



# AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

## MONTANA CHAPTER

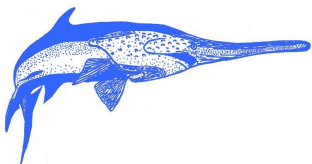
To: Montana Chapter AFS Members

From: Windy Davis, Secretary-Treasurer

RE: **Minutes from 2008 Business Meeting (14 Feb 2008, Billings)**

### AGENDA

- I. Opening of meeting and call for quorum
- II. Introduction and opening comments
- III. Minutes of 2007 business meeting
- IV. Treasurer's report
- V. Elections
  - a. President-elect
  
- VI. Committees and Ad-Hoc Committees: Reports and Chair Status
  - a. Awards
  - b. Continuing Education
  - c. Past Presidents Committee
  - d. Historian
  - e. Intermountain Journal of Science
  - f. Resource Management Concerns Committee
  - g. Legislative/Lobbyist
  - h. Membership
  - i. Newsletter
  - j. Public Outreach
  - k. Raffle
  - l. Species of Special Concern
  - m. University of Montana Student Subunit
  - n. Montana State University Student Subunit
  - o. Web Page
  - p. Westslope Cutthroat Steering Committee Representative
  - q. Whirling Disease
  
- VII. New Business
  - a. Procedures Manual
    1. RAF application and evaluation process
  - b. New MCAFS logo
  - c. Election Results
  - d. RAF requests
    1. AFS- Hutton Program
    2. Western Native Fishes Project
    3. Effects of piscicides on larval amphibians- Turner
  
- VIII. Open Floor



- IX. 2008 Summer Workshop
- X. Time and Location of 2009 Annual Meeting
- XI. Adjourn

---- Minutes ----

- I. Opening of Meeting and Call for Quorum: Chapter President David Schmetterling opened the meeting at 4:00 pm on 14 February 2008 in Billings, Montana. At least 35 Parent Society members were present, making a quorum.
- II. Introduction and Remarks: David Schmetterling recognized the efforts of Carter Kruse in successfully planning this meeting.
- III. Minutes of 2007 Business Meeting: A motion was made by Al Zale and seconded by Buddy Drake to approve the minutes from the 2007 Business Meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Secretary-Treasurer Windy Davis presented the Chapter's current assets and liabilities relative to those at the time of last year's business meeting. The Chapter's total assets were \$65,849.83 and had decreased by \$15,967.22 since the last business meeting. Six RAF awards totaling \$17,000 had been granted since the last meeting. A question was posed about the amount of interest gained by the Wally McClure fund and Windy was asked to look into the drop in interest. David discussed the accomplishments of the group and our ability to raise a significant amount of money every few years and our efforts to put that money back into the fisheries projects around the state. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Steve Leathe and seconded by Buddy Drake. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- XII. Elections
  - a. President-elect- David Schmetterling called for nominations from the floor and Buddy Drake nominated Scott Barndt. Al Zale moved to close the nominations and Pat Clancy seconded the motion. David asked if there was any opposition, unanimous support for Scott Barndt, Scott was elected as president elect and will start his term in September 2008.
- XIII. Committees and Ad-Hoc Committees: Reports and Chair Status
  - a. Awards- Travis Horton-Travis asked that members continue to nominate people and thanked everyone for the help.
  - b. Continuing Education- Lisa Eby- Lisa reported that the Continuing Ed prior to the meeting went well and thanked Chris Guy for helping. 83 people attended the meeting. Lisa wants ideas for next year. We helped subsidize the book to make it affordable for people and facilitate people attending. David thanked Lisa for serving.
  - c. Past Presidents Committee- Kate Walker- no report
  - d. Historian- Paul Hamlin- No oral histories this year because the legitimacy of last years reports were questioned!

- e. Intermountain Journal of Science- Dave Stagliano- Dave took over for Carter as the representative on the journal. David told the membership that the past-president should be the representative.
- f. Resource Management Concerns Committee-John Syslo- Windy and Carol submitted comments on the Draft SEIS for CBNG. We have been put on an alert list to receive TMDL notifications. Carol Endicott has offered to write up a checklist for those. John will send out notices to the local biologists for comment.
- g. Legislative/Lobbyist- Leanne Roulson- Leanne reported that the membership has grown. Scott Bosse and Kate Walker are now involved. Scott Bosse has been helping keep us in the loop and advising how MCAFS can be more involved in formulating legislation or influencing the legislatures. Scientist letters may be generated and circulated throughout the membership to present to legislatures. Contact Leanne if you want to be informed. The committee decided to not continue the support of our lobbyist Janet Ellis because she is heavily affiliated with the Audbon Society and when she speaks on our behalf people do not realize she is representing AFS. David commented on our activity being new and important. Membership should send some local issues to Leanne or ExCom if they need help and would like to see the chapter express an opinion on.
- h. Membership- Kristi Webb- Kristi reminded the group that membership dues are paid through the parent society website. We have 90 members. If you have issues with the website please get in touch with Kristi. We had 165 members attend this meeting.
- i. Newsletter- No report.
- j. Public Outreach- John Wachsmuth- John reported that there were no other people in attendance at his meeting. Let him know if you have any ideas.
- k. Raffle- Peter Brown- Peter introduced Chris Hommel as the new president. Chris committed the chapter to doing the raffle at the 2009 meeting.
- l. Species of Special Concern- Craig Barfoot- Craig reported that most of the discussion was about updating species of special concern reports. Sturgeon chub and arctic grayling will be updated. The Naturereserve designations may be changed. Travis Horton is going to contact Montana Outdoors to get a Species of Special Concern IE report. Need an author for the spoon head sculpin status report. Please take some species of special concern posters home with you. They are looking at a few species to consider reporting on.
- m. University of Montana Student Subunit- Lisa Eby- Lisa reported that U of M did not have many students here because it was far away. The group has had speakers and has gone on some field trips.
- n. Montana State University Student Subunit- Peter Brown- Peter presented a short slide presentation. The group had 4 guest lectures, held the Fish and Wildlife Forum with a pig roast, Mandeville Creek restoration- clean up, sponsored a field day for undergrads, took undergrads to Yellowstone lake for gill netting, hosted a luncheon with Bob Behnke, held a welcome back BBQ, volunteered for Madison Gallatin TU, organized 2008 raffle, and brought 16 students (grad and undergrads) to this meeting. They are doing well financially. They announced new officers for 2008.
- o. Web Page- Eileen Ryce-Eileen reported that she and Lee are not doing this anymore! Adam Peterson has agreed to take over the job. The membership thanked them for helping.
- p. Westslope Cutthroat Steering Committee Representative- Whirling Disease Eileen Ryce- no report- this was an ad hoc committee. There was discussion about getting rid of the Whirling Disease committee, but apparently we did this last year. **AI-Delete whirling disease committee from the agenda!** Check the Procedures Manual.
- q. Western Division Update- Leanne Roulson is the new Vice President of the WDAFS. The next meeting is in May in Portland, OR. Papers need to be submitted soon. \$3,000, deadline for grad scholarships is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Bob Gresswell encouraged students to apply for the scholarships.

WDAFS has a grant process that is well funded. If people have grant needs submit them to the WDAFS EXCOM.

#### XIV. New Business

- a. Procedures Manual- David presented the updates made by Kate Walker
  1. RAF application and evaluation process- Now there are two time periods for RAFS to be submitted. The new guidelines and process is on the web.
- b. New MCAFS logo- Al is working on this.
- c. Election Results- Already covered- Scott Barndt was elected
- d. RAF requests- We received 3 requests for this EXCOM meeting.
  1. AFS- Hutton Program- They are requesting \$8,000 to fund 2 students in MT. This is the only way that we can guarantee the appointment of 2 students. The RAF application was passed out to the membership for review. David Schmetterling gave background that we gave \$2,000 in 2007 and requested that it was used in MT. We had trouble getting students here in the past. ExCom is recommending spending only \$4,000 and making a stipulation that it has to be spent on MT students. The floor was opened for discussion. Matt Jaeger explained that the program is a great way to help diversify the fisheries workforce by getting minorities and women. In the past the program had trouble funding all of their applicants, but if they have a mentor and a student set up and the student is accepted they typically fund the project. However, because this is a national scholarship we did not always get placement even when we had students. Matt continued that we could independently set up something like this in our state and wished that the national program would cover their overhead. Question from the floor- Do we always have a need in MT? Matt replied that yes, we have had several students every year. Gresswell moved to spend \$4,000 and Travis seconded this. Wiltshire- This would have us spending 8 times more than we spend on scholarships and we do not get a guarantee that we will get a student out of this. Christina Wilkes- I was a Hutton and I am in fisheries. David- Clarification of how we spend the money. Buddy- If we only have one student would the national chapter hold our money? Pat Clancy- If this passes for \$4,000 are they going to respond that they need \$8,000? David- The only change we are recommending is a reduction in the amount funded. Call for a question: Vote- Motion carries to support RAF for \$4,000.
  2. Western Native Fishes Project- ExCom approved this RAF in their meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>.
  3. Effects of piscicides on larval amphibians- Turner-- ExCom approved this RAF in their meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Leanne asked for more RAF requests in the future.

#### XV. Open Floor- David opened the floor

Kate Walker- Brought up the idea of forming a committee to address climate change. Bob Gresswell supported getting involved and trying to do something. How can we be creative? Mark Novak- Perhaps the first task for the committee could be to put together a white paper based on our talks here to provide to legislatures. Pat Clancy- There are existing committees in the state and maybe we could bring the fisheries issues to those committees. This may be more valuable than forming our own. Gresswell- Maybe we can use Mark's ideas about how to get involved. Gresswell made a motion to form a climate change committee. Kate seconded the motion. Membership voted and motion passed.

#### XVI. 2008 Summer Workshop- David asked for ideas for 2008 summer workshop and read the by-laws out of the procedures manual. In the past we have had workshops. We would like to see these

continue, but their needs to be sufficient interest. Continuing Ed has taken place of some of this need. Carter explained that a new way would be to put out an idea and then only pull it together if there was enough committed interest to make it worth the effort. Peter Brown- Suggested that a GIS workshop would be a good Continuing Ed class.

- XVII. Time and Location of 2008 Annual Meeting- Scott suggested Bozeman, around Valentines Day. Gresswell suggested a change to not the week of Valentines Day. David said that sometimes this week is a good week to get hotels. Leanne said that most businesses require 6-12 months advance notice to attend the tradeshow. Buddy Drake- We have had meetings as late as the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. We do not want to have it the same time as Great Plains. There was discussion about having a meeting with Wildlife Society. Wiltshire mentioned bringing aqua culture back into the mix.
- XVIII. Adjourn- Bob Wiltshire made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Buddy Drake seconded the motion, meeting adjourned at 5:17pm.