

Southern Division American Fisheries Society
Spring EXCOM Meeting
January 26, 2012
Biloxi, Mississippi

President Steve Lochmann called the EXCOM to order at 5:35 pm. President Lochmann called roll and the following proxies were identified: Florida (Mike Allen), Louisiana (Quenton Fontenot), Oklahoma (Gene Gilliland), Virginia (Bob Greenlee), Virginia Tech (Brian Murphy), Trout Technical (David Deaton). Secretary-Treasurer Liz Osier Moats announced that there was a quorum. President Lochmann introduced and welcomed the AFS Executive Director, Gus Rassam and current AFS President, Bill Fisher. The current SDAFS officers were introduced. SDAFS Past Presidents Jeff Boxrucker, Steve Filipek, Bill Fisher, and Steve McMullin were recognized. President Lochmann then recognized and thanked Mark and Nancy Peterson, the General Meeting and Local Arrangements Chairs.

SDAFS President Report

President Lochmann discussed his activities. The Southern Division is on good financial footing in part because not all of the allocated funds were spent. The Southern Division was well represented at AFS Governing Board Meetings in both Bethesda and the parent AFS meeting in Seattle. Standing and Technical Committees were active and fulfilled their duties. This meeting is one of the best attended with more than 400 attendees despite the national economic situation and travel restrictions. Two SDAFS newsletters were produced in a timely manner. There are a few Technical Committees and Chapters that have not been active, which will be discussed later. At the 2011 Spring Meeting, President Lochmann initiated an effort to ensure all agency biologists have access to AFS journals. He attempted to work with agency fisheries program chiefs and administrators to improve this status, but was not successful, though he will continue to work on it. During the past year, there have been some difficulties keeping the SDAFS website up to date. The Webmaster was having health issues, but will resume his duties in the near future. Chapter and Technical Committee officer and chairmanship updates are needed in a timely manner to help maintain the website. The first President, Jack Dequine, passed away in November at the age of 94. He bequeathed the Southern Division part of his estate to be used in support of communication and publication.

SDAFS Officer Reports

President-Elect Brian Murphy provided his report. The Puerto Rico Chapter will not be moving forward with their organization at this time. The Webmaster position will continue to be filled by Jerry Finke. The agency fisheries program chiefs indicated at the SEAFWA meeting that they would like to have more input on the work and priorities of the Technical Committees. President-Elect Murphy will stay in contact with those Technical Committees about coordinating future efforts. The rosters that were provided to the Technical Committees at their meetings will be useful for staying in contact. President-Elect Murphy requested that they be returned to him. Governing Board has been considering the roll of affiliate members within the Society. These are Chapter members that are not Society members. President-Elect Murphy is also looking into improving communications for Technical Committees. There have been problems recently getting committee members to their meetings due to travel restrictions. He hopes to investigate electronic options, such as conference calls or web conferencing. An Ad-hoc committee may be developed. The AFS has developed a searchable repository for gray literature called Fishery Reports. It will be available for members to deposit literature such as agency reports and

academic theses/dissertations. He intends to work with Chapters to make sure gray literature gets deposited there.

Vice-President Mike Allen reviewed the Pollution Committee. They have had two functions: to update the monetary value of fish and to review fish kills in the Southern Division. The report stands as written.

Secretary-Treasurer Liz Osier Moats' reports were handled individually. Minutes from the 2011 Tampa EXCOM Meeting were published in the Winter 2012 SDAFS Newsletter and in the Briefing Book, as well as posted on the SDAFS website. Hearing no questions or revisions, a motion was made (Osier Moats) and seconded (Murphy) to approve the 2011 EXCOM minutes. Motion was approved.

The 2011 SDAFS financial statement was discussed. The Division started 2011 with \$10,352 and an additional \$6,000 in our strategic reserve fund. Major income sources were received from the Spring Meeting in Tampa (\$5,849.86) and the AFS dues rebate (\$8,232). Typical operating expenses were incurred during the year and briefly discussed. A \$500 donation was made to the AFS-EOS. The majority of the Grants and Donations budget was unused. The Membership Challenge was not awarded in 2011, to allow time to revise the procedure. The Student Affairs Committee was provided \$5,500 for student lodging at SDAFS and SEAFWA Meetings. The Strategic Reserve Fund was maintained (\$6,000). The Southern Division ended the year with \$11,658 in cash. An audit of the 2011 financial information was not completed in time for this meeting, but will be done before the end of the Biloxi meeting. A motion to pass the 2011 financial statement was made by Osier Moats and seconded by Allen. The 2011 financial statement was unanimously approved.

The proposed 2012 SDAFS budget was discussed. Finances for 2012 are dependent on income sources but appear sufficient to operate in 2012 while still leaving enough cash for early 2013 expenditures (prior to the receipt of 2013 income sources). The Division expects a modest return from the Biloxi Meeting. Projected income in 2012 is \$24,826 and expenses are projected at \$20,110 for an end of year balance of \$4,716. The Strategic Reserve Fund will be maintained with \$6,000. After no further discussion, a motion was made (Osier Moats) to pass the 2012 proposed budget and seconded (Olive). The proposed 2012 budget was accepted by unanimous vote.

Reports from Committees with Action Items

Resolution Committee Chair, Dennis Riecke presented a resolution of appreciation for the principal organizers of the 2012 Spring Meeting in Biloxi. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Gilliland and seconded by Fontenot. The proposed resolution was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chair Riecke then presented a resolution on Federal Funding on the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program. Funding has been stagnant for a number of years. The resolution explains the background of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program and cost of managing aquatic nuisance species. Resolution calls for increased funding for each regional panel, funding directed toward zebra and quagga mussel control and increased funding for each state with an aquatic nuisance species plan. Despite the difficult financial and economic status in the country, this resolution outlines the importance of adequate funding to control aquatic nuisance species. The resolution has been presented in the appropriate forums (Summer 2011 Newsletter, posted on the website

and open to comment, though none were received). Motion was made (Abney) to approve for presentation to the membership at the Business Meeting and seconded (Gilliland). The motion was approved.

Finally, Chair Riecke urged officers to consider developing a method for the Southern Division membership to review, consider and debate Division resolutions electronically. This is the method employed by the Parent Society and it allows for consideration and action in a more timely manner. Chapters were also encouraged to consider developing resolutions on issues that are important to them to be brought to the Resolutions Committee to be considered by the Southern Division membership. Riecke solicited ideas for resolutions from the EXCOM and recommended past resolutions (resource issues only) be archived on the Division website.

Small Impoundments Committee Chair, Wes Neal, reviewed the Small Impoundments Committee textbook project. Dave Willis and Wes Neal served as co-editors. There is currently only one chapter devoted to the management of small impoundments in the AFS North American Fisheries Management book. Few other pond management resources exist for students and managers. The Small Impoundments Committee envisioned a resource with national and continental scope. The book will include the history of pond management, construction techniques and methods as well as fish management, stocking, biological production, problem solving and alternative uses. The book will include 16 chapters. Information sources are from academia, state and federal agencies and the private sector. The intent was to bring pond management to the classroom so that it can be taught anywhere in the country. Project is weeks away from submitting for printing. Publishing costs will be shared with the Parent Society. Committee fundraising goal was \$10,000. Current funds raised were approximately \$6,000.

Archiving Ad hoc Committee, co-chaired by Greg Summers and Jeff Boxrucker, is compiling the history of the Division. They have accumulated materials that are rich in the history of the Division. The materials are being organized in chronological hierarchy by decade, year, and nature of the materials (correspondence, briefing books, meeting minutes, bylaws, newsletters, resolutions, etc.). The funding provided by the Division will finance the scanning and cataloguing of documents. Materials begin two years prior to the formation of the Division. The Ad hoc committee co-chairs request any additional materials. Technical or Standing Committee documents are not being included at this time. President Lochmann thanked Greg and Jeff for their commitment to the project.

Student Affairs Committee Chair, John Jackson, presented a suggestion for the future allocation of the funds that are provided by the Southern Division for the Student Affairs Committee. He provided background of the past expenditures and breakdown of the funds. The funds are used for lodging for students at the Division's Spring Meeting (\$3,000), financial support for the Student Colloquium (\$1,000), financial support for the Student Social at the SEAFWA meeting (\$500) and student lodging at the SEAFWA meeting (\$1,000). Chairman Jackson recommended reconsidering the allocation of funds for the SEAFWA Student Social and student lodging at the SEAFWA meeting. A motion was made (Neal) to reallocate the funds for SEAFWA Student Social and student lodging at the SEAFWA meeting to student lodging at the Southern Division Spring Meeting. The motion was seconded (Lewis). Extensive discussion ensued. The point was made that there is a value to support students at SEAFWA meetings because it offers a broader perspective of natural resource management and agency activities as a whole. It is perceived that the funds provided by the Student Affairs Committee for the SEAFWA Student Social are not necessary or needed because they have not been sought by the host agency in the

past. Student lodging available at the Southern Division meeting is often limited due to shortage of funds; additional funds could support more students attending the Southern Division Spring meeting. A motion was made (Lewis) and seconded (Bonvechio) to amend the previous motion to reallocate the funds provided for the SEAFWA Student Social (\$500) to student lodging at the Southern Division Spring Meeting and leave the expenditure of funds for student lodging at the SEAFWA meeting (\$1000) to the discretion of the Student Affairs Committee. President-Elect Murphy noted there is no procedure on Student Affairs Committee expenditures provided in the SDAFS Procedures Manual; the expenditure of funds by the Student Affairs Committee is always at the discretion of the Student Affairs Committee Chair. The vote was called and motion approved with one dissenting vote.

Chapter Reports

Arkansas – Report stands as written.

Auburn University – Stands as written

Florida – Present but, no report.

Georgia - Report stands as written.

Kentucky - Not present; no report.

Louisiana – Report stands as written.

Mississippi - Report stands as written.

North Carolina - Report stands as written.

Oklahoma - Report stands as written.

South Carolina - Report stands as written.

Tennessee – Report stands as written. The 2013 SDAFS Spring Meeting will be held in Nashville February 7-10.

Texas - Report stands as written.

Tidewater – Report stands as written.

Virginia - Report stands as written.

Virginia Tech – Not represented, Report stands as written.

West Virginia - Report stands as written.

Committee Reports

Technical Committees - Reports for the Alligator Gar, Aquaculture, Catfish Management, Non-Game Aquatics, Pollution, Reservoir, Small Impoundments, Striped Bass, Trout, and Warm Water Streams committees stood as written in the Briefing Book.

Audit Committee - The report was incomplete due to the early timing of this meeting relative to the close of 2011. The audit report will be submitted when all financial information has been thoroughly reviewed. (Following the EXCOM meeting, the Audit Committee reported to President Lochmann on January 28, 2012 that the financial documents were in order.)

Awards Committee - Report stands as written. Awards will be distributed at the Annual Business Meeting tomorrow evening.

Ballot Committee – Report stands as written.

Membership Committee - Report stands as written.

Nominating Committee - Report stands as written.

Student Affairs Committee – Report stands as written.

Newsletter Editor - No report; not represented.

SEAFWA Proceedings, Fisheries Editor – No report.

SEAFWA Directors Liaison – No report.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business from the 2011 Excom Meeting Minutes that has not been addressed at this meeting.

New Business

Meeting locations for the 2014 Spring Meeting were discussed. The Chamber of Commerce of Lexington, KY has expressed interest in assisting the Southern Division in hosting the 2014 Spring Meeting. There does not appear to be interest from the Kentucky Chapter to host the meeting. South Carolina Chapter has expressed interest in hosting in 2014. The proxy representative from South Carolina (Bulak) did not have any information to present about the proposal. President Lochmann considers that there is not currently a host for the Southern Division in 2014. The Georgia Chapter President Slaughter said that they were prepared to discuss hosting in 2015 because they were under the assumption that South Carolina was hosting in 2014. Georgia is not able to commit to 2014 at this time. The South Carolina Chapter President is not present, but Osier Moats stated that there had been email correspondence in which a proposal was made by the SC Chapter President and President-Elect. President Lochmann will follow up with SC Chapter.

Student Colloquium is supposed to be hosted in November, but the 2011 host, WVU Student Sub-Unit, decided to hold it at the same time as the NEAFWA meeting in April 2012. Normally the hosts of the Colloquium would select the next hosts (occurring in the fall of the same calendar year of the Spring meeting). Since the Colloquium was not held in November 2011, the 2012 host has not been selected. Student Affairs Committee Chairman Jackson thinks that the Student Colloquium should remain as a fall event due to the long standing occurrence of the Wildlife Conclave in the spring. Either the fall 2012 Colloquium will be skipped or there will be two in one calendar year. Mississippi State and Arkansas Tech Student Sub-Units both mentioned that they may be willing to host in fall 2012.

Jim Bulak brought forward the point that the South Carolina Chapter Report in the Briefing Book states that the SC AFS Executive Committee has submitted a proposal to the SDAFS President to host the 2014 SDAFS Spring Meeting in Charleston, SC. President Lochmann acknowledged receiving the materials from the SC AFS, but felt it was a decision for the SDAFS Executive Committee.

Vice President Allen brought forward a motion to disband the Pollution Technical Committee based on lack of interest and participation. Motion was seconded by Murphy, and passed by unanimous vote. VP Allen further advised that, in the future, the SDAFS President consider reforming the Pollution Technical Committee as an Ad hoc Committee.

Following no further discussion items, a motion to adjourn was made (Rizzuto) and seconded (Rieke) and, hearing unanimous support, President Lochmann adjourned the EXCOM meeting at 7:25 pm.