

Minutes of the 1989 Meeting of the Mississippi Chapter
of the American Fisheries Society
March 3, 1989
Museum of Natural Science
Jackson, Mississippi

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by Bennie Rohr, President. Other officers in attendance were: Garry Lucas, President-Elect and Donald Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer. President Rohr initiated the meeting with a status report on the health of Carl Sullivan, Executive Director of the American Fisheries Society (Parent Chapter) who recently underwent cancer surgery. A letter from Carl Sullivan thanking the Mississippi Chapter for their donation of \$50.00 to the Fisheries Consolidation Initiative was read to the membership. President Rohr also reviewed the AFS Executive Committee report and highlighted that primary consideration focused on habitat concerns. Minutes of the 1988 annual meeting were reviewed by chapter members. Amendments were suggested and approved unanimously. The Treasurer's report, indicating a current balance of approximately \$160.00 was also approved by the membership.

A call for committee reports was made by President Rohr.

Awards Committee Report:

The chapter approved awarding the Museum of Natural Science a print by artist Al Agnew in appreciation of their hosting the 1989 meeting. Luther Knight agreed to arrange for the appropriate plaque to accompany the print.

Resolutions Committee Report:

Garry Lucas reviewed the status of the Upper Yazoo River Basin Resolution which was passed by the membership during 1988. He reported that it was passed also by the AFS Parent Chapter Resolutions Committee but was not accepted by the Excom Committee due to being in improper form.

Membership Committee: (a special action committee)

Dennis Riecke reviewed the AFS Parent Society position regarding membership with the Parent Chapter in order to hold office or be on committees in affiliated chapters. The bylaws of the Mississippi Chapter were reviewed and found to be in accordance with the Parent Chapter position. However, there was some concern that the bylaws be amended in order to clarify this position.

Publications Committee:

President Rohr led a discussion regarding procedures for accepting complete manuscripts for inclusion in the proceedings of annual chapter meetings. No decisions were reached but President-Elect Garry Lucas will review the matter further. David Franks stated that the Mississippi Dept. of Wildlife Conservation would assist in the preparation of the proceedings by providing printed covers and stapling materials. David Franks pointed out, however, that he was not the committee chairman as had been previously assumed.

Nominations Committee:

Chairman Tom Holman reported the efforts of the Nominations Committee (Committee Members: Scott Knight and Steve Ross). Following introductory remarks a call for nominations from the floor was made. A vote by ballot was made after nominations from the floor were closed. Donald Jackson was elected President-Elect and Mike Murphy was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Old Business:

A call was made for old business. Garry Lucas further explained the status of the Upper Yazoo Basin Resolution. Donald Jackson read the Chapter's Position Statement which was prepared as requested by the Governor's Special Action Committee on the Yazoo Basin Project in response to the mitigation plan(s). The position statement was voted on and approved as the updated resolution to be submitted to the Parent Chapter of AFS. Randy Robinette stressed that along with the position statement there should be mention that this paper was submitted to the Governor's Committee in October 1988. John Burris commented that the old resolution was acceptable except that now there is a mitigation plan and that the position paper addressed this plan.

New Business:

A call for new business produced the following items:

Item 1

Luther Knight said that a vote regarding Parent Society membership might not be needed if the bylaws of the Mississippi Chapter conform to the Parent Society policy. Randy Robinette called for a discussion. Dennis Riecke explained the issue further. Randy Robinette explained that only approximately 50% of the chapter members (nationwide) are members of the Parent Society. Local chapters are suppose to restrict voting, committee appointments and election of officers to persons who are members of the Parent Society. Dennis Riecke asked Randy Robinette to help define privileges of affiliated members.

Item 2

President Rohr read a request by the Sport Fishing Institute (SFI) for support of lobbying efforts to defend the integrity of the Wallop-Breaux Funds. The chapter membership voted to send SFI a check for \$50.00 to assist in these efforts.

Item 3

President Rohr asked for a motion to be made for sending a letter of appreciation to Al Agnew and Cedar Creek Publishers for his donation of artwork for chapter fund raising purposes. The motion was approved.

Item 4

President Rohr addressed the issue of salt water licenses in Mississippi. Mention was made of a standing chapter resolution on the subject. Jack Herring stressed that a combination license was preferred over a \$10.00 salt water license and that the legislative process still offers some limited possibility for achieving this end. Randy Robinette stated that the Excom Committee should stay abreast of the issue. However, Jack Herring said that the issue will probably be decided very soon. President Rohr agreed to work closely with Jack Herring in this regard.

Item 5

President-Elect Garry Lucas addressed fisheries on National Forest Waters. He stated that Senator Thad Cochran has been very active in enhancing support for developing these fisheries. Garry Lucas suggested that a letter of appreciation be written to Senator Cochran.

Item 6

Donald Jackson reviewed the new program in instream flow research being developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The program will be located at Auburn University and will service the entire Southeast. A resolution from Johnny Crance, leader of the program, was reviewed and approved by the membership. Appropriate letters of support will be written to congressional leaders from Mississippi.

Item 7

President-Elect Garry Lucas proposed that the 1990 meeting be held jointly with the Arkansas and Louisiana Chapters. Dennis Riecke and Donald Jackson will make the appropriate contacts to officers of those chapters. David Franks suggested that Greenville, MS would be an appropriate location in consideration of out-of-state travel restrictions. Bob Durborow volunteered to work out local arrangements for the meeting and offered the

Agricultural Experiment Station at Stoneville, Miss. as an alternative meeting site.

Item 8

Randy Robinette read a resolution commending Dr. Robert J. Muncy for his contributions to the profession of fisheries during his tenure with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Dr. Muncy plans to retire in April 1989. The resolution was passed by the chapter membership.

Item 9

President Rohr thanked the membership and committee members for their efforts during his tenure in office.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.