

January 13, 2011

Southern Division AFS Reservoir Committee Meeting

Tampa Bay, FL

9:35am–12:07am; 2:00pm–4:10pm

Recorded and submitted by Michael A. Abney, Secretary/Auditor (Duke Energy)

Reservoir Committee (RC) Chair Steve Sammons called the meeting to order and recognized attendees for traveling to the meeting during the tough economic times. There was no summer 2010 meeting due to a lack of attendees (due to travel restrictions), but hope for one in summer 2011 perhaps south of Atlanta.

Sammons recognized the really good meeting held in Asheville, NC, especially the habitat mapping presentations and discussions. Habitat mapping will relate well to SARP and will become a primary focus of the RC.

2/25/2010 meeting minutes from Asheville, NC are available online and were emailed to committee members.

Motion to accept minutes: Joe Slaughter; 2nd: Gene Gilliland

Financial Report—Michael Abney presented current financial standing of \$23,292 in Edward Jones investment account at end of 2010. Abney noted that all RC monies are now consolidated into a single account with Edward Jones. Although financial advisor is based in Mooresville, NC, Edward Jones offices are nationwide.

Rick Ott asked if the recent upturn in the economy had helped the balance and, indeed, it had with a drop of <\$1,000 even though we spent >\$250 0 in 2010.

Kurt Kuklinski asked if we have income from the 2007 symposium book. No, as that book had been “sold” to National AFS. However, we still receive <\$100/yr from the 1995 Symposium book.

Scholarship Committee Report—Kurt Kuklinski reported there were 5 applicants for the two 2011 Jenkins Memorial Scholarships (\$1,000 each). The winners were Jonah Dagele (Mississippi State University) and Ryan Lothrop (Auburn University). He has all five submissions for member store review. Each winner will also be eligible for the 2012 scholarships.

Old business:

Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership (RFHP)—Jeff Boxrucker continued discussion from 2010 Asheville meeting focusing on Steve Miranda's habitat assessment work. He suggested going to **reservoirresearch.org** to follow progress. Miranda's team requested information from the lower 48 states on reservoirs >250 acres that met certain criteria. So far, response has been good. Survey analysis should be completed by summer 2011 and have the complete assessment completed by the 2012 SDAFS meeting. Questions/answers followed.

Striped Bass Committee–Jim Bulak discussed recent publication of a book that will serve as source of survey of committee members. They will follow up as how to best establish forage fish, stocking numbers, and impact on other species and user groups. He mentioned the need to have input from meeting attendance for members.

John Taylor mentioned the **takemefishing.org** website and its possible inaccuracies with fishing information such as fishable reservoirs, boat ramp locations, and species present.

RFHP (continued)–Jeff Boxrucker continued previous discussion and noted importance of local “chapters” and partnership involvements such as Partnership for Fish Friendly Waters and home owners’ associations. He mentioned all information can be found on website **reservoirpartnership.org** including executive committee members and partners. They’re still in need of a hydropower industry representative. Spring meeting is always at Table Rock Lake, MO (Bass Pro Shops) with fall meetings moved around near ongoing projects sites. Funding is still a major issue as many partnerships rely heavily upon federal funding that may dry up soon. The partnership received \$90,000 in both 2009 and 2010.

Lunch

RFHP (continued)–Discussion continued on the RFHP and how to get the best response from the states. Going through state fish chiefs is probably the best route. Also, how best to get funding before other partnerships gain traction? ARP is really only other partnership at the same point as the RFHP. Joe Slaughter asked about access to mitigation funds from private companies and government agencies (DOT, TVA).

New business:

Website–who can take over as webmaster of RC website after Fred Janssen leaves position? Fred can work with that person over next year prior to handing it over for good. Kurt Kuklinski mentioned that form applications (scholarships) would help. Sammons will ask John Taylor about taking over position.

Chair–Sammons announced that Kurt Kuklinski will take over as Chair at 2012 meeting in Biloxi, MS. Kurt works closely with Gene Gilliland and Jeff Boxrucker to assist with RFHP.

Who can take Kurt’s position as Scholarship Chair? Other members (Mike Wood, Neal Jackson, Brent Hess) were not present, but committee thought Neal Jackson would be a good replacement as long as we get another addition to the Scholarship Committee.

Summer Meeting–We’re aiming for 15 attendees at a summer meeting to be held south of Atlanta. Discussion of the RFHP and habitat mapping will continue; maybe able to get Adam Kaisert to attend although he recently took position with the USFWS in Panama City, FL.

Round-table discussion ensued with much of focus on summer 2010 striped bass mortalities around the Southeast.

Motion to adjourn at 4:10 pm: Fred Heitman; 2nd: Joe Slaughter

Attendees:

Steve Sammons	Auburn University
Gene Gilliland	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Dan Shoup	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Joey Slaughter	Georgia Power Company
Warren Schlechle	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Rick Ott	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Craig Bonds	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Cliff Sager	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Kurt Kuklinski	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Mark Oliver	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Wes Porak	Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
Tim Churchill	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
Stuart Wooldridge	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Jim Hedrick	West Virginia Department of Natural Resources
Chad Holbrook	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Jeff Boxrucker	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Larry Pugh	Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
Brian McRae	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Colton Dennis	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Greg Summers	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
Chris Racey	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Michael Abney	Duke Energy
Fred Heitman	American Aquatics
Damon Abernathy	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Fred Janssen	Office of the Attorney General of Texas
John Taylor	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Dave Buckmeier	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Mike Allen	University of Florida
Jim Bulak	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources