

Executive Board Meeting minutes
August 18, 2016 8:30 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 8:34 AM

Brad moved to approve the minutes from June as written, Charles seconded.

Travel Grant: Ryan only received one application from Lauren Toivonen. All board members had looked over it. Lauren was at the Conservation Day at the Capital and learned about the travel grant from speaking with Ryan. She joined the MOWTS chapter and the MU student chapter. She is a grad student at University of Missouri. Her application showed her full expenses, well over the \$500 grant. Tony thought the application looked good, had all of the points we want to see, such as passing on info about her trip was included. Ryan agreed it was fine. Brad motioned to approve Lauren as travel grant recipient, seconded by Charles. Ryan will let Lauren know she is approved for the travel grant. She is going to the national TWS conference.

Recap of Professional Development workshop: Brad thought we had a very good workshop at Johnson Shut-ins, starting on Tuesday the 9th in the afternoon. We adjusted the schedule to get pigs on Wednesday morning. The final attendance count was 25 on the sign in sheet, but Brad was not sure if it was higher. The workshop was well attended by a wide variety of agencies: DNR-MSP, MDC, USFS, QF, USACOE, a private landowner, and USDA-WS. Participants had the opportunity to take biological samples and learned a lot over the two day workshop. Getting hands on activities is great at these professional development workshops. We added new members to MOTWS. Total paid was \$265 from members and non-members. Brad asked how the attendance compared to those numbers from signup. Andrea had planned on 32 people, including presenters and that was very close to the total attending. Andrea will get receipts together and give to Ryan for reimbursement for the workshop. She estimated less than the \$800 mark, so the chapter should be in good shape for reimbursement. For future workshops, Andrea would consolidate feedback from workshop surveys and get back with the Executive Board. Brad and Andrea were thinking of ideas for next year, such as a moist soil workshop to do wood duck banding, shorebirds, waterfowl, but are wide open to other ideas. Tony liked the wetland idea and should see how it develops. Wood ducks are typically still trapped this time of year making the hands on experience possible at a workshop.

Update on Fall student workshop: Tony pulled things together and asked Chuck to send out notice to the student chapters. The student workshop is set for Sept 9-11 at Peck Ranch for a full weekend workshop since the spring workshop was small. Tony has talked with the Peck

Ranch staff and David Hasenbeck. For Friday evening, Brad Hadley can talk about being an agent and David can give a presentation on the elk. Tony may add something else small that evening. Saturday morning the plan is to get out early for an elk tour, hitting the gates at 6:30a.m. that should be good. The elk tour should take an hour and a half to two hours, then end the tour at a MOFEP study site and have Shannon Elhers meet us there to discuss the MOFEP field work. Similarly, we may have one of the foresters go out on an active harvest to talk about what's going on there. AFS would take care of afternoon and evening on Saturday. No specific plans yet, they have national AFS meeting next week in KC. Kyle said they are good with those dates and helping out. So far, nothing planned for Sunday because the students are normally ready to go home. Potentially we could have a bird watching block or contact the Missouri River Bird Observatory to come do some mist netting early and still get on the road back to school in the morning. Tony has had several responses so far from students. It sounds like there is interest out there. Tony will write up more details and send out so we can get estimates on how many folks will be there. The workshop is less than a month away. Brad asked if the workshop is open to non-TWS student chapter schools. Tony said yes, Lincoln attended spring and they are not a TWS student chapter. Tony will copy the info to Brad and he will send to Drury, Evangel, Missouri Southern, and College of the Ozarks. Ryan suggested they could be a student member of our state chapter if their school doesn't have a student chapter. We'll make sure to have the forms if they want to join MOTWS. The student workshop doesn't have a charge. Ted charged \$5 as motivation to sign up early and commit to come. It turned out that most paid at the site. Charging didn't help with early signup or commitment so Tony saw no need. Ryan may not be able to attend, Brad should be able to. Tony was wondering about pulling in other agencies since it is heavily MDC right now. We could probably fit a couple other folks in there now since having other agencies there is what is missing in the current lineup. Sounds like a great workshop for students! David may have one of the grad students that is working on telemetry to come do a demonstration. That will be one of the hands on portions of the workshop. Students will be camping; mentors/professionals can use the housing.

Update on Chambers Memorial Gun Raffle: We drew winners at the Professional Development workshop. Total intake was \$1640 in tickets. Expenses were \$953.47 for tickets and gun. Ryan deposited the money at the Chambers fund of \$686.53. The cash prize winners both donated their prize money back to the scholarship. That helped immensely to not have to pay out the cash prizes otherwise our profit would have been half. Ryan is happy with the outcome from the fund raising and appreciated everyone's help selling tickets. They were pricey for our target audience if we decide to do this again, we may adjust the price. We are still on the calendar for the first weekend of April sporting clay shoot in Booneville. The biggest obstacle is getting people to travel. The bonus of hosting the shoot at Booneville is that our base of folks is in the Jeff City/Columbia area. It will be a nice addition to MOTWS events and Ryan is hopeful the event grows over the years. Luke did most of the leg work on short notice, so there will be more of a lead up this coming year. Having it on the schedule it can be promoted at MNRC to help spread the word.

Ryan opened the floor for other topics.

Tony found the letter concerning making a donation toward the parks and soils sales tax. Based off email responses, we came to a consensus that MOTWS would not be donating. We support the tax, but putting MOTWS money towards that is a gray area.

Communication with Tom as treasurer: Tony and Ryan voiced their concerns that communication with Tom has stopped and the chapter has several outstanding debits.

At the end of July, Ryan didn't hear from Shane Kampeter, MNRC committee chair, on having a bigger workshop idea. Ryan got email from SWCS if we had workshop proposal ideas completed since they were due at end of July. Ryan suggested Alice Tipton from Kansas to speak about fungal communities in remnant glades vs. prairies. Lin is on a panel with her and will send her an email to see if she'd be willing to come give a presentation. We have two hours to fill and may look into Iowa State University native plant reseeding that would fit in with soil health and Alice. We can have broad topics which is nice. Any ideas welcome in case these two are unable to speak at MNRC. Please share any ideas of other speakers that might be interesting and draw folks in. Alice could give update on upcoming project and where they are going with it.

Tony reminded Ryan he would need to select a Stephens award chair since that position is to be kept secret.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tony, seconded by Brad.

Next meeting date: October 14 at 9 AM to discuss award nominations.