

Executive Board Meeting minutes
June 6, 2016 9 AM via conference call

Attendees:

Tony Elliot (past president)
Ryan Diener (president)
Brad Jump (president elect)
Charles Anderson (board member)
Mary Crowell (secretary)

Ryan opened the meeting at 9:01 AM

Review of the March 2016 executive board meeting minutes. Brad mentioned a couple of typos. Mary will proofread and send up to the MOTWS webpage. Motion to approve the minutes by Brad, second by Tony.

Treasurer Tom Thompson was absent so the treasurer's report was skipped.

Old Business

Review of the Student workshop by Tony: Eight students (4 Lincoln, 3 MO western, 1 from MU) attended on April 14th at the Green Area. They went to Rocky Forks to look at the native prairie areas and the work being done to control woody species. They stopped by the shooting range to discuss the heavy use by the public. They returned to the Green Area and had a couple of APHIS biologists, Josh Wisdom and Paul show the students different traps used for feral swine and raptors at the airports. They released three to four birds, including a great horned owl, a red shouldered hawk, and a red-tailed hawk. MOTWS fed the students lunch and then did some stream sampling with Mark Keller. Jason Isabelle talked about the turkey research project and had a rocket net demonstration. Last we discovered there was not any propane in grill tank so students went home hungry. We had food, but no way to cook supper. The students were fairly quiet but hopefully got good information.

Next Student workshop to hopefully be mid-September at Current River State Park or Peck Ranch. Tony will contact Dave Hasenback and Dave Kyle for elk tour and we could focus on Current River fisheries and possibly hellbender. For the newsletter, include topics and potential date.

Ryan gave an update on the banking information. At this point, Tom has the papers and will need to send it to Mary and Tony to be completed. We need this information corrected to pay three outstanding bills.

Chambers Memorial Scholarship Gun Raffle: Ryan mailed out to Luke, Brad and Tom. Brad will include in the newsletter. If anyone is interested in getting a ticket, have them contact anyone on the board.

MU Fellowship scholarship: Ryan told us that Diane Hallett has sent her letter but it was not what MOTWS had anticipated. Diane agrees that Ryan could use her letter and a template and make some edits before we send it out to the MOTWS membership. MU will set up a direct giving page for those who want to make a donation. That information will go into a future newsletter and out email once it has been set up. Diane anticipated it would be in the next few weeks.

New Business

MNRC planning committee report from Shane Kampeter: MNRC will be giving \$1500 for each society for a speaker or workshop. This is an attempt to gain better speakers that are more relevant to the conference's topic. The biggest need right now is for someone from MOTWS to work with the MNRC workshop committee this year. Each society will have one point of contact to search for speakers and get the money to speakers. If the money isn't used, the MNRC will keep the money. The goal is to have higher quality speakers and changing up the conference. This would replace some of the call of workshop proposals. At this point it is undecided if this would be 2 or 4 hour sessions. At minimum, definitely a 2 hour time slot for each society geared back to the conference theme. MNRC has been losing people because of the quality of speakers. Shane suggested each society could budget for this and be able to hire more expensive speakers. Shane asked the board for any points of contact to fill this role of finding a speaker. This would be an annual commitment so we may need a new committee chair. Tony suggested past board members may be interested in helping out, he would contact those he thought may be willing to step in. For now, make contacts in the next day or two of those who may be interested.

Professional development workshop update from Ryan: Last week Andrea Schuuhmann sent out an email on plans. Tentatively looking at August 9-10 at Johnson Shut-ins or Taum Sauk State Park. Brad has been working with her on topics and agenda. Location will depend on facilities available, but that area is hog central. At that point in the summer we would have the best chance of catching feral swine and seeing fresh sign. The workshop would talk about the impact swine are having on the sites. Information will be put into the newsletters. Registration will be mailed to Andrea. Former professional development chair, Jason Sykes had a PayPal account for registration cost that potentially is still available. Cost included a membership for non-members, members did not have to pay. Ryan will contact Jason to see what he still has set up.

June Newsletter Update from Brad: Ryan asked if he is getting everything he needs. Only the MSU student chapter submitted a report, so the newsletter will be thin. The newsletter will include the president's message, write up on the spring student workshop, professional development workshop, upcoming fall student workshop, the travel grant deadline of August 15, and blurbs on MNRC and the Chambers Memorial Scholarship Gun Raffle. Brad requested small photos of each board member to include so folks could put a face with the name. Brad still needed the treasurer's report. He requested any past MOTWS event photos that are still relevant, to add attractiveness. Ryan will try to send photos and re-forward the gun raffle info.

Chuck turned in MOTWS comments on feral swine regulation.

Charles added the Lincoln chapter was in contact with the parent society and provided them with needed information to start student chapter. It was left in Lincoln's court to strategize. He will touch base again, but likely will pick back up in fall semester. Brad requested the information a potential chapter would need to get started to put in newsletter.

The Ops manual calls for our next meeting in October, but with the August 15th travel grant deadline we will need to meet sooner. Next meeting: Thursday, August 18th at 8:30 am

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Brad at 9:38 AM, seconded by Charles