP. The thrust of the bill is to decrease the ability of the DNR to purchase land and increase money available to management efforts and parks. REAP Assemblies are currently being held around the state and chapter members are encouraged to attend the assembly in their area and show support for the program. Members are also strongly encouraged to contact their local representatives in support of REAP. There are several excellent articles in the winter 2002 issue of the Iowa Natural Heritage about REAP.

Continuing Education – Clay Pierce reported that our chapter held two continuing education courses since the last annual meeting. A course on interactive dynamic graphics for data analysis using X-GOBI data visualization software was held Feb. 1 and 2, 2001. The course had 11 participants and lost \$62.17 after instructor honorarium and expenses. A course on using fisheries analysis and simulation tools (FAST to evaluate recreational fisheries was held January 10-11, 2002. The course had 15 participants and lost \$389.00. The large loss was due to the chapter’s agreement to subsidize the course due to Iowa DNR budget cuts. Next year’s continuing education course will be an introduction to the Iowa Rivers Information System (IRIS). IRIS is a web based , GIS database system under development at Iowa State University (ISU). The objective of IRIS is to put all available data on rivers and streams “under one roof”. The course objectives will be to: introduce IRIS philosophy and potential uses, learn how to access data in IRIS, learn to compare and analyze different types of data in IRIS, and learn how to use IRIS to produce maps, displays, and other public relations information.

Membership – Don Kline will be working hard to recruit members for both the Iowa Chapter and the parent society and asked for chapter member's assistance in this endeavor.

Nomination – Tom Gengerke could not attend the meeting and Mike Steuck gave the nominations committee report in his absence. Tom replaced Mark Flammang as nominations chair. Scott Gritters and Donna Muhm were nominated to run for President-elect, and Greg Gelwicks was nominated to run for Secretary/Treasurer.

Student Affairs – Bob Summerfelt reported a lot of student participation in last year's annual meeting due to its location at Iowa State University. Dr. Summerfelt compiled a report on ISU student involvement in AFS meetings and publications over the past year that he provided to acting president Steuck. Four or five students helped with the Iowa Chapter booth at the Midwest.

Resolutions – Marion Conover reported that he had a resolution for the EXCOM to write a letter of support for the Long Term Resource Monitoring Program and restoration of funding to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Environmental Management Program up to its fully authorized amount of \$33.1 million. The letter would be sent to Iowa's congressional delegation, and letters would also be sent to NCD and parent society presidents asking that they also lend their support for this program. Larry Mitzner made a motion to accept the resolution. John Pitlo seconded and the motion carried unanimously without discussion. Marion would like to step down as chairman of the nominations committee. Steve Waters and Mike McGee were discussed as possible replacements.

Best Paper – Lannie Miller could not attend the meeting and Tom Boland reported in his absence. Best Paper from last year's annual meeting was awarded to Scott Gritters for his presentation on The Impact of Zebra Mussels on the Mississippi. The best poster paper from last year's meeting was awarded to Todd Phillips for his poster on Acute Toxicity and cholinesterase inhibition in larval and juvenile walleye exposed to chlorpyrifos.

Technical committee updates:

Walleye (WTC) – Tom Gengerke could not attend the meeting and Mike Steuck gave the WTC report in his absence. Everyone should have received the minutes of the WTC meeting from Dick McWilliams. Donna Muhm will be taking over for Dick as Secretary Treasurer of the WTC. Joe Larshied is working on a walleye yield database that is scheduled for completion Dec. 2002. John Pitlo reported that the Walleye Symposium will be published in the NAJFM. The symposium will include papers by Pitlo, Larry Mitzner and eight others. Acting president Steuck reported that Tom Gengerke wished to be replaced as WTC Representative. John Pitlo volunteered to become the new Iowa Chapter WTC Representative.

Centrarchid (CTC) – Don Kline reported that CTC meetings are more like a retreat than a meeting but usually include some really good presentations. Meetings are held mid-summer, usually at Prairie du Chien, WS. At the last meeting, there was a lot of discussion about panfish bag limits. Don encouraged interested chapter members to attend.

Rivers and Streams (RSTC) – Greg Gelwicks reported the RSTC held a meeting last spring in Rock Island, IL that was well attended by Iowa Chapter Members. The meeting included a mini-workshop on stream habitat with some excellent presentations. The RSTC also held a habitat symposium at the Midwest FWC which included many good talks. The RSTC, unlike many other tech. committees, is going to hold a spring meeting. Iowa chapter members should have already received meeting announcements via e-mail and are encouraged to attend. Also, RSTC information, including meeting minutes and announcements, is available on the NCD web site.

Esocidae – Joe Larshied had no report on this committee.

Salmonid (STC)– Bill Kalishek was not present at the business meeting. Bryan Hayes reported in his absence that in 2000 the STC held a trout angler workshop in Lacrosse, WS. Bryan did not attend the 2001 meeting but Dave Moeller did and reported that it was lightly attended.

Ictalurid (ITC) – John Pitlo attended the first meeting of the ITC. He reported that it was an organizational meeting for the group. The purpose of the group is to encourage and coordinate research leading to the development of functional management strategies for the wise use of ictalurid stocks, to advance the knowledge of ictalurid ecology, improve culture techniques, and provide a forum in which data and technology can be exchanged among different user groups. The next meeting of the group will be in December at the Fisheries Midwest. There has been an ictalurid listserv set up by the committee to facilitate information exchange among researchers and managers working with catfish. Information on how to be included on the listserv can be found on the NCD web site. Acting president Steuck asked for a volunteer to serve as the Iowa Chapter Representative to the ITC. Dan Kirby was appointed to the position.

Old Business:

AFS Pamphlets – Mike Steuck reported that Iowa Chapter AFS pamphlets are done and available to anyone who wants them. Joe Morris did a great job on them. They are available as a hard copy or a PDF file.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Booth – Greg Gelwicks reported total receipts from the booth at the Midwest was \$2265.00 from the sale of raffle tickets, T-shirts, Iowa Fish and Fishing books, and belt buckles. Total expenses were \$1253.72 leaving a net profit for the chapter of \$1011.28.

Mentor Initiative – Don Kline reported the purpose of the mentor initiative was to encourage interaction between chapter members and students. At the 2001 annual meeting, 6 students were paired up with chapter members who could answer their questions about the fisheries profession and introduce them to other chapter members. Don did not receive any feedback from students or chapter members but assumed it was a good experience and recommended that the program be continued. Acting president Steuck agreed it was a valuable experience for the students who participated.

ISU Scholarship Fund –Mike Steuck reported that the chapter awarded a \$500 scholarship to the Animal Ecology Dept. at ISU to award to a student to put toward tuition in 2001. Dr. Bob Summerfelt reported the scholarship was awarded to Ben Dodd, a student with an excellent grade point average and a lot of experience working with the Iowa DNR and ISU Animal Ecology Dept. Acting president Steuck asked for a motion to approve another \$500 scholarship to award to a student in the Animal Ecology Department at ISU in 2002. Tom Boland so moved. Discussion followed where Dr. Summerfelt reported that Past President Don Kline came to ISU and made a presentation of the scholarship that was both impressive and appreciated. Dr. Summerfelt also reported that a scholarship committee of Animal Ecology Dept. faculty had developed a set of criteria for awarding the scholarship. Students were required to be in the Fisheries or Aquaculture option and relevant work experience was preferred. The scholarship committee made their selection based on information in student files including grade point averages and evaluations from former employers in the fisheries or aquaculture field. The motion carried unanimously.

REAP Alliance – Mike Steuck reported that for the past several years the chapter has made an annual donation of \$150 to the REAP Alliance. Mike asked for a motion to donate \$150 again in 2002. Jim Wahl so moved. Mike Mason seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Environmental Council (IEC) – Mike Steuck reported that for the past several years the chapter has made an annual donation of \$100 to the IEC. Mike asked for a motion to donate \$100 again in 2002. Don Kline so moved. Joe Morris seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Student Travel Grant - Mike Steuck reported that for the past several years the chapter has made available \$100 for a student travel grant to help defray costs of attending the annual meeting. There were no applicants for the grant in 2001 since the meeting was held in Ames. Mike asked for a motion to make \$100 available in 2002 for this purpose. Don Kline so moved. Bernie Schonhoff seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Awards and Recognition

The **Past President** award was given to **Don Kline**. This was the second time that Don has received this award. Mike Steuck thanked Don for his hard work on behalf of the Iowa Chapter.

The **Past Secretary/Treasurer** award was given to **Kevin Hanson**. Mike Steuck thanked Kevin for his service to the Iowa Chapter.

New Business:

Vote for President Elect and Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Steuck appointed Kevin Hanson, Vance Polton, and Dan Kirby to distribute, collect, and count the ballots.

Ideas for Future Projects – Mike Steuck asked the membership to come up with some ideas for future projects to make use of chapter funds. Mike added that when thinking of new projects we should follow the parent societies vision of restoring ecosystem function. Mike suggested the idea of doing some advertising of some sort to promote fish and fisheries. Don Kline suggested fish posters as something that could be used for this purpose. No motion was made. Dave Marolf asked whether the chapter should check into corporate sponsorship. Mike Steuck said he would check into how corporate sponsorship is working for the Illinois Chapter and other NCD chapters. Using chapter funds for aquatic nuisance species education was also suggested. Mike said he would contact Kim Bogenschutz to get ideas about how this could be done for the next meeting. Mike also brought up potentially helping fund something related to mussels. Scott Gritters reported getting grants in the past to do a mussel video, put out information on mussels and land use practices, and kids education on mussels. Scott said he might need some extra money later in the year to do a mussels of Iowa booklet or poster. Mike Steuck asked the membership for discussion on whether we should use chapter funds for such projects.

Don Kline made a motion to authorize the EXCOM to give out grants of up to \$1000 total per year for fisheries related projects. Eligible projects would be selected by the EXCOM based on a one to two page application to be developed by the EXCOM. The application must be sponsored by a member of the Iowa Chapter of the AFS. One or more grants could be given each year, but the total annual amount of grants would not exceed \$1000. The motion was seconded by Marion Conover. Motion carried. The EXCOM will draft an application form to send out to the membership to apply for grants for fisheries projects.

Future Chapter Meetings – Location/Joint Meeting? Mike Steuck asked the membership for ideas for next year's chapter meeting. He suggested that one option might be to have a meeting with just the Iowa Chapter at West Lake Osceola. There's a gambling boat there with a hotel and meeting space and possible ice fishing. Wisconsin and Minnesota are our options for a joint meeting but with the budget situation, out of state travel is likely not an option. Marion Conover suggested that we could hold our meeting in Iowa in conjunction with the Fisheries Midwest in December. Bob Summerfelt voiced concern about holding our meeting at a casino. Tom Boland reported that the Fisheries Midwest will be held at the Isle of Capri Casino because they have great facilities and are easy to work with. After lengthy discussion Mike Mason made a motion to hold

the Iowa Chapter Business Meeting in conjunction with the Fisheries Midwest in Dec. 2002. John Pitlo seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The EXCOM will decide on the date and time of the business meeting. Mike Steuck will contact Wisconsin and Minnesota about a joint meeting the following year January or February 2004. Tom Boland reported the Discovery Center in Dubuque would be open by then. Mike

Election Results – Acting President Steuck thanked the candidates and announced that Scott Gritters is the new president elect and Greg Gelwicks is secretary/treasurer.

Meeting Adjournment – A motion was made by Mike Steuck to adjourn the meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.