

Final MOTWS Annual Business minutes

February 2, 2017

Tan-Tar-A, Salon A

Ryan Diener called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Mary Crowell presented the 2016 business meeting minutes. Motion to approve the minutes by **Brad Jump** Seconded by **Dan Zekor**.

Brad Jump presented the 2016 treasurer's report. The ending balance of \$5,836.66. The report shows the breakdown of credits and debits. Joel questioned the credit listed as *donation* under MNRC Income? Brad clarified that the deposit slip from Feb 4th just said *Donation* and that was the time of MNRC. Margie Mitchell suggested some of it may be memberships, Tim Kavan thought may be from the square. Motion to approve the treasurer's report by **Dan Zekor** Seconded by Mike Schroer.

Jeff Powelson presented the farmer-conservationist award. This award goes to a farmer that gives a majority of their time to work on conservation activities on their property. This winner wants to return parts of their farm to pre-settlement. Rex and Amy Hamilton have been in the cattle business and want to plant diverse native grasslands. Amy accepted the plaque and addressed the meeting. The Hamilton's planted 99 species on 80 acres, measured the grazing on that verses fescue and found equal production after 3 years. Water infiltration was 2x as fast in the diverse grazing than fescue field. Fescue inhibits soil life, as it does to the animal at times. They increased organic matter in top 6" by 1%. When dug soil pits, they realized how deep organic matter went down due to deep root systems. Amy thanked the attendees.

James D Chambers Memorial Scholarship presented by Dan Zekor. First time in 19 years Glen Chambers hasn't been in attendance to present this award. Glenn is struggling with health issues at this time and was unable to attend. Keep Glenn in your thoughts and prayers and hopefully he'll be here next year. Glenn is on the list of living legends as a servant to conservation. In the early 90's his son passed away, Glenn setup a scholarship in his son's memory. We've given this scholarship for 19 years. Luke Miller is currently leading the charge. The list has some incredible names of recipients from the past. Ryan announced this year's scholarship is presented to Makenzie Marks. Makenzie wanted to thank Luke and the whole committee; it is an honor to be chosen.

Ryan reminded the group that the Morrow and Stegner awards are handled by CFM and the timeline does not allow us to present them at our annual meeting any longer. CFM presented the scholarships at CFMs' annual convention. The Stegner award went to Brendan Woodall and the Morrow award to Kathryn Womack.

MU graduate student fellowship award will not be given away this year due to departure of Dr. Millspaugh. Dr. Mitch Weidman will be taking over and will be getting the announcement out for applicants soon. The scholarship maybe presented at our spring student workshop or sporting clay event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Kevin Hedgpeth presented the audit committee report. The committee reviews 2017 report for 2016 calendar year. The checkbook and account has been reconciled. HE advised we don't spend all our account interest at once, \$0.12. Motion to accept the Audit Report by Tim Kavan, seconded by Margie Mitchell . Kevin added it's great to work with the Hamilton's. They are a wealth of knowledge. Give them a call if you are restoring grassland.

Ryan gave update on the Chambers Memorial scholarship committee. Last year we started dedicated fundraising activities to the scholarship. Luke Miller and Ryan wanted to help, so they developed a gun raffle and clay shoot in 2016. Another gun raffle and clay shoot will be held this year. We did make money off of both activities: \$290 clay shoot,

\$586.53 from gun raffle. That was enough to pay for the scholarship that was just awarded and deposited roughly \$370 extra. We plan to continue this year and hope for even more success. Anyone is welcome to take a flier and sell raffle tickets.

Shane Kampeter gave the MNRC steering committee update. 2019 MOTWS will be in charge of MNRC. Shane is still looking for 4 people to volunteer. Volunteers must be in two in person meetings and two phone meetings. Please see Shane after meeting to volunteer before he starts begging.

STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

Missouri State University: not present

Missouri Western State University: Deric Bishop, president of the student chapter, presented their report. They focused on the triad of success: Leadership, skill, professional developments. With MDC they gave interpretive programs, collected data, and worked with a master naturalist remove invasives. At Squaw Creek NWR, they did habitat workdays, helped with interpretive programs, and data collection. With Swan Lake NWR they helped with deer surveys and milkweed planting and first Friday school programs, and 8th grade outdoor days. With Mingo they took a winter trip and spent half a week clearing autumn olive. They developed new partnerships with Wallace state park and Mosaic Life Care Hospital. Twelve students attended the MOTWS fall student workshop, 2 members went to Raleigh, NC to the TWS national conference with one student giving a seminar. They've had workshops for students: deer, chainsaw safety, upcoming resume workshop and field day with chainsaws. Coming up they will have a safe capture international talk on chemical immobilization of animals, a Trimble certification course, and s190/130 field training day. Deric thanked all the members for dedication and hard work and thanks to Dr. C and the state chapter.

Southeast Missouri State University: not present

University of Central Missouri: Chris Edmondson gave the chapter report. They have been super busy with lots of workshops and guest speakers for trail maintenance, chainsaw training, water quality sampling, CV building, guests from MDC and DNR. The chapter also participated in volunteer deer aging with MDC, the dove opener, several members went to the student workshop, assisted knob nobster state park beautification day, and a telemetry workshop. Coming up this semester is a fundraiser and Bioblitz on earth day, college for a day and science Olympiad, and they will have a couple more speakers.

University of Missouri: Their chapter president presented a report. They held many workshops and guest speakers from MDC and DNR on various wildlife issues. They sent members to the elk restoration workshop, student conclave, the national conference, and deer aging. They have planted trees and are working to remove invasive species on public and private lands.

Lincoln University wildlife club: Jordan Piercefield, chapter president presented their report. They have participated in mo river relief cleanup and with MDC a timber stand improvement workshop help with the local community. They helped with the LU field day with students from grade school come out to learn about agriculture. With the Missouri National Guard, they assisted with a disabled hunt. With USDA wildlife services, they helped with a Hawk release. In the spring, a Conservation Agent will speak to them about his career, attend the LU Day at the capital to stand up for their department and wildlife club. On April 21st they will be releasing birds at capital with USDA for earth day. Jordan thanked all the students in the club. There are only 8 of them. He's proud to be in the club and thanked MDC and DNR. Forgot to mention built signs, established wetland.

Chuck brought up Truman State has been officially removed as a student chapter. At the school's request.

OLD BUSINESS

Tony Elliott presented on the 2016 student workshops. MOTWS help two separate workshops, largely because of the first had low attendance. It was held in Ashland at rocky forks, they did spring sampling, turkey net shot. At the fall workshop at peck ranch, they saw elk, floated Current River, and had a great turnout and participation from student chapters. Thank for support and for participating. Hope to have 1 or 2 more in 2017.

Parks and Soils sales tax: Ryan announced it passed in every county in the state. Went well.

Treasurer appointment. The Executive Board appointed Alison Leisenring for the position as the past treasurer had to step down. We hope Alison will be interested in running again for treasurer.

2017 elections and member involvement. Election was a slate of single person candidates. Hopefully you saw letter from parent society in regards to candidates. Our bylaws show at least 2 candidates are required for each slot. This year we could not find enough willing candidates. The Executive Board agreed to move forward with the Parent society's exemption. Ryan opened the floor for comments, none taken.

Final remarks: Ryan had a good year all in all. With Tony's hard work on student workshops we have lots of student involvement. The help of AFS has been working out well for us. The Professional development workshop went well with Andrea Schumman. We hosted a new event, the Chambers Scholarship clay shoot. Ryan hoped moving forward to get more member involvement because the opportunity to help is easier since they events move around the state. We had a good year and can always do better. Moving forward with events and involvement and working for us and helping with career path.

Election results:

President Elect: Charles Anderson

Secretary: Shelly Colatskie

1-year Term Board Member: Jessi Tapp. The Board Member position has been off for 10 years. Instead of appointing when the past board should have, they held an election. To rectify this situation and get in line with the bylaws, Jessi will be on a 1 year term and we hope we she would be interested in running again next year.

Ryan turned Presidential authority to Brad.

Brad thanked Ryan for his service and moving chapter forward with all the issues. Brad thanked the membership for serving as president. He wanted to emphasis member involvement. Not only on statewide level but on a local level, we have the opportunity to work with student chapters. Get involved with students and young people in our field. Provide leadership or workshops. Make an effort to do that this year. We've had excellent student participation this year, they are so enthused to see what we do. Please get involved with local student chapters. Meet with professors if they don't have a chapter. Looking at active legislative sessions, Brandon Butler came last year and spoke about the LAC website where you can sign up and learn about legislation that impacts conservation. Encourage to be actively involved in house bills and resolutions that impact MDC and DNR on state and federal level. Just don't sign up with your work email address! Mike Schere asked if student chapter meetings could they be on listserve or webpage? We can make effort to keep up with those that meet regularly. We could put on Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS

Ryan is in charge of the 2017 student workshops. He plans to hold two again, with the opportunity for spring event on private property with lots of conservation work, the whole trinity of conservation with bioblitz type workshop and get list of things on property. Sent email to student chapters with possible date of April 29. AFS will likely hold late summer/fall workshop. We have enjoyed partnering with them. Students please see Ryan to visit on dates.

Call for 2018 nominations. Since only 1 candidate for slate of positions is there a call for nominations from the floor for board member, treasurer, and president elect. Motion to look around and nominate someone. Luke Miller moved to nominate Alison and Jessi as nominees for 2018 slate as treasurer and board member. Seconded by Dan **Zekor**. Approved. Think about it throughout the year. Luke reminded we are looking for a membership chair.

Professional development. Andrea Schuhmann was not able to attend but sent Ryan email. So far, ideas include shorebird workshop in late august, early sept. Looked into patch burn grazing, elk reintroduction popular with students. Open to any other ideas. Can have quick discussion if you have ideas, email Andrea. The past feral swine workshop was a huge success with speakers from USDA, MDC, and DNR. Just need to work harder to get word out. Lots of participants, lots were new members. She wanted ideas to for future topics.

Brad asked for any new business

Margie wants clarification on membership chair is just to encourage people to become members. Elections nomination is different committee. Mary added only one person on nomination committee currently.

Mike reiterated to get involved with legislation action. Students we applaud you being here and being involved. Try to use personal emails on CFM website. Dan Zekor added on legislative committee with CFM with lots going on, interesting political year. Great place to see what's going on. Track, follow, get involved. Email couple of hearings in regards to pieces of legislation 4-5 critical things as MDC personnel, 2 bills sunset funding for MDC. Bills with captive cervids and disease. Priority of CFM. There are a variety of other bills. Some legislators have conservation in their crosshairs, some personal, some philosophical. Encourage to plug in and keep an eye. April 12th CFM day at the capital. Table setup in rotunda. Opportunity to visit with state legislators. Go through motions. CFM is a great place to get started.

Luke update from North Central Section? Ryan updated us with Chris's update from October. The national partnership with Bayer bee care was a concern because TWS is taking money from an ag chemical company. The MN chapter thought that maybe not wisest thing for TWS to do. There is also issue with program. Seed mixes contained nonnative species with few annual common natives. Not happy with spreading nonnative species, even if in urban environments. The MN chapter wanted changed to strictly native. MN received letter from parent society stating it was because of price point. Those are the biggest issue with NCS currently.

Luke thanked Ryan for his service and Mary and Chuck on exec board and other committee chairs. Brad thanked Tony as past president. Ryan, anyone last chance to get raffle ticket for muzzle loader given away tonight at awards banquet. Don't forget Chambers raffle tickets. Please pick up silent auction items.

Brad accepted motion to adjourn from Allen. Second from Tony Elliott at 4:38p.m.