

**MSSFA State Board Meeting**  
**MUCC Headquarters, Lansing, Mi.**  
**NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

1. The meeting was brought to order by President Rick Balabon at 7:05pm with a 17 member quorum present.
2. **Communications & Letters** (Balabon): The cormorant control group will meet at the Higgins Lake Ram Center at 10:00am on 12/13/2010. The Asian Carp risk assessment plan is viewable on the DNR fisheries website. Tackle manufacturers and representatives are protesting the EPA restrictions on lead in fishing tackle.
3. **Minutes** (Sickon): Motion (Pietela) to accept minutes as amended; second (Hunt); passed.
4. **Financial Report** (Haddad): YTD income \$xxxxxxx; YTD expenses (\$xxxxxx); balance \$xxxxx. Motion (Foster) to accept as presented; second (Davis); passed.
5. **Executive Director Report** (Eade): Proposed gear restrictions on streams have been revised to allow live bait during fall and winter months, but restrict to flies and spinners in the summer months on a 10 mile stretch of the Pere Marquette, and a section of the upper Manistee River. The DNR early retirement plan will fill 1 position for every 2 that are vacated. Hatchery rearing space is stressed and hard decisions have to be made on prioritizing fish species production. The DNRE is holding an Asian Carp Summit on November 22<sup>nd</sup> to review the proposed risk assessment plan.
6. **Old Business**
  - A. **Membership** (Gumbrecht): The Manistee area is in the process of restarting a local chapter. The Traverse City area has interest in starting a chapter. Membership total is xxxxx. Motion (Merckel) that all chapters shall report their number of associate members to the state membership director (Greg Gumbrecht); second (Hunt); passed.
  - B. **GLSFN Report** (French): The trade-out of merchandise for cash in exchange for advertising will continue. The distributor cost is used to assess the advertisement cash value. A system is being developed to make this trade-in merchandise available to local MSSFA chapters @ a cost that is xx% below the distributor cost. Dennis Eade has been contacting advertisers and cultivating new accounts. A list of "stringers" is being developed to routinely send leads for articles that will be of real interest to our readers. Motion (VanderMaas) to appoint Dennis Eade Advertising Account Manager of the GLSFN; second (Anderson); passed.
  - C. **Lottery/ Raffle Update** (Balabon): MSSFA chapters can utilize a "financial oversight" process through the MUCC (if affiliated) that will meet the "annual attestation engagement" requirement of the Lottery Act. This process determines whether a club is expending its fund base on its lawful purpose(s) which are stated in its Bylaws, Constitution, Charter, or Articles of Incorporation. Questions related to participation in this procedure should be directed to Peggy Parke at the MUCC office (517-371-1041) [pparke@mucc.org](mailto:pparke@mucc.org).
  - D. **Executive Director Update** (Balabon): The former executive director has been paid in full for 2010. Motion (Merckel) to move \$xxxx from legislative affairs budget line item to executive director salary budget line item; second (Hunt); passed. Motion (Foster) to remove the "interim" designation from the executive director's position and appoint Dennis Eade to the MSSFA Executive Director position; second (VanderMaas); passed.
7. **New Business**
  - A. **MSSFA Legal Status** (Haddad): The MSSFA has current 501C(4) incorporation Status renewed with the State of Mich. Renewal is required every year in Oct.
  - B. **GLSFN Show Edition** (French); the publishing date is January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Extra copies will be distributed as follows; Huron Valley 4,000; White River 500; Mid-Mich 750; Southwest 100; Holland 75; MetroWest 2500.

**C. Great Lakes Sportfishing Council** (Balabon): the annual \$xx membership is due. Motion (White) to appropriate \$xx for renewal; second (Schultz); passed.

**D. Local Chapter Records** (Balabon): A complete list of each chapters Board of Directors is needed for the January 22, 2011 Presidents meeting. Also, a speaker's directory should be developed with contact information from the local chapter's speakers list (names, phone #'s, email, etc.).

## **8. Committee Reports**

**A. Lake Michigan** (Eade): The 5 bag salmon limit will continue in 2011, and all salmon will be mass marked. A

second steelhead egg taking hatchery is needed for 20,000. The Platte River Hatchery would be the best place for Steelhead, but with all hatcheries at full capacity, prioritizing cuts to fish rearing would have to be made. DNR is proposing Lake Trout regulation changes to ensure that rehabilitation target #'s are met. The MM1 – MM4 units will see changes in 2011, and MM6 – MM8 units will see changes in 2012

**B. Lake Huron** (Eade): Atlantic Salmon fall fingerlings and eyed up egg production is being inhibited by a parasite that is present in the Platte River hatchery. Thompson hatchery is the only other site with a successful history of raising Atlantics. The Huron rehabilitation plan calls for stocking 10 -13 " brown trout, placing steelhead in net pens before stocking, raising and stocking spring fingerling native Cisco for forage, and determining if an Atlantic salmon program can be expanded. These programs will continue for a specified period, and then be evaluated. The acoustics forage survey brought good news. Zooplankton is up, bloater chub are prevalent, and good #'s of smelt were found in all 3 basins. Thunder Bay cormorant #'s are down from 20,000 pairs (7 years ago) to 740 pairs. The Feds planted 1 million Lake Trout in 2010. The Brown Trout and Steelhead are doing well with diet studies showing a make-up of bugs, smelt, and gobies.

**C. Stream Committee** (Eade): The Cold Water Regulations Steering Committee has had lively discussions between the fly fishers and the live bait fishers. It appears that from the last Saturday in April through August 31st there is an artificial lures only area on the Pere Marquette River and the upper Manistee River. From September 1<sup>st</sup> through the last Friday in April, all types of natural and artificial bait will be allowed. On the Black River, Browns will be added to the Rainbows for year round take in order to promote better Brook Trout recruitment. The Pigeon River will allow 1 Brown that is < than 18" and 1 Brown > than 18", or 2 Browns > 18".

**D. Tribal Committee** (VanderMaas): The abandon nets off Whitehall ( Lake Mich.) were pulled in July. All trap nets are closed for Whitefish spawning from Nov.6 through Nov.29. The tribal (CORA-Chippewa/Ottawa Resource Authority) response to pulling abandoned nets has been very good. If there are any issues with abandoned nets in your area, please contact Jim VanderMaas at (231-894-0701). Accurate GPS coordinates of the nets must be provided. The consent decree law enforcement committee continues to meet. Steve Huff oversees the DNRE commercial law unit.

**9. Legislative Report** (Merckel): Ken emphasized that if there is an issue that a local chapter needs to have addressed, to contact him. An April or May legislative night is being planned for 2011.

**10. Good of the Order**: Mid – Michigan chapter presents their Sportfishing Show at the Ingham County Fairgrounds on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (9am – 8pm). 700 East Ash Street, Mason Mi.. The Holland chapter sponsors the Cold Steel Fishing Tournament on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010; contact Jeff Mulder @ [jmulder@genzink.com](mailto:jmulder@genzink.com)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully yours,  
Gerald Sickon MSSFA Sec./Trea