

Approved

Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited
Winter Council Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2007

Attendees: Chris Radke, David Smith, Kurt Brauer, Shawn Hagan, Ed Roden, Josh Butzin, Kimberly Wetton, Carl Hueter, Pat Kochanny, Pat Doyle, Bob Kren, Dave Smethurst, Mike Moran, Dan Zywocki, Mike Slater, Jeff Alandt, Jim Rutledge, Mark Rais, Mike Lagowski, James Decker, Bill Fernandez, Ed Hoover, Dick Augustine, Robb Smith, Jeff Raphelson, Denny Douglas, Ron Hamilton, Patrick Hughes, Michael Knag, Chad Brown, Ed Zebrowski, Paul Eberhardt, Doug Miller, Tony Catania.

Guests: David Rogers (TUNA), Amy Beyer (CRA), Mark Johnson (CRA), Duncan Blair (TUNA), Squeak Smith (TUNA),

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Kochanny at 9:02 a.m.
2. Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2007 approved. Motion passed (Hoover, Koss). See Exhibit 1.
3. Mark Johnson and Amy Beyer of Conservation Resource Alliance gave a presentation on the work on road-stream crossings CRA has been undertaking. CRA is establishing a database of crossings, which includes 3,500 "problem sites". It is also working on sand traps and small dam removal. See Exhibits 2 and 3.
4. Duncan Blair and Dave Rogers (both with TUNA) gave a presentation on the revised MCTU Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan Committee (Duncan Blair, Dave Rogers, Pat Kochanny, Kimberly Wetton, Ed Roden, Ed Zebrowski, Kurt Brauer, Chris Radke, Dave Smith, Robb Smith and Dave Smethurst) met on May 30 to update the Strategic Plan. Duncan outlined how strongly and well run the Council is, and that it met a significant number of the items set forth in its strategic plan. The Michigan Council is "well above average" in relation to other councils. A copy of the Draft Strategic Plan is attached as Exhibit 4.
5. Squeak Smith gave a presentation on fundraising. He focused on "leveraging" dollars for large projects. "Rolling rocks" constitutes a long-term effort, with minimal return because Mother Nature is a significant problem. He suggested not taking a Band-Aid approach. Rather, raise a significant amount of funds to have the greatest conservation impact. The Farm Bill should be a rich source of matching funds. EPA Section 319 Grants and RC&D funding are good sources as well.
6. Pat Kochanny provided the Council with an overview of the Conservation Summit held in Lansing. The focus was on the state of conservation efforts in Michigan. The Summit was sponsored by The Nature Conservancy, Michigan United Conservation Clubs and the Heart of the Lakes. The proposal is to forge a coalition of user groups to bolster conservation efforts statewide.
7. Dave Smethurst provided an update on the Blue Lakes matter. He noted that the project may stop, because Aurora is in negotiations with the state to exchange

- mineral rights for those in another location. Kochanny will draft a letter to be sent to the MDEQ and DNR Directors.
8. Carl Hueter provided an update on the 50th Anniversary Celebration. The US Postal Service is going to print 50th Anniversary TU stamps. Each chapter is encouraged to provide at least six people to assist with the celebration. Don't let this one go by: call Carl Hueter to sign up to assist. His number is (734) 665-7610. The fundraising banquet will be held on August 22, 2009. From August 15-29 there will be a special two-week fishing license. A CD will be delivered to all 150,000 members to announce the event.
 9. Carl Hueter provided an update on the MDEQ's proposed small dam removal regulations. He will review the proposed rules and provide comments on behalf of the Council.
 10. Dick Augustine gave a presentation on Salmon in the Classroom. The MDEQ apparently has not been as helpful as it could be in ensuring that all interested parties have permits.
 11. Kimberly Wetton and Pat Kochanny updated the Council on the status of the revised Strategic Plan.
 12. Chris Radke provided an update on the Michigan State scholarship. This year's scholarship was awarded to Mart Wilkins.

Motion by Walters, seconded by Doyle, to grant a scholarship in the amount of \$500 per year going forward to MSU, to be awarded by the college. Passed unanimously.

13. Pat Kochanny provided an update on the Trout Stamp program. Kelly Smith wants to do more work. Pat suggested building a coalition of TU, FFF and MFFC to move the matter forward. Chad Brown offered to help Pat move the program forward.
14. Committee Reports
15.
 - a. Communications/Ed Zebroski: website passwords have been changed to provide security. Tony Catania will ask Ron Peckens to get the ownership of the website turned over to MCTU. Ed will publish press releases, and will link them to the website. Ed will solicit bids for Public Relations firms to assist with MCTU's image.

Motion by Hueter, seconded by Hamilton, to move to six issues of Michigan Trout per year. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Roden, seconded by Fernandez, to join the Michigan Press Association at a cost of approximately \$1,500 per year. Motion passed. Tony Catania (Paul H. Young) opposed.

Ed's report is attached as Exhibit 5.

- b. Education/Dick Augustine: Dick Augustine wants to approach the Drain Commissioners to discuss coldwater issues. Dick also reported that the fly-fishing school at Ranch Rudolf was filled.
- c. Membership/OPEN: Mark Green has resigned. No report was given.
- d. Finance/Ed Roden: The forensic audits have not yet been completed. All information has been provided to Yeo and Yeo. Chris Radke will follow up and get the audits to the audit committee for review. There has been no change in the budget (attached as Exhibit 6).

Motion by Smethurst, seconded by Walters, to discontinue MCTU's participation in EarthShare. Passed unanimously.

Chris Radke is looking for a successor for the Treasurer position. The committee is also looking for members to assist with the management of the Council.

Dave Smethurst suggested that the Council contract for accounting services. The matter was tasked to the Finance Committee.

Motion by Hueter, seconded by Zebrowski, to adopt the Credit Card Policy attached as Exhibit 7. Passed unanimously.

- e. Conservation/Kurt Brauer: Kurt Brauer provided an update on the proposed Nestle withdrawal. The Conservation Committee Report is attached as Exhibit 8. The report of MCTU's consultant is attached as Exhibit 9. MCTU's letter to Brant Fisher opposing the project is attached as Exhibit 10.

Motion by Smethurst, seconded by Hughes, to authorize negotiations by Executive Committee with Nestle re course of action outlined in Exhibit 1 to the attached Conservation Committee Report (Exhibit 8). Friendly amendment that anything agreed to is limited to this project and that the Executive Committee be authorized to conduct the negotiations. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Douglas, seconded by Eberhart, to extend meeting by one hour. Passed unanimously.

Kurt Brauer and Dave Smethurst provided an update on the proposed Kennecott mine. A proposed position statement on Kennecott is attached as Exhibit 11.

Motion by Walters, seconded by Fernandez, for Pat Kochanny to prepare a letter in opposition to the mine and send it to the MDEQ and MDNR. (Motion to call the question and stop debate passed unanimously.) Passed unanimously.

16. Kimberly Clark gave the report of the Hiring Committee. It has received and reviewed 28 applications. It will interview 8 by phone and 3 in person. The committee is looking to hire the new Executive Director by mid-May. The salary/benefits package is approximately \$75,000.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Hoover, to allow the Executive Committee flexibility in negotiating the salary/benefits package. Passed unanimously.

Dave Smethurst suggested that an allowance be made for an end-of-year bonus, if it is earned. The Finance Committee will work on a process for evaluating bonus eligibility.

Dave Smith supported the motion, but suggested that it would be unwise to increase the salary at this time. He also stated that the ED salary should be reviewed regularly.

17. Pat Kochanny informed the Council that we are close to selling the truck. He has terminated the lease.
18. Mike Slater provided an update on TUNA's proposed access policy. The negotiation of the policy has been contentious. Staff, the NLC and the Board of Trustees has been working on a policy for several years. Access continues to get more difficult, particularly in western states (Montana). MCTU provided a letter to TUNA, outlining why the access policy as negotiated was critical to the mission of TU, and that the Board of Trustees had no business changing the policy without consulting membership. Jan Allard (TU BOT) called Hueter to let him know that MCTU's letter had a great, positive impact on the BOT's decision to approve the policy that had been previously negotiated. Carl observed that we should not let TUNA forget who runs the organization.
19. The Mason-Griffiths Founders Chapter requested an item from the Barbless Hook. Dave Smethurst stated that no items should be given to any chapter unless MCTU gets 100% of the proceeds of the sale of the item. Chad Brown stated that the BH items belong back at the BH, and that the MGFC could arrange to sell them to the owners. He stated that the proceeds would go back to the Council.

Motion by Smethurst, seconded by Hughes, to dispose of the assets of the Barbless Hook in a manner that maximizes the Executive Director fund. A show of hands was required, and the motion passed 16-10.

Draft June 23, 2007

20. Dick Augustine is helping with Reeling and Healing Midwest in August. Contact him or Pat Kochanny if you wish to assist.
21. The meeting adjourned at 4:15.