

MSSFA State Board Meeting
MUCC Headquarters, Lansing
May 24, 2006
Minutes

President Rick Balabon brought the meeting to order at 7:00pm. A 13 -member quorum was present.

Presidents' Report (Balabon)... reported on the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission meeting. Joint session subjects included: sea lamprey control update; cormorant update; trends in zooplankton, prey abundance, and invasive species; status of Lake Trout restoration; and a forum on the role of Steelhead in fish communities throughout the Great Lakes. Visit <http://www.glfc.org> for more information on these meetings.

Letters and Communications (Balabon)... A letter was received from Franks' Bait & Tackle in White Rock (thumb area) detailing how depressed the fishing industry is on Lake Huron. Their shop and many others are closing the doors.

Motion (Schultz) to approve the minutes as presented... Second (Saladine)... passed.

Financial Report (Haddad)... YTD income, YTD expenses , Balance . **Motion** (Saladine) to accept financial report as presented... Second (Sickon)... passed.

Old Business

1. Membership (Hoort, Haddad)... 31 new members have joined MSSFA through the state website during March and April. Each members expiration date is located on the address label of their state newspaper and Steve emphasized that local chapters should bring that to their members attention.
2. BY-Laws Changes (Haddad)...the final changes will be mailed to the local chapters (5/28/06).

New Business

1. Strategic Planning Committee Report... a "secure" chat-room feature is being researched as a communications venue for the various committees. Committees included are: Finance; Legislative; Membership; DNR; Communications; Stream; It Pays to Belong; Strategic Planning.

Legislative Report (Marcel)...the hot button issue this year will be getting the "Restricted Funds" amendment onto the November statewide ballot.

Executive Directors Report (Pelt)...Alpena area Tribes have agreed to pull their nets from (6/1/06 to 9/1/06). A tentative meeting with DNR fisheries officials is scheduled for (6/19/2006).

DNR Committee Reports

1. Lake Michigan (Pilara)...Indiana will stock 600,000 fall fingerlings in the St. Joseph River to offset an interruption of spring yearling plantings resulting from their hatchery reconstruction project. Survival rate of fall fingerlings is about 33% of spring yearlings. Indiana will stock 90,000 coho in 2006 instead of 240,000; again due to hatchery reconstruction. Michigan hatcheries are phasing out Seeforelan browns in favor of Gilcrest browns. CWT fish marking funding may be in jeopardy due to severe DNR budget issues.
2. Lake Huron (Merckel)... Upper peninsula and walleye interest groups have been added to the committee. The plants in the thumb are mainly brown trout and steelhead. Some local net pen raised Chinook will soon be released.

Motion (Saladine) to adjourn at 9:15 pm... Second (Sickon)...passed.

Respectfully yours,
Gerald Sickon (MSSFA Secretary)