



Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

EXCOM Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2000

Charlie Gagen, President, convened an EXCOM meeting of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, on 12:25 PM in the Benton office of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Others present were Steve Lochmann – President-Elect; Brian Wagner - Past President; Rich Standage – Treasurer; Diana Saul – Secretary; and Mark Oliver - Newsletter Editor.

Diana Saul presented the minutes from the last EXCOM meeting. A discussion issued over whether to have a detailed or summarized version placed in the newsletter. It was decided that the newsletter editor would have discretion as to how much detail to include in the newsletter. The March EXCOM meeting minutes were then approved.

Rich Standage began the treasurer's report by stating that the money market account has made very little money this year. He explained that it is difficult to keep track of the account and that nobody is able to answer his questions. He also explained that the stock market has been very volatile the past few months, which has affected the money market account. Discussion issued over the lack of money being generated from the money market account. At this time there is some of the money in the checking account and some of the money in the money market account. Rich suggested that no changes be made to the accounts at this time.

A discussion issued over the fact that the 2000 meeting did not generate any funds. Rich stated that we actually lost money. Increasing the amount of registration to cover the cost of the meetings was discussed. Rich stated that a lot of money went to defray the cost of awards.

Rich brought up the subject of a computer for the treasurer. He had not come to a decision about the computer at the time of the meeting. Rich stated that he hoped that he could borrow a computer for the next annual meeting. Rich had not come to a decision on whether buying or leasing a computer was the best option. He will continue to pursue this idea and will have a recommendation at the next EXCOM meeting.

Rich discussed with Mark Oliver about noting membership status on the newsletter labels. Several ways and options of doing this were discussed.

Brian Wagner gave an update on the membership committee. Letters had been sent out to members who hadn't paid this year's dues. However, only three renewals had come in after the mail out. Two brand new members had also come in recently.

Brian also gave an update on the Arkansas Chapter AFS hosting the 2002 Southern Division AFS meeting. The meeting will be held at the Doubletree hotel. Rooms will be \$84 for single/double occupancy and \$94 triple/quadruple occupancy. According to last year's statistics, the meeting should range between 400 – 500 people.

Rich Standage gave the Environmental Affairs report for Lisa Hlass. He stated that letters about CARA and the Saline River Logging issue would be posted in the next newsletter. Mark stated that the Corps of Engineers canceled the Bear Creek project. Lisa was given the assignment of getting a summary of the minutes from the public meetings on Saline River Logging issue. These minutes would then be posted on the webpage.

Charlie gave an update for the Raffle/ Fundraising Committee for Tom Bly, who was unable to attend. Thank you letters had been sent to those who gave gifts for the door prizes and raffles. Donna Beckham had been added to the Raffle/Fundraising committee. Donna will also be the Arkansas chapter's liaison with the national society to help with the Skinner Award donations.

Mark gave an update on the Fishes of Arkansas CD ROM. At the time of the meeting nothing new had been done with the CD ROM project. Mark had presented the idea to the University of Arkansas Press, who liked the idea. The idea needs to be presented to the UA Press again because they have a new director. Central Records of Little Rock had been contacted about scanning in the information. The idea was discussed that perhaps the fish information needed to be updated because of new species names. The idea of getting permission to include Robison's and other databases on the CD ROM was discussed. The idea of putting a dichotomous key and maps with links on the CD was also discussed. It was decided that each person needed to list their ideas on what should be included on the CD ROM and E-mail these ideas to Mark.

Chris Davidson was unable to attend the meeting, but had asked if all of the minutes needed to be placed on the webpage. It was decided that a detailed copy of the EXCOM minutes will go on the Webpage and a summary would be published in the newsletter.

Steve Lochmann presented plans for the 2001 meeting. The dates of the meeting will be February 6 – 8. Steve stated that the Arkansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society had contacted him about having a joint meeting. Steve brought up the idea of having a workshop about the White River. It was decided that Steve would contact the Wildlife Society president about meeting with us and see if they would be interested in a White River Symposium. Different topics for the White River Symposium that would interest both the AFS and the Wildlife Society were discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM

Respectfully submitted

Diana Saul, Secretary
Arkansas Chapter American Fisheries Society