

**SOUTH HAVEN STEELHEADERS
MEETING MINUTES
South Haven Moose Club**

Date: November 19, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Antonson, Burr, Chapman, Dehn, Foster, Keebler, Mills, Morris

Number of members present: 30

Number of guests present: 1

Call to Order: the meeting was called to order by Keebler at 7:05pm.

Prior to the business meeting, Fire Chief Ron Wise provided a brief talk and demonstration of the new water rescue equipment that the department has purchased with the help of a Steelheaders donation. It was very informative and he responded to questions from the members about lifeguards, red warning flags on the beaches, etc.

I. Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report for October was read. *Motion by Mills, second by Antonson, to approve the report. Passed.*

II Treasurer's Report: Chapman provided a detailed report on income and expenses from October 15th thru today. *Motion by Dehn, second by Morris, to approve the report. Passed.* Chapman reported to the membership on the progress of investing scholarship funds; more later. Chapman also noted that since 2004, our Chapter has donated just over \$13,000 to local causes and student scholarships.

III. Correspondence:

A. Rachael Torp: we received a letter of thanks from Rachael for the scholarship she received, which she used for books and supplies. She gave the Chapter a little update on her studies and interest in natural resources and fisheries. Chapman then added that his daughter, who also received a scholarship, has changed her major to Fisheries and Wildlife, and she may be doing an internship at the DNR office in Plainwell.

B. City of South Haven: We received a letter of thanks from Brian Dissette for our donation to help South Haven Area Emergency Services with the purchase of new life-saving water rescue equipment.

IV. Old Business:

A. Weigh-in Scales: Keebler said we will be getting new scales which Filbrandt secured for us in the first of the new year. They will be at Pyle's Porthole, which is the official weigh-in site starting January 1st. Keebler has a stand which may be used for the new scales.

B. Fish Boil Pots: all pots are now stored at Super's campground. Keebler and Steinmiller have keys to access them if needed.

C. 2009 Banquet: forms and money should be sent to Keebler. If folks need extra sign-up sheets, Keebler has them.

D. Fishing Wall Ladder: Ed Reed did paint the ladder; it stands out nicely with the new bright color.

V. New Business:

- A. River Tournament:** The tournament will be held on November 28th. Participants should meet at the River Bend Boat Club at 7:00am; fishing is from 7:30-12:30. It is open to the public; Dick Frazier is in charge. The entry fee is \$10 per person whether fishing from a boat, fishing dock or riverbank. Registration can be done at Pyle's.
- B. Newspaper Article:** Keebler shared a news clipping he got from Steinmiller reporting that 35 years ago today, Foster caught an 18 pound, 11 ounce steelhead in the Black River right in front of the River Bend Boat Club. It was the largest to that date. Ironically, Dick Rusin caught the previous largest steelhead at 17 pounds, 14 ounces.
- C. MSSFA Report:** Foster provided highlights of the last two state meetings, in September and November. The state has proposed increasing the membership dues from \$25 to \$30 per year. The last increase was in 1998. Members were generally in favor of doing a \$5 increase rather than having each Chapter assessed a per-member fee. The cost of the increase is about the price of one fishing lure. Discussion also followed about changing our membership renewal year from the date a member joins to a January-December membership year. Members were polled and no one was against making the change, so the Board will work on this and come back with a process to make the switch; at other Chapters, it has taken a two-year period to phase it in.
- D. December Meeting:** it was decided to cancel the regular December meeting since the banquet is being held on December 5th.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion by Mills, second by Morris, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Foster, Secretary