

**MSSFA State Board Meeting
MUCC Headquarters, Lansing
September 27, 2006
Minutes**

President Rick Balabon brought the meeting to order at 7:15pm. A 16-member quorum was present.

Presidents' Report (Balabon)... Joe Foster was introduced as the State Representative for the South Haven chapter.

Motion (Plekker) to accept the minutes as presented... Second (Nowicki)... passed.

Financial Report (Haddad)... YTD revenue, YTD expenses , Total balance . **Motion** (Sickon) to accept report as presented... Second (Saladine)... passed.

Letters & Communications (Balabon)...The Coast Guard has mailed maps to MSSFA that identify the live fire exercise zones in the Great Lakes.

Old Business

1. Membership (Haddad)...
2. Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council... The annual membership fee is due. **Motion** (Pilara) to renew membership at the cost of \$75.00... Second (Hoort)... passed.

New Business

1. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting (Balabon)... Meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm, October 18, 2006 at MUCC Headquarters.
2. Contract Renewal & Purchase Agreement (Balabon)... **Motion** (Merckel) to continue to approve of the agreement made in 2002 to employ Andy Pelt as Executive Director of the MSSFA and to continue the purchasing of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing News through December 31, 2007...Second (Saladine)... passed.

Legislative Report (Merckel)... The 2005 legislature passed a bill that would assess a (\$5000.00 to \$12,000.00) fine on any inland lakes boater that removes exotic weeds from a lake. It is not clear whether the legislature wants to keep the exotic weeds in the inland lakes, or if their intention is to penalize those that would spread the weeds to other lakes. Funding for enforcement of this law has not been determined.

Executive Directors Report (Pelt)... The Lake Michigan Advisory Committee meeting was one of the best attended in recent memory. Michigan has cut Coho planting by 1 million fish. Indiana and Illinois are increasing their Coho plantings by 100,000 fish each. A proposal to increase the daily Salmon creel limit from 3 to 5 fish was hotly debated. Dam removal and the concurrent release of PCB's may be an obstacle to establishing "natural" running rivers.

Good of the Order (Balabon)

1. Steve Haddad emphasized that Debbie French needs local chapter fishing pictures for the state newspaper.
2. Joe Pilara from Flint thanked all the chapters for their contributions to the Cormorant control research fund.
3. The city of St. Joseph has applied for a \$400,000.00 grant to renovate their boat launch ramp.

Motion (Saladine) to adjourn... Second (Sickon)... passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald Sickon
MSSFA Secretary