



American Fisheries Society - Wisconsin Chapter

WI AFS 2024 Annual Business Meeting Agenda Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 4:30 PM

1. Recognition of Executive Committee, past presidents, and special guests (Raabe)
2. Establishment of a quorum (50 members) (Raabe/Shaw) 153 members present.
3. Call to order (Raabe)
4. **Distribution (prior to meeting) and approval of 2023 meeting minutes - Accept.**
5. Treasurer's Report (Bergman) – Went through the line items in the budget. Only items over budgeted amount was the increase in fee of the PO BOX to \$176 (\$56 more) and the increase in AFS membership to \$115 (\$25 more than budgeted). Thanked the raffle team and everyone for buying raffle tickets as the raffle is essential for all our student scholarships and opportunities.
6. Old Business
 - NCD update (Isermann) – New representative; attended the 2024 Mid-West Meeting; Hard getting a Quorum; \$10,000 in travel awards; Annual Meeting in Honolulu; NCD online store available for Chapters to sell at a broader scale, they are working on auditing programs (Hutton, etc.); 2025 AFS meeting in San Antonio Black Bass Symposium – call for research. Having discussion on do you need to be a member of AFS to vote on things, etc. looking into that.
7. Committee and Other Reports
 - Awards (Schumann / Pechacek) – Thanked Kristina for joining the team and all the judges; reminder to turn in the judging sheets.
 - Continuing Education (Mrnak / Sass) – Joe Mrnak is taking a break with thesis; Greg Sass and Max Wolter lead a workshop on leadership and public meetings on 1/23/2024, well attended 46-50 participants. Call for ideas for continuing education, bring them to Greg.
 - Membership (Rieth) – Tony reported that WI AFS has 288 member, 72 of these are new members and the majority of those are students. We have 96 students, 177 regular/professional, 9 retired, and 5 undefined.
 - Newsletter and Communication (Schmidt) – no updates
 - Raffle and Revenue (Gerbyshak) – Ticket sales up; All proceeds go to a good cause, help to move raffle tickets.
 - Resolutions / Environmental Issues (Seilheimer) – Nothing to report, no requests.
 - Scholarship (Paoli) – Presentation of scholarships and award winners – Katie, Jordan Weeks, Allen, Justin VanDeHey, Tammie Paoli
 - i. Joan Duffy Travel Award – 4 Applicants Ryan Bohlen
 - ii. Carroll Norden Memorial Scholarship – 4 Applicants Max Monfort
 - iii. Tim Kroeff Fisheries – 8 Applicants – Kayla Reed
 - iv. Richard Frie Memorial – Nicholas Jalocho
 - Student Affairs (Shaw) – 5 new students participated in the student-mentor program. Committee is **Holly**, Mike Seider, Josh Raabe, Kayla Reed, Stephanie Shaw – Need for student, chair, and professional.
 - Website (Eggold) - Open to ideas for updating, contact Brad.

- Student Subunits (presented during program)
 - NCD Committees
 - i. Urban and Community Fisheries (Schmidt)
 - ii. Walleye (Eslinger) – Summer meeting at Kemp, joint with the Centrarchid and Esocid – well attended; Lake Minocqua Session; good talks.
 - iii. Reservoirs (Nye) – Silent; discussion at Mid-West.
 - iv. Esocid (Weeks) – Summer meeting at Kemp; Esocid Committee is willing to reimburse for travel; Ryan Eastman received travel reimbursement.
 - v. Centrarchids (Feiner) – Quiet; new chair, summer meeting at Kemp, 2024 meeting at beaver island announcement coming soon, black bass, travel award trying to get it reinstated via t-shirt sales and chapter support, student travel award to mid-west (\$50-\$100) who work on centrarchids.
 - vi. Ictalurid (Brecka) – Midwest fish and wildlife, research grant (\$800)
 - vii. Rivers and Streams (Parks) – Radio silent, Moline IL March 28th, 2024. Trying to get operational procedure together.
 - Photo Fishing Contest (Wambach) – Gilly and Ryan Bohlen are the 2024 winners of Cornhole Tournament; Evan Sniadajewski is the 2023 photo fishing contest winner. Calvin Wolter, kids 2023 winner. Evan is taking over the photo contest from Brandon Wambach.
 - Fisheries Bootcamp (Sass) – 10-12 applicants; had to keep pushing back the weekend due to the long winter, 6 students from UWSP could attend, beginning of March 2024 there will be the announcement for the next spring bootcamp.
 - President Award – Given by Ben Heussner to Josh Raabe
8. President Installation – Stephanie escorted by Dan Dembkowski and Dan Isermann
9. New Business (Shaw)
- President Elect
 - i. David Schumann; No other nominations or self-nominations; approved.
 - Student Subunit Equipment Fund (Raabe)
 - i. Ted made a motion for discussion on the change in language of the standing document; Stephanie takes the vote – no Nays, all Is.
 - Social media – Bylaws; needs a 30-day notice for a vote; Change title to Communication and Social Media; Co-Chairs of the team would be Laura Schmidt and Kristina Pechacek; Kristina – Brandon Wambach will take care of Facebook; need more help reach out to Kristina or Laura if you want to be on the committee; update on platform. We have to follow policy – Change name of Committee and drop the Newsletter. Meeting notes, budget, and summary of the meeting can be posted on webpage. Any information lost with Newsletter? Lori Tate - Have a Jobs Thread with our Facebook Account.
 - Bylaw updates
 - i. Add UW-Lacrosse officially to the Bylaws; Vote to come by email.
 - Lawrence Eslinger made a motion to move down from Walleye Technical Team Meeting and pass the torch to Colin Dassow; Colin accepted, approved/
 - Bobby Davis is the new Student Affairs Chair – still looking for 1 student and 1 professional.
 - Proposed budget and approval – Lori Tate made a motion and Brandon Wambach 2nd.

- i. Conversation about the costs to travel to Hawaii. Should be fine.
 - ii. Stephanie called - all Is, no Nays.
 - iii. Put the Midwest funds into an investment account.
 - iv. Need to start think of ways to bring more income.
- WI AFS logo contest – Announced tomorrow at lunch. Vote by 10am.
 - WI AFS long term plan – Tony Reith provided thoughts on long-range plans, in the shared file and on our website, check-out and bring ideas to Steph or Josh.
 - Annual Meeting Arrangement (Shaw / Schumann) – Explore the Lacrosse option.
 - Non-game fish workshops – Greg Seegert is willing to handle a non-gamefish workshop if interest.
10. Call for Adjournment – 1st John Kubisiak and Greg Sass 2nd (6:08PM)

After the Meeting

- The winning logo was designed and created by Kylie Ganther. Kylie is a graphic design student at UW-Stout. I got connected with her through the [Flow Project with Water@UW](#), which pairs art undergraduate students in the UW system with water professionals from across the state to create art inspired by water. Here is a website that highlights some of her work: https://www.behance.net/kylieganther?locale=en_US. – Paul Frater

Dave Schumann and Kristina Pechacek announced the winners after lunch on 01/25/2024.

- Steve Yeo Best Paper – Quinnlan Smith
- Steve Serns Best Paper – Dray Carl
- Best Poster – Zachary Locklear
- John Lyons Best Speed Talk – Ryan Eastman

