

**AGENDA**  
**2021 Summer EXCOM Business Meeting**  
**August 26th, 2021 (11:00am)**  
**Skinny J's, 2235 Dave Ward Dr, Conway, AR**

**Welcome and Introductions** – JJ Gladden

Attendees:

- Past President – Justin Homan
- President – JJ Gladden
- President Elect – Christy Graham
- Treasurer – Micah Tindall
- Secretary – Brie Olsen
- Jordan Lindaman – Activities and Raffle Committee
- Education Liaison – Chelsea Tucker
- Newsletter Editor – Jessica Feltz
- Ginny Adams – UCA subchapter
- Ryne Lehman – UCA subchapter

**Secretary's Report** – Brie Olsen

- Spring EXCOM Meeting Minutes have been posted on the website
- The Change of Officers form has been updated for the parent chapter

**Treasurer's Report** – Micah Tindall

| ARAFS – 2021 EXCOM Treasurer's Report<br>Covering 03/31/2021 – 8/26/2021 |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Balance Brought Forward (03/31/2021):</b>                             | <b>\$33,625.77</b> |
| <b>INCOME</b>  |                    |
| Interest (Simmons Bank), Nov 2020- March 2021                            | \$26.11            |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>\$26.11</b>     |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>  | <b>\$33,651.88</b> |
| <b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>   |                    |
| Wild Apricot Dues  | \$540.00           |
| Tax Preparation (Little, <u>Shaneyfelt</u> , Marshall)                   | \$75.00            |
| Bank Fees  | \$1.63             |
| Science Fair Awards  | \$100.00           |
| AFS Reimbursements   | \$150.00           |
| EXCOM Meeting  | \$73.22            |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>   | <b>\$939.85</b>    |
| <b>Balance as of August 26, 2021:</b>                                    | <b>\$32,712.03</b> |
| <i>Prepared by Micah Tindall</i>   |                    |

- The only transactions of note were WildApricot payment and reimbursement.
- WildApricot is going up \$110 May of next year
- JJ Gladden made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Justin Homan seconded. All were in favor.

### **Appointed Officer Reports**

- Newsletter – Jessica Feltz
  - The spring newsletter was sent out to the Chapter
  - The fall newsletter is usually the initial announcement for the meeting. Jessica's goal is to have it out before Thanksgiving. Subunit reports likely won't be added due to the difficulty of getting responses. Jessica is having difficulty in finding content after soliciting to the Chapter and will be reaching out directly to individuals.
  - One member suggested Dustin Lynch who recently published several crayfish article for the Heritage Commission
  - Jessica still wants to put something interactive in the newsletter and provide prizes to increase readership.
- Webmaster – Dylan Hann
  - Dylan was not present, but provided a report to JJ. The 'Brag board' which was discussed during the Spring EXCOM meeting was created on the forum. Dylan asked that EXCOM take a look at it and see if it's what we want to go forward with. EXCOM should lead the way with the posts.
  - EXCOM discussed some sort of award associated with the Brag board, such as the best fish of the year. Fish collected while sampling are allowed, but won't contribute to the prize.

### **Committee Reports**

- Nominating and Awards Committee – Justin Homan
  - There have been no nominations for the Joe Hogan or Robert Jenkins awards yet.
  - EXCOM was encouraged to think about replacements for Secretary and President Elect.
  - One suggestion for President Elect was Dustin Lynch as he's been Secretary of the Chapter.
  - EXCOM would like to continue to make an effort to find people to contact outside of AGFC for committee nominations. Justin will reach out to potential nominees.
  - Sending out more emails to members was discussed as a way to remind everyone about nominations.
  - A deadline for nominations and awards is the first of the year so they can be presented during the Chapter meeting in Feb.
  - Meeting date is President's Day week  
Feb - 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
- Activities and Raffle Committee – Jordan Lindaman
  - The bream fishing contest is postponed until further notice, but Jordan is looking for event or fundraising ideas.
  - Some suggestions were:
    - hosting a conservation social hour
    - organizing a fishing trip
    - Coordinating an event with the Arkansas Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
    - Chapter stream clean-up and float

- Host an event with Flyway Brewery
  - Conduct Microfishing tournaments – wouldn't have to restrict people to boats or taking a lot of time out for a fishing trip
- The group was in agreement that they would like to do things with members to connect people across the state
- Environmental Affairs Committee –There is no current Environmental Affairs Committee member. We need a nomination for this position.
- Education Liaison Committee – Chelsea Tucker
  - University of Arkansas sent updated contact info
    - One of the service activities included stroll the tolls, which happened in July 2019
    - Zach Zbinden was awarded Jimmy Pigg scholarship in 2020
    - Adrian Ingram – outstanding student
    - Covid has caused a lack of subunit activities. However, they have been able to grow their membership to 27 members.
    - Seven of their members attended member SDAFS in 2020, and one member attended the 2019 National meeting in Reno.
  - Arkansas State University has seen a lot of turn over, but they are trying to get it restarted
  - UCA - Last November several members attended the virtual Southeastern Fishes Council meeting, where 5 students won presentation awards. All of the Lightning talk awards were given to UCA as well as the Best Undergrad. Oral Presentation. Some of the other activities included:
    - Chapter camping and hiking events.
    - Presentations and films related to fishing outside.
    - Films related to films and fishing.
    - Continued to hold virtual meetings
    - Helped judge the state science fair, which was all virtual.
    - Established an aquarium with educational materials.
  - Several people signed up for the subchapter this year
  - Elections will be held in 2 weeks.
  - Chelsea would like to conduct a virtual subunit meeting, but Ginny suggested holding it after the elections.
  - Chelsea has sent out Doodle poll for when to meet, and is thinking about the end of September or beginning of October. However, Chelsea mentioned that the contacts she has may be out of date. She asked that a couple members of EXCOM be present, which the rest of the group was in agreement on.
  - The group is still in favor of finding ways to encourage students to be more active in EXCOM, such as limiting socials if their subunits are not represented at EXCOM meetings/events.
  - Chelsea has yet to hear from UAPB and just got the contact for a new professor at Tech., Sue Colvin

Ginny mentioned that it could be that many students and professors may be overwhelmed since the pandemic has been causing a lot of additional work. Jessica proposed reaching out to instructors regarding having a few minutes to talk to the class about the importance of AFS. She also mentioned that we need to have more activities to incentivize activism.

- In general, the group agrees that it needs to dedicate more time to students and recommended several group of the EXCOM should try to be on the virtual call to get input from subunits.

### Ad-hoc Committees

- 2020 SDAFS Profits- Sean Lusk

#### Arkansas AFS Ad Hoc Spending Committee Recommendation for Surplus Funds from SDAFS 2020 Sean Lusk – Ad Hoc Spending Committee Chair

After careful consideration, the Ad Hoc spending committee is recommending the proceeds from the 2020 SDAFS meeting (\$10,000) be used to establish a small Arkansas AFS scholarship.

By working with a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones (Tommy Womack, Hot Springs) we can expect the invested \$10,000 to grow by between \$550 and \$750 annually. After fees, we would be able to offer ~\$400-\$650 worth of scholarships (initially). Based on the historical performance of these types of investments we could offer larger scholarships in the not so distant future.

The fee associated with this type of investment is 1.15%, charged monthly to the account and reflected monthly on the statement. This is a largely discounted fee that Edward Jones is willing to offer because we are a conservation organization (Tommy Womack is a big time duck hunter). There are no unexpected costs unless the account falls below \$5k, then the fee reverts to \$10/mo.

Having these funds invested will not jeopardize the 501c3 status of the Arkansas AFS Chapter as long as these funds are used exclusively for the scholarship. It may be beneficial to write in our bylaws that these funds can only be used to fund scholarships for Arkansas students.

Funds from this account can be withdrawn at any time (no associated charges) and either directly deposited into the Arkansas AFS account (~3 days) or via check (7-10 days).

This investment will be exposed to some degree of risk as this is the stock market. If there is interest, I can provide more detail into the investment strategy and Tommy Womack is more than willing to set up a virtual meeting with us to answer any questions.

If the EXCOM decides to pursue this scholarship opportunity, it is recommended that someone be appointed to running this scholarship. This person will be required to meet once annually with an advisor at Edward Jones to discuss the performance of the account and any recommended changes. This person will also need to advertise the scholarship, sort through applications, and select a deserving student.

- A chapter vote will need to be conducted to move forward with this decision.
- The Treasurer can take the responsibility of the financial aspect but either the nomination or awards committee should handle granting the scholarship. EXCOM briefly discussed conditions for awarding the scholarship such as being an active member of the society or having a threshold for GPA.
- EXCOM discussed creating a committee to review candidates for the scholarship, but decided that it might be best to have EXCOM review the application and act as the scholarship committee.
- JJ recommended having Sean come in and present the idea with more details before sending out to the Chapter for a vote.

- Justin reminded the group that there is language built into the bylaws regarding funding mechanisms for travel scholarships that could translate to the proposed Arkansas AFS Scholarship. .

### **Student Subunit Reports**

- See Education Liaison Committee report.

### **Old Business**

- Workshop Planning – There will be no workshop in the fall. Ideas regarding workshops for the next meeting are welcome. One idea was to contact Dustin Lynch given the success with the minnows workshop during the 2019 meeting in Hot Springs.
  - Jessica sent out a poll for the Chapter to see what workshop is of most interest and results are forthcoming.
- Student Volunteer page – EXCOM is still interested in creating a student volunteer page on the website, but the virtual subunit meeting may be a good place to gauge interest from the potential users.
- Changes to Wild Apricot Subscription – see Treasurers Report
  - Each year we will want to explore our options, but WildApricot provides the services we need in one place at a relatively good price (when compared to the cost of each service taken separately). However, prices have increased each year.

### **New Business**

- 2022 Chapter Meeting
  - Northwest Arkansas is more than likely going to be the location for the meeting.
  - There are several locations in consideration for the meeting including: The Embassy/Convention Center in Rogers, Fayetteville Town Center/The Graduate Hotel.
  - The Embassy is only offering 20 rooms at the government rate, which may be difficult for our members. JJ proposed looping Ben Batten into the discussion. The Embassy is also offering a light social in the package for Wednesday night. That could allow for attendees to get dinner on their own and the grand social on Thursday night.
  - Springdale nature center is still an option and is reserved for the AFS meeting, but it's not close to a hotel.
- Environmental Affairs Committee Chair – we are still in need of someone to fill this position.
- Arkansas Chapter AFS Subunits - See Education Liaison Committee report.