



NORTH DAKOTA SPORTFISHING CONGRESS  
BOARD MEETING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2010  
Game & Fish Department, Jamestown, ND

Members Present: President Clark Williams; Past President Duaine Ash; Vice President Lynn Schueter; Treasurer Rick Eagleson; Board members Mike Anderson, Ed Dosch, Paul Haug and; Members Ralph Gardner, Paul Haug, Cliff and Kay Herrick, Nathan Selchert, Ed Sweeney. Others Present: Greg Power and Gene Van Eeckhout, G&F; and Executive Secretary Marie Hoerner.

- Call to Order – President Clark Williams called the meeting to order. Everyone introduced themselves.
- The minutes of April 10, 2010 were approved as distributed. Motion by Lynn Schueter and seconded by Duane Ash.
- Treasurer Rick Eagleson distributed the “Treasurer’s Report” which revealed the income and expenses as of November 20, 2010, as well as a financial report from the April fundraiser.
- Secretary Marie Hoerner noted that all but one of the club memberships is paid through April 2011 and that the number of individual paid members remains about the same as past years. We would like to see more individuals on our mailing list pay the \$5 dues.
- Paul Haug reported there were no recommendations for change to the NSDFC By Laws, but mentioned that a copy of the By Laws is available on the NDSFC website. Members are asked to let President Clark Williams or Paul know if you have any recommendations.
- Game and Fish Issues: Greg Power, Fisheries Division Chief – Power mentioned that nationally fishing licenses increased slightly, however, fishing licenses are not increasing at the same rate as population growth. On a statewide basis, license sales have been good as has been fishing ... and should only get better. The Game & Fish Department is managing the highest number of water bodies ever Power said the Department’s short-term challenges are the water development projects – i.e. Fargo diversion, Devils Lake outlet. Water development in the oil development area has issues to resolve. He said that Williston has a sportsmen’s club which would be a possibility for the NDSFC to be engaged in. Power also said that a long-term challenge of the G&F has been water quality, and statewide (including Stutsman County) has lost a lot of CRP acres over the years.

Power said that at the April 2010 NDSFC meeting, Terry Fleck reported on “MRAPS” to reauthorize the seven purposes of managing water. He said that right now there is no budget after this year and it is about a five-year project, and that it’s hard to know with the changes in Congress whether the money will be available.

Garrison Hatchery had another outstanding year, with close to yet another record year of production. Requests next year for the hatcheries will be as demanding as this past year. Landowner easements play a major role in creating fisheries across the state and the landowners have been good to work with.

Regarding upcoming legislative session, Greg Power and Director Terry Steinwand have not heard anything about issues coming up. Power commented that no news is probably good news, and that the G&F is not proposing anything for the 2011 session. Boat ramps statewide have been a real challenge over the years, but they are starting to get caught up. All the ramps for the Missouri River System are in pretty good shape. The Rifle Range will be an expensive fix and the G&F is dealing with a number of access issues in Devils Lake, and the G&F is likely about \$2 million short to take care of these issues. Power said they are hoping to get something going at Pelican Lake next year, but it will be an expensive project.

Power said it's been a quiet summer for the G&F, even with the administrative and live well rule changes. Tournaments have been quiet, while bait vendors is a time consuming issue. He reported there have been more Salmon whoppers caught this year, and cold water forage in Sakakawea is coming back. They stocked 4 million walleye in Sakakawea but the number of young-of-year caught this fall was disappointing. Smelt numbers are better, but still are not great. Greg mentioned that Paul Haug and the FM Muskies helped pay for Muskie production stocking in New Johns and Red Willow.

- Gene Van Eeckhout of the Game & Fish Department in Jamestown said there could be some fairly good crappie fishing this winter. Spiritwood Lake is still overflowing and everything is still full. He said they didn't catch any Zander in their summer work, but they have been reproducing.
- President Clark Williams mentioned that the primary purpose of being active during the legislative session is to support the fisheries and the ND Game & Fish Department, which support our interests. He said that Past President Duaine Ash has been the NDSFC lobbyist for the last three sessions. Duaine said that maybe we shouldn't have a contracted lobbyist if there are no known issues. Greg Power asked if Duaine's presence at the legislature, even though there are no issues, makes a difference in upcoming legislation. Clark feels there is a need to have our lobbyist presence during the legislative session. He said that for the last session, Duaine was paid about \$6,600, which was mainly for expenses and not fees. Lynn Schlueter made a motion to have a base amount for lobbying expenses for Duaine Ash of \$7,500 and then come back if it exceeds that amount. The motion was seconded by Ralph Gardner and approved.
- Duaine Ash asked if the NDSFC should get involved in the Williston water issues. President Clark Williams said if G&F has a problem with Williston, then we should get involved.
- 2011 Fundraiser – Mike Anderson confirmed the date of April 9 for the 2011 NDSFC fundraiser and that the location will again be held at the Mandan Eagles Club. Mike said he will be unable to attend the fundraiser and he will need help with his responsibilities. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Duaine Ash to again have the gun raffle, second by Paul Haug and passed. Tickets will be pre-sold in the same manner using the same guns as in past years. Mike Anderson will work with Scheels on getting a permit for the gun raffle. Mike also recommends that we find a focal point in each community to obtain tickets for the gun raffle. It was agreed that we will also have an item for a \$50 ticket purchase during the fundraiser. Mike and Marie Hoerner will find the item.
- The NDSFC Annual Meeting will be held the morning of Saturday, April 9, 2011, prior to the fundraiser at the Mandan Eagles Club. Elections for President (Clark Williams, Treasurer (Rick Eagleson), and Board members (Don Baasch, Mike Anderson and Dave Bement) will be made at

during the meeting. The Nomination Committee consisting of President Clark Williams, Past President Duaine Ash and at-large appointed member Ed Sweeney will make recommendations for these positions. Speakers for Annual Meeting – Clark said he will again solicit legislators, G&F and any others out of the ordinary. Greg Power suggested having the new water engineer Todd Sandoo as the State Water Commission state engineer, and the new US Corps of Engineer representative, Linda Phelps, who replaced Phil Brown, on our April meeting agenda.

- The next newsletter is tentative scheduled to go out in early January, before the legislative session gets going. President William will solicit information from the clubs.
- Marie Hoerner has updated the Lake Region Anglers Association website (part of the NDSFC website @ [NDSportfishingCongress.org](http://NDSportfishingCongress.org)). Please let Marie know if you'd like your club's website updated.
- E-Tree: [shadrap@gondtc.com](mailto:shadrap@gondtc.com) – President Clark Williams has an e-mail tree to get information out quickly and get feedback from members, especially during the legislative session. Get your email to Clark if you'd like to be included in his e-mail tree, as he is working on updating his list. You don't need to be a member of the NDSFC. Marie will provide Clark with the emails submitted with individual member dues.
- ANS Committee Representative – Clark Williams has agreed to continue serving as the NDSFC ANS representative, which is a two-year term. Meetings are held via conference call about quarterly, and a meeting in person annually. A motion was made by Duaine Ash, seconded by Lynn Schlueter and passed to have Clark continue representing the NDSFC as our ANS Committee representative.
- ANS Update – The Loma Project was completed – congratulations to Lynn Schlueter. It took six years to complete the approximately \$65,000 project, which dealt with keeping carp out of the Devils Lake. Lynn reported that North Dakota is fortunate that we don't have the ANS problems like the eastern and southern states. The anglers, NDSFC and G&F need to keep educating the anglers and public of this problem. Once the problem is here, it's not going to go away.
- Other Matters – Greg Power mentioned there is one Advisory Board member that got appointed to the House (Richard Anderson from Willow City).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourn at 11:50 a.m.

Date Submitted: November 27, 2010

Submitted By: Marie Hoerner, Secretary