



# Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

## EXCOM Meeting Minutes (Detailed)

**July 27, 2001**

Steve Lochmann, President, convened an EXCOM meeting of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society at 13:16 in the Benton office of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Other present were Betty Crump, President-Elect, Charlie Gagen, Past President, John Jackson, Treasurer, Diana Andrews, Secretary, and Brian Wagner.

Steve began the meeting by having Brian and Betty update the EXCOM on plans for the Southern Division Meeting. Betty updated the committee on planned workshops for the meeting. She had received an E-mail message from Chris Davidson about some people wanting to do a workshop. This also brought up the question of having enough room for the LMBV Workshop. Bruce Shupp wanted to do the LMBV workshop and it would take all day. Brian explained the options available to give Bruce enough space for the workshop. The logistics of having the LMBV workshop were discussed. Steve said that there were two issues to be decided on 1) are we going to make this part of our meeting 2) will people sign up for the whole meeting if they come to the LMBV workshops. The EXCOM decided that we would be able to accommodate a LMBV workshop on Friday. The EXCOM also decided that the LMBV workshop attendees would also have to register for the AFS meeting or the workshop would have to be held at another hotel with Bruce making the arrangements himself. Brian was given the task of checking on rooms to see if there is space available for the LMBV workshop at the hotel. Betty was given the task of contacting Bruce with the information. Brian said that he had a verbal commitment from the Wildlife Fund to underwrite some breaks for \$3,000. Steve said that signs needed to be made acknowledging the groups donating money.

Betty brought up the subject of T-shirts. Diana stated that she was looking into a generic T-shirt for the chapter to sell but not a meeting shirt. Diana stated Mark was looking in a T-shirt for the chapter meeting, but nobody was checking into a T-shirt for the Southern Division meeting.

Steve asked Charlie to update the committee on the procedural manual changes. Charlie said that he printed the guidelines as separate pages for each officer and asked the committee if that was ok. The committee agreed to keep the duties of each officer on separate pages. The changes made to the president's duties were to delete the date from

#14 and to give it a more general date. A new duty, # 17, was added to allow for comments from the EXCOM to be expedited.

The Past President's duties were changed by deleting the membership committee responsibility in #3 because there usually isn't a membership committee. The Past President was assigned to be the educational liaison. Number 4 was removed because it stated that the Past President served as the chief fundraiser and this duplicated the raffle committee.

The Secretary's duties were changed by deleting #8. Diana brought up discussion of #4. It was decided to not make the secretary responsible for typing all of the resolutions but just responsible for distribution. This was because anybody can submit a resolution to the chapter at a business meeting.

The Treasurer's duties were changed by adding a #6 which made the treasurer responsible for getting a mailing list to the webmaster and newsletter editor. Duty #3 was changed to make the financial report due every calendar year to the parent society. Duty #5. was added to make it the treasurer's responsibility to keep up with who has volunteered to serve on a committee.

Steve paused the meeting to inform Mike Armstrong of the previous discussion about the LMBV workshop. Further discussion ensued about seating space for the LMBV workshop. Mike wanted to know when we would be able to setup registration on the website. Mike wanted to know when to let the visitor Center know on when to be ready to take registration. Brian stated that the Visitor Center might need the registration form on their website so it could be secure for credit card use. It was stated that April was responsible for getting the layout for the registration form.

Charlie then continued his update. He stated that the heading of "Appointed Officers and Their Duties" was new because there wasn't a heading before. Charlie then stated that the Newsletter Editor's duties were changed by deleting the publication dates and changing them to seasonal dates. Some comments had also been added to the contents for each newsletter. The president was given the duty to contact responsible parties to get information to the newsletter editor in a timely fashion. It was also added to send controversial items through the president. A discussion ensued over whether the president should see the committee reports before the newsletter editor. Number 8 of the Presidents responsibilities stated that he should see all of the reports and then send them to the newsletter editor. Number 8 on the President's duties was changed to state that the president can request reports from committees as needed. Charlie stated that he added that a list of acknowledgements to raffle/auction donors be put in the newsletter. The newsletter editor was given the responsibility to decide to run controversial items. It was decided to add that the newsletter editor be responsible for sending a synopsis of the newsletter to the division or higher levels of AFS. It was suggested to see if Chris needed some help with the web site since there are additional responsibilities with the Southern Division Meeting.

Changes to the Executive Committee were clarifying the voting members, changing the meeting dates to seasonal dates, and some suggested meeting items.

The Program Committee was changed by deleting the dates and just listing the duties that needed to be accomplished. The webmaster was included in the duties.

The Nominating and Awards Committee picked up responsibility for outgoing officer plaques. This committee is not responsible to giving awards to students in subunits because this duty has gone to the education liaison. Discussion ensued over moving the outstanding subunit student awards to the education committee and the education liaison. It was decided let subunits take care of this responsibility.

A discussion ensued over leaving the activities in the list of responsibilities for the Activities/Raffle Committee. The EXCOM also discussion whether the T-shirt and caps responsibility should be left under that committee. It was decided to delete the responsibility for T-shirts and caps. Dates were deleted from the responsibility list.

The Environmental Affairs Committee's duties were changed by deleting the dates and editing the last sentence.

The Education Liaison Committee's duties were changed by putting the subunit presidents or designees on the committee. Steve suggested that there be some written guidelines for judging the science fairs. It was decided to let the committee develop and communicate criteria for judging science fairs. It was decided that the subunit bylaws should be on file with the chapter in the secretary's file.

Charlie revised the Ad Hoc Committee's duties by correcting grammatical errors and deleting the second sentence.

It was decided that Charlie would make the changes to the manual and the EXCOM would vote on the changes by E-mail.

Steve then addressed the subject of the Black Carp Ad Hoc Committee. Steve stated that the Black Carp Ad Hoc Committee had all agreed that 1) this was not a sacred cow, 2) they would like to see the black carp done away with if there was another solution, 3) they would like to work with agencies to see that this resolution is completed. Steve then told the EXCOM that another person presented a resolution to Steve outside of a business meeting. Steve wanted to know which resolution should be looked at first. It was decided by the EXCOM committee to not even entertain the anonymous resolution because it was not known whether it was a chapter member that brought forth the resolution. Discussion ensued over how the resolution could be brought before the membership and voted on. The EXCOM decided that Steve will write out the procedure of how this will be voted on. The resolution will be sent to all members with a 30 day comment period. The EXCOM will review comments and decide if the resolution needs to be amended. If the EXCOM wants to amend the resolution it will got before the AD Hoc Committee again. The resolution would then be put in the newsletter and voted on.

Steve told the EXCOM that he has been receiving information about White River Navigation Project and the GPADP lobbying and that they are wanting him to sign on as President of Arkansas chapter. He has been signing these letters and wanted EXCOM to know.

John Jackson then gave the Treasurer's report. Steve stated that the cost of having our account is going up to \$300 soon. John stated that the chapter has not made money since the stock market went down. The chapter has lost about 25% of it's money. Betty stated that it was set up as a working checking account on an investment program. Charlie stated that we wanted to get interest from the money and then use the interest to help students. A discussion ensued over what the goal of the plan was. Charlie suggested that perhaps the money should be split into two pots. One pot would be used to award scholarships and the other one would be used for long-term investment and left alone. Steve asked the EXCOM if the goal was to try to develop capitol to award scholarships or to just invest the money. All EXCOM members agreed that the stock market investments were set up for long-term investments. Steve stated that it needed to be decided what the goal of this money was. John and Steve explained the problems and complications with the current financial system. John suggested pulling all of the money out of the account and placing it into an interest bearing checking account or removing the amount that we need to operate with and taking the rest and moving to a less costly investment scheme. The EXCOM decided to take 25% of the money and place it in an interest bearing account. The 75% will be invested in another company.

Steve adjourned the meeting at 16:18.