

Executive Board Meeting
March 11, 2004, 5:00 pm – 7:25pm
MDC Resource Science Center, Columbia

Attending: Larry Mechlin, Vicki Jackson, Dan Zekor, Margie Mitchell, Rosemary Heinen, Steve Sheriff, Jered Wisdom, and Glen Chambers

President Larry Mechlin opened the meeting at 5:05 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Margie Mitchell reported that our chapter has \$7,063.31 on account at the Conservation Employee's Credit Union, not counting the 3 CD's for the Chambers Memorial Scholarship Fund. She indicated that we had received \$264.64 from the Missouri chapter of the American Fisheries Society for Midwest t-shirt sales. Remaining t-shirts will be sold at the Central Office of the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Senate Hearing on a Resolution for a Sunset on the Design for Conservation Sales Tax

Glen Chambers reported that he was present representing the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MOTWS) at the Missouri Senate hearing concerning putting a sunset of 10 years on the Design for Conservation (1/8 %) sales tax. He said that 60 people were present at the March 8 hearing. Two people spoke in favor of this resolution. These were a member from Missouri Farm Bureau and another person. Dave Murphy spoke on behalf of the Conservation Federation of Missouri in opposition to this measure. Eight other opponents hastily organized themselves in order to obtain priority for speaking. Another hearing to allow other members of the public to speak on this issue will be held on March 18, 2004. Glen will be there representing MOTWS at this hearing.

Fundraising for the TWS Endowment Fund

Glen Chambers presented his ideas concerning fundraising by the MOTWS for the TWS Endowment Fund. MOTWS is committed to contributing to this fund at least \$500 annually for the next 5 years. Glen suggested a number of different fundraising methods to meet and exceed this goal. Dan Zekor moved that a President's ad hoc committee be formed with Glen Chambers, Dave Murphy, Jeff Hodges, and others for the purpose of developing a fundraiser. Motion was seconded by Margie Mitchell. Discussion focused on the obligation of the committee was solely to develop the fundraiser. It would be up to the Executive Board to determine time, place, occasion, and scope and purpose of the funds derived from the fundraising activity. Motion passed.

Budget

The proposed budget that was published in the December newsletter was discussed. Several changes were offered by Executive Board members. These changes included moving the Graduate Scholarship funds outside of the budget, and changing the amount of the TWS Endowment Fund Contribution from \$250 to \$500 as passed by the membership at the 2004 annual meeting.

Student – TWS Shooting Activity

Margie Mitchell and Rosemary Heinen have been exploring the idea of the student chapters and MOTWS sponsoring a joint shooting competition as a fundraiser. The purpose is to bring students and professionals together at an event focused on students. Profits from this fundraiser could go to the student chapters for their benefit. Steve Sheriff moved that Margie Mitchell and Rosemary Heinen organize the shooting clay idea and forward to the student chapters as soon as possible. Motion was seconded by Dan Zekor. Motion passed.

Summer/Fall Meeting

Dan Zekor reported the results from the received surveys concerning the summer/fall meeting. The results of the survey were as follows:

1. Would you be interested in a MOTWS function aside from the traditional MNRC?

	Responses (28)	%
Yes	25	89
No	2	7
Undecided	1	4

2. What month would be most conducive to you attending a MOTWS function?

	Responses (36)	%
June	5	14
July	7	19
August	8	22
September	9	25
October	7	19

3. What format would be most desirable to you (please rank 1= most desirable)?

	Mean
Planned field trips to see various resources and related management	1.95
Workshop with multiple themes	2.50
Rendezvous style with multiple activities and demonstrations	2.68
Workshop with one specific theme	2.94
Multiple workshops at different times of the year and at different locations	4.53
Conference style with speakers, social, etc.	4.56

4. How much time could you allow for this function?

	Response (30)	%
Hours	1	3
One Day	17	57
Two Days	12	40
Three Days	0	0

5. How much are you willing to pay for registration (assume you will have to pay expenses out of your pocket)?

	Response (24)	Cumm. %
\$0	1	4
\$10-15	1	8
\$20	6	33
\$20-40	1	37
\$25	4	54
\$25-50	1	58
\$30	1	62
\$40	1	66
\$50	5	87
\$75	1	91
\$75-100	1	95
<\$100	1	100

Dan Zekor moved that the President form an ad hoc committee to frame the guidelines for a Fall Meeting for this year. Margie Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Farmer/Wildlife Award

Larry Mechlin discussed the idea of working with the Soil and Water Conservation Society to find appropriate nominees for this award. Larry indicated that this discussion will also entertain the notion of renaming the award and broaden the requirements so that a broader group of landowners can be considered for the award. The restriction that the nominees need to be bona fide farmers earning most of their income through farming has prevented many landowners who are doing much for wildlife from being nominated.

MU Curriculum

Larry Mechlin discussed the concern that MU is considering dropping their plant identification class. The impact of discontinuing this course will have an impact upon those newly graduated natural resource students in their ability to identify Missouri plant species.

Operations Manual

Dan Zekor and Margie Mitchell will complete the operations manual. The manual will be posted on the web site along with minutes from the annual meeting and executive board meetings.

At 7:25pm, Steve Sheriff moved that the meeting be adjourned. Vicki Jackson seconded the motion. Without discussion, it passed.