

**Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources - Fisheries Bureau Statewide Meeting
Minutes of the 2005 Annual Business Meeting
February 1, 2005
Memorial Union - Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa**

President Dan Kirby called the annual business meeting to order. Sixty-seven members attended the meeting.

Dan Kirby introduced the executive committee (EXCOM). Dan Kirby is serving as the president. Donna Muhm is president-elect. Mike Hawkins is serving as secretary/treasurer second term. Past president is Scott Gritters. Newsletter editor is Alan Johnson. North Central Division (NCD) new treasurer Randy Schultz was introduced taking the place of Don Kline. David Rowe was introduced as the ISU Chapter president.

President Kirby requested approval of the agenda. Dick McWilliams moved to approve the agenda, Mike Mason seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dan Kirby requested approval of the 2004 business meeting minutes. Mike Steuck moved to approve the minutes, Mike Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Kirby gave an update on the Iowa Chapter and North Central Division. Two fisheries grants were given. The first grant went to John Richmond but he didn't receive the money granted to him. The other grant was given to build an access at Springbranch Creek. Further discussion on the grants will be in Old Business. Don Kline has chosen 17 coves in Lost Grove Lake to be adopted by the public for habitat work. A work day will be scheduled in the fall for those coves. ISU subunit would like to be included in the work day. NCD is working on a strategic plan which is done every five years. They are also overhauling their website and creating a division a list serve which is a big emailing group. They also have a Tsunami relief fund on the parent society website.

The ISU subunit will be discussed in New Business.

Financial Report – Secretary/Treasurer Mike Hawkins summarized the treasurer's report and concluded a balance of \$7551.57 as of December 26, 2004. Income was a combination of chapter dues, annual meeting registration and raffle, and interest on the checking account. The auditing committee was Joe Larscheid and Jim Christianson.

Committee Reports

REAP – Dick McWilliams reported that the REAP program was restored last year. The governor's budget allocated \$15 million towards REAP. Ross Harris is now the DNR REAP Coordinator. He's been working with County Conservation Boards. Part of the budget is used for lobbying senators, representative, legislature by giving them informational packets about their district. There is still a lot of misconception that REAP is used by the DNR to buy ground. Dick again encouraged members to stay involved and attend local REAP assemblies.

Continuing Education – Clay Pierce was not in attendance. The last workshop was a good workshop and was well attended.

Membership – Scott Gritters reported there were 84 members last year and approximately 67 members this year.

Nominations – Gary Siegwarth said that he will be recruiting nominees. Gary wants the new presidential nominees to give a brief description of their ideas for the chapter and things they want to do with it. A question was raised about the need to have 2 candidates running for office. The by-laws state there needs to be two candidates for president but not for other positions.

Student Affairs – Bob Summerfelt introduced Dan Rosauer as the recipient of the 2004 scholarship. Bob Summerfelt reviewed many past recipients and their current projects and recommends a continuation of the scholarship because of the success of past recipients.

Resolutions – Mike McGhee has stepped down. Dan Kirby asked for a volunteer and will be looking for one.

Best Paper – Lannie Miller introduced his committee. Lannie chose to forgo best paper awards.

Technical Committee Reports

Walleye - John Pitlo did not attend because of travel restrictions. The meeting was held in Delta Marsh, Ontario. This summer's WTC meeting will be held possibly in Minnesota. Jeff Reed has taken over the Walleye Synopsis. Randy Schultz volunteered to take John's place.

Centrarchid – Don Kline did not attend the meeting in Madison Wisconsin. Next meeting and bioenergetics workshop will be held in Prairie Du Chein Illinois. Don would like someone to volunteer to take his place. No one volunteered.

Rivers and Streams – Greg Gelwicks reported that the spring meeting was at Rock Island. 30 people from over 7 states/providences attended. The spring

meeting theme will be about statewide stream monitoring and databases. The next meeting will also be held in Rock Island March 22-23.

Esocid – Joe Larscheid went to the meeting in Madison Wisconsin. A symposium is being planned and sponsored by the Muskies Inc. in Illinois for 2005. New column will be in Muskies, Inc. “Ask the biologist”.

Salmonid – Gary Siegwart reported that the Salmonid Committee has remained inactive.

Ictalurid – Dan Kirby reported that this is the fourth year of activity for this committee. Last meeting was held in Indianapolis. Future plans for a big Symposium in 2010. Possible Catathon– biologists from North Central Division and the South Division will extensively sample catfish and write-up a book.

Old Business

The AFS webpage is still being discussed. Martin Conrad is looking for a place to put the Iowa AFS webpage. The North Central Division website requires a fee of \$40-\$50 per month. The DNR website was a no go. Jeff Kapaska has filed paperwork to be an ISU sponser which would allow the Iowa Chapter to have a webpage on the ISU website for a \$10/month fee. David Rowe suggested the ISU student chapter be in charge of the website and in updating it.

The AFS dues were raised, per last years vote \$10 regular and \$5 student.

A Pagemaker program was purchased to make the PDF electronic newsletter. Scott Gritters sent out an electronic survey about the electronic newsletter. He received good feedback. It saves on a lot of postage and will continue.

Two fisheries grants were approved last year. The first was awarded to Jon Richmond for a coldwater stream project. The project was completed but he never received the money. It was suggested that the money go to purchasing seed for him since the money was already approved for his project. The second grant was applies to a handicapped access at Springbranch. It was completed by a Boy Scout/Eagle Scout group and turned out well. More funding may be in order to extend the access closer to the water.

No applications have been received for the 2005 fisheries grants. There is \$1000.00 to be awarded. A single project can use up to \$500.00. The evaluation time has passed so it is now a first come first serve.

There was heavy discussion on whether or not to join the Iowa’s Conservation Alliance. There was no motion to join.

Awards and Recognition – Dan Kirby

Scott Gritters was recognized for being the Past President.

New Business

David Rowe discussed what's happened so far with the ISU subunit. ISU bylaws are being reviewed. Once reviewed, the Iowa Chapter votes to make them a subunit. Current projects include cooperating with Squaw Creek including water monitoring, fish sampling, and watershed monitoring. They are planning a fishing clinic for kids. They are continuing to working on the webpage.

President Kirby discussed changing our bylaws so that the chapter can accommodate the electronic voting and the ISU subunit. The chapter can only change the bylaws by 2/3 majority at the annual meeting. People need to be notified 30 days prior to change. A committee needs to work on the bylaws and get them approved by national. John Pitlo motioned that the subunit act and participate as a sub-chapter pending official approval. Mike Steuck seconded it. Motion approved. Donna Muhm, Don Kline, Mike Mason, Dan Kirby were chosen to work on looking into changing the bylaws. New and old bylaws will be sent out 30 days prior to the next annual meeting.

Possible fundraisers include t-shirt sales, raffle books for one nice prize. More information will be in the newsletter.

Don Kline is organizing the AFS Cove work day which will probably occur Summer or Fall 2005.

2006 proposed budget was reviewed. Mike Steuck motions to approve budget. Jim Wahl seconded. Motion passed.

Voting for 2005-2006 officers will probably occur through mail.

Donna Muhm reported that the Wisconsin and Minnesota chapters are interested in a 2006 joint meeting possibly to be held in LaCrosse Wisconsin.

Gary Siegwarth motioned to adjourn, John Pitlo seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.