

**Midwest Association of
Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2009, 5:00 p.m. (CDT)
Blackhawk Room, Hotel Pere Marquette
Peoria, Illinois**

Call to Order – President Mike Conlin called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Quorum - Mike Conlin, Illinois; Joe Kramer, Kansas; Becky Humphries, Michigan; and Dave Schad, Minnesota; were present. Also present were Ollie Torgerson, Executive Secretary; Sheila Kemmis, Recording Secretary; and guest Dan Zekor, Missouri.

Agenda Review – Ollie – FYI - Possible legal wolf harvest, just want to be on record that we support that.

Approval of June 3, 2009 Executive Committee Minutes – *Becky Humphries moved to approve the minutes, Joe Kramer second. Approved.*

Financial Report – Joe – Are bigger and more complicated. (*Handed out 11-month Treasurer's Report*). Discussion on conference income and disbursements stated that we make about \$20,000 on conferences.

Midwest Law Clinics – Becky – Had a conference call with Legal Committee of Midwest, have one page summary to hand out during committee reports. Walked them through what we wanted and how to identify emerging issues and those who wanted to partner on internships. They felt it was timely and they pledged their support. The only meeting they had this year was a conference call. Michigan will host the Legal Committee meeting and use as continuing education with Michigan State (MSU). People from MSU law school will be here for report. Ollie – How many committee members were on the conference call? Becky – All of the states. Ollie – They lack a chair person and leadership. Becky – Discussed this with Carol and Michigan will chair for a while and organize the next meeting. Boone and Crockett are working with us on the funding. States will do in-kind services, but it is difficult for states to come up with money, but told them to contact partner organizations. This is a \$7 million commitment and the third project with MSU Endowment. They are a stay-on-course law school and will hire a program director for this to move it ahead even further. Looking at course curriculum now. Ollie – Who is coming from MSU? Becky – Michelle and Dan (don't know last names), Associate Professors at the University. They will be here tomorrow through Tuesday. Dan is an avid shooter and Michelle has experience in this type of program. I will bring copies to the full committee meeting.

Time Analysis and Year Comparisons – Ollie – Codes at bottom of the page (*went through what codes stand for*); nothing on grants for FY09, added ORC this year. Nothing different this year from last year. Prepared every year for performance appraisal and work plan. Mike –

Typically, president sends draft to ExCom and President sits down in September with Ollie, but I will not be here so we will do that in July. Ollie's contract ends one year from now and we need to decide on one or two years, need to negotiate on that. Ollie – With you leaving, we need to work on that. Mike - Asked Marc Miller, new Illinois DNR Director, to serve out my term and serve next year. No president for Indiana either. Ollie – Mitch Marcus is coming from Indiana, he is a research person. Glen assigned Wayne Bivans for next year for the conference. Will check with him and see where they are with selecting a new Fish and Wildlife Division Director.

2009 Meeting Report – Mike – Here we are; and everything is on schedule with a full agenda. Tried to keep expenses down where we could. Got a good turnout, about the same as last year in Colorado. Tomorrow you will enjoy the ride on the riverboat. Doug Graham and his son came down and they are going to take a bunch of photos and video and will be posting that on the website. They will also be going on a float barge where they will be shooting silver carp with a bow. Also, a meal will be served on the boat. Dave – Isn't there a carp barrier on the river? Mike – Way up stream near Chicago, an electrical barrier. It was supposed to take one year to build and it took seven. Need a permanent barrier, revitalized the old barrier to try to make it last longer. Testing on common carp with a radio tag; only has been one to make it over and it went through with a tug. We want to repel them, not knock them out and float them down the river. Looking at separation of the watersheds again, 100 years ago Chicago sent sewage down stream, but there is too much immerging diseases and invasive species.

Other Business

Pat Ruble drafted a letter on bio-fuels on federal lands, suggested it be sent to Jen Mock and Gary Taylor. House dealt with this yesterday or the day before. May want to rework letter for the Senate and may have to deal with this in the full meeting.

Maybe we need a resolution paper on wolf harvest. Minnesota and Michigan talking about limited wolf harvest. Becky – Michigan a year away from getting it delisted again. Ollie – Useful if we had some sort of position as 14 Midwest states and perhaps 50 states. Maybe the Furbearer Committee could do something on this. Joe – Yes, more red tape with wolves, but that makes sense; maybe something for next year. Mike – On record, it is the right thing to do. Dave – Is a resolution the best way to put it? Dan – Yes. Ollie – That would be formal. Becky – Work with the Western on that. Write something to pass at Midwest and Western next year, then at AFWA in 2010 in Michigan.

Next Meeting Date - The next meeting is Wednesday, July 29, 2:00 pm CDT.

Adjourn – *The meeting adjourned at 5:42 pm.*