

Southern Division American Fisheries Society
Fall EXCOM Meeting
October 21, 2007
Charleston, WV

President Fred Heitman called the meeting to order at 1555.

Secretary/Treasurer Coughlan notified the President that there was a quorum and proxies (for West Virginia and Arkansas) were received and identified.

Secretary/Treasurer Coughlan presented the 2007 year-to-date budget to the EXCOM though a couple items will require resolution. Greg Summers, SDAFS Disaster Relief Treasurer, indicated that the AFS Disaster Relief Distribution fund had an ending balance of \$958.74 after disbursement of all AFS Annual Meeting travel grants. The EXCOM agreed to have President Heitman request remittance of these funds to the Southern Division. Stuart Welsh, Student Affairs Committee Chair, noted that \$1,900 of the \$2,000 provided to the committee for student travel to the SEAFWA in Charleston, WV was unused. After some discussion, the EXCOM decided to leave these funds in the account of the Student Affairs Committee for future student expenses. Note: Stuart Welsh will be stepping down and Steve Lochmann, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, will be the new committee chair.

A draft 2008 budget was submitted by Secretary/Treasurer Coughlan and discussed. Several items will need resolution (travel, leadership training, and miscellaneous grants and donations) before final approval can be sought at the Spring EXCOM Meeting.

Two SDAFS resolutions (Resolution on the Development of Instream Flow Programs and Resolution Supporting the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership & the Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) were submitted to AFS and reworded slightly. The instream flow resolution was forwarded to the Governing Board in San Francisco where verbiage concerns necessitated the return of the resolution to the SDAFS Resolutions Committee. President Heitman reminded everyone that resolutions need to go through the SDAFS Resolutions Committee and be published in the December Newsletter (and on the SDFAS webpage) for action by the membership at the subsequent Spring Meeting. Past-President Curry noted that an informal resolution should be drafted each year to honor the host of the Spring Meeting.

The timing of the December newsletter was discussed. President Heitman noted that news would have to be forwarded to the Newsletter Editor at Virginia Tech by Nov. 15 for dissemination of the newsletter in early December. Subsequent discussion indicated that the December newsletter might more appropriately be shifted to a November publication date in the future in order to precede the typical December deadline for submission of Spring Meeting presentations. President-Elect McMullin will check on the newsletter activities at Virginia Tech and remind them to invoice the SDAFS for their expenses.

President Heitman requested that the SDAFS Chapters provide the Secretary/Treasurer with the times and places of the 2008 Chapter Meetings. A spreadsheet detailing the meetings has been formulated but currently lacks dates and locations for several chapters. Plans will be made for at least one officer to attend each of the chapter meetings.

The 2008 Spring Meeting at the Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, WV will feature a safety related plenary session and symposia on brook trout, large rivers, and GIS. Several workshops are planned as well as the typical full slate of Technical Committee meetings. Meeting dates are February 28 – March 2. Oglebay Resort is one hour from the nearest airport; information regarding limousine service or car rentals will be provided by WVAFS. The second call for papers will go out in late-October or early-November.

Podcasting of presentations at the 2008 Spring Meeting is anticipated. The software to record the talks will be placed on the AV laptop though coordination between Greg Summers and the AV staff at the Oglebay Resort will be essential. President Heitman discussed the need for an authorization form that will require the signature of each presenter. Pat Mazik requested help with this as the Spring Meeting is being hosted by a small number of university faculty and WVAFS members.

Plans are still underway to archive historical SDAFS materials and Greg Summers has been accumulating these at the Oklahoma Fishery Research Lab.

President Heitman described his disappointment with late submissions of Chapter and Technical Committee financial statements for the 2006 tax year. He has requested that all 2007 financial statements be submitted at or before the 2008 Spring Meeting in Wheeling. Secretary/Treasurer Coughlan will provide the appropriate forms and information for the completion of these. President Heitman has a goal of submitting the 2007 return on time and without the need to request an extension.

Past-President Curry reported that the SDAFS Disaster Relief effort has been completed and that a final financial report is forthcoming.

President Heitman informed the EXCOM that, upon final ratification of the entire Ballot Committee, Hal Schramm and Fred Janssen received the majority of votes for the positions of SDAFS Representative to the AFS Nominating Committee and Vice-President, respectively.

The meeting was adjourned at 1717.

Attendees: Fred Heitman, Steve McMullin, Bob Curry, Dave Coughlan, Pat Mazik, Steve Filipek, Stuart Welsh, Mike Armstrong, Christian Waters, and Keith Ashley.