**MOTWS Executive Board Meeting (minutes)**

**Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 5:00pm**

President, Ted Seiler, called the Executive Board meeting to order at 5:15 pm and all Chapter Officers were in attendance along with the Resolutions Committee Chair, Tom Kulowiec.

The current Chapter Secretary, Luke Miller provided a review of the previous Executive Board meeting minutes from December 2014. These were previously reviewed by the Officers via email and edits were incorporated in the revised version. Tim Kavan motioned to accept the minutes as amended and Tony Elliott provided a second and all were in agreement.

Scott Sudkamp, the Chapter Treasurer provided an update on the organization’s current financial activity and the Treasurer’s Report has been appended to these minutes. A review of the 2014 Annual Report was presented and showed an ending balance of $4,052.62 for the calendar year. The Chapter’s financial accounts have been active for the preparation of the upcoming Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) and as of yesterday, the balance had decreased to around $3,559.31. The Executive Board approved the payment of $25 for two additional tables at the MNRC booth (total of 5) and to pay for the conference registration fees for Pete Berthelsen, a Pheasants Forever Regional Biologist from Nebraska presenting at the Small Game and Grassland Management Workshop. Tim Kavan motioned to approve these expenses, with Tony Elliott seconding. Another motion by Tim Kavan was made and seconded by Jason Isabelle to accept the Treasurer’s report, with the rest of the Executive Board in agreement.

**Old Business**

Ted Seiler thanked Tom Kulowiec for all his past efforts in providing support for the old Chapter website and informed the rest of the Executive Board that the Society recently completed our new website. Luke Miller had asked the Society if we needed a webmaster and the Society will maintain if the Chapter provides them with updated information. Tom Kulowiec plans to check to see what software the Society staff can support for future online voting. It was proposed to have the Chapter Secretary be the point of contact with the Society, as they would know of any updated information to share and this change should be captured in the next revision of the MOTWS Operations Manual. (Amendments to the Operations Manual have become easier to complete, after an Executive Board vote has approved, just have to notify the Manual Editor.)

Ted Seiler has been talking to those involved with organizing the Missouri Natural Resources Conference, as MOTWS is sponsoring this year’s conference and everything seems to be running smoothly. Ted Seiler mentioned that Keith Norris did arrive and will brief everyone on the Society’s Conservation Affairs Network (CAN). Jason Isabelle informed the Executive Board that four of the six Student Chapters do plan to make use of the comp hotel rooms, as a way for MOTWS to further support student attendance among the other professionals attending.

Ted Seiler also wanted to make sure that MOTWS was prepared for our upcoming Annual Business Meeting. Ted will finalize the agenda and has made numerous copies to provide to the membership with assistance from Luke Miller and Scott Sudkamp. Tom Kulowiec plans to make everyone aware of the current bills being proposed by the Missouri State Legislature and has a draft letter to be reviewed and possibly submitted to each elected official. Most of these bills have not gone to committee nor have a committee developed but there are about 15 House bills and four Senate bills that directly affect the MDC; some are small yet others would have a rather large impact. Jason Isabelle supported the idea of posting a version of a letter on the website so members could easily print, sign, and submit a copy to their legislators.

MOTWS on-line votes have been collected and will remain secretive until the announcement of the new officers during the Annual Business Meeting.

**New Business**

Tim Kavan provided an update with our MOTWS Facebook page and is willing to remain an administrator. Over the last few weeks there have been a lot of new “Likes” and are currently up to 188!

Ted Seiler brought up an idea to have a Student Chapters’ Representative be a sixth member on the MOTWS Executive Board. Luke Miller informed everyone that this would not be needed, as our current Chapter Bylaws include the Presidents from each Student Chapter as *Ex Officio* non-voting members of the MOTWS Executive Board. MOTWS should do a better job of inviting the students to all our meetings to encourage participation in this opportunity.

Jason Isabelle offered outreach to all the Student Chapters as the MOTWS Student Liaison and the University of Missouri – Columbia Student Chapter expressed interest and a field day is being organized for students to learn firsthand the opportunities within the career by local professionals. Jason Isabelle is working with Jeff Berringer on staffing this event.

Ted Seiler updated everyone on the plans for the 2015 Spring Student Workshop. The dates will be April 17th-19th 2015 at the Columbia Bottom Conservation Area near Saint Louis, Missouri. New for this year is a collaborative effort with Missouri Chapter of American Fisheries Society (MoAFS). They will assist in planning and splitting costs with MOTWS, an expense of about $400 each. Ted Seiler is meeting with Kyle Winders, MoAFS Student Ambassador, to finalize plans.

**Adjournment**

The Executive Board decided that the next meeting would be tentatively held in March to select a travel grant applicant and finalize plans for the Student Workshop. Luke motioned and Tony second. With no further discussion, Ted Seiler called the Executive Board meeting to a close at 6:00pm.