

**Wisconsin SAF Executive Meeting
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
Ashland, WI
Monday, August 24, 2009**

Attendees: Jim Kerkman, Jerry Van Cleve, Julie Peltier, Charles Mentzel, Ed Packee, Kim Quast, Will Kiefer, Jay Gallagher, Bob Rogers, Gary Vander Wyst, Jeff Kante, David Czysz, John DuPlissis

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and the antitrust statement was covered.

The minutes from the May 19, 2009 executive meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Vander Wyst, 2nd by Peltier, approved.

Chair's Report – Jim Kerkman

A written report was submitted. Topics covered included:

- Seeking a Chair for the NRCS committee to replace Miles Benson.
- WI DNR occasionally (roughly annually) requests a list of three SAF members from which one member will be selected as SAF representative on a Cooperating Forester Dispute Resolution Panel. Since names are needed quickly when requested, we should develop a list of members willing to participate. Van Cleve, Czysz, Packee, Quast agreed to either participate or provide names.
- Dr. Robert Engelhard will be inducted into Forestry Hall of Fame at the CNR Fall Migration Banquet on October 24. All SAF members are invited.
- State by-law change to allow electronic voting will go to membership for approval in early September, in time for fall elections.
- National SAF is requesting we contact our senators about biomass definition in Renewable Fuel Standard, which is still too restrictive.
- National SAF is offering free dial-in conferencing for members conducting SAF business.

Treasurer's Report – Julie Peltier

A spreadsheet of WI SAF accounts was submitted. Current checking balance is \$7,393.85. Motion to approve by Vander Wyst, 2nd by Czysz, approved.

District Representative's Report – Greg Russell not present

No report.

HSD Report – Vander Wyst

No report this meeting.

Governor's Council Report – Bob Rogers

No report this meeting. Council meets again September 14-15.

Old Business

- a. Nominations committee – candidates for Chair-elect need to be submitted to the national office by September 4th. Tom Hittle (past NE Chap Chair) has agreed to run. Seeking another candidate.

- b. A change in the by-laws regarding electronic voting has previously been approved by the executive committee. This by-law change will go to general membership in early September, in time for fall elections.
- c. HSD needs Chapter success stories—only 5 submitted out of 32 state and multi-state societies.
- d. Trees are the Answer campaign—bumper stickers available.
- e. Allan Waelchli memorial—Ray Perry submitted report. A total of about \$3,300 has been raised (including \$500 from WI SAF) for a memorial consisting of a bench, a granite rock with plaque, and several oak trees at park in Shawano. Perry is tasked with submitting this to HSD next year as a Success Story.
- f. 2009 Wisconsin High School Conference on the Environment—Jeremy Solin (LEAF) has received \$500 National Foresters' Fund grant, plus \$250 from each of three WI SAF chapters. He still needs \$750 to reach \$2,000 goal. WI SAF will provide \$750 for this upcoming event, per motion that was approved in May to provide up to \$1,500.
- g. SAF National Convention bid—Kerkman will send letter to Michael Goergen reiterating WI SAF's interest in hosting a future national convention in Madison, but it is out of our hands.
- h. Woodland Advocate Program—10 townships are currently involved.
- i. Silent auction donations for national convention—WI SAF is donating two St. Croix Avid 7' spinning rod & reel outfits to silent auction. Kerkman will send a thank you to St. Croix for the discount they gave us on the rod & reels. May also donate signed copy of 2nd edition of Silviculture of Oaks, if it comes off the presses in time, courtesy of Bob Rogers.
- j. Chapter by-laws—NE Chapter is revising theirs, other chapters submit examples if you have them.

Committee & Chapter Reports:

Membership Committee – David Czysz

A written report was submitted. Membership as of 7/31/09 is down 25 from one year ago, continuing the long-term trend.

Program Committee – John DuPlissis

A written report was submitted.

- a. Fall 2009 – (Mid-WI) 170 registered for Midwest Jack Pine Symposium.
- b. Spring 2010 – NE Chapter is planning Forest and Recreation meeting to be held March 10-11 in Marinette. Doug Brown is the meeting chair.
- c. SW Chap is scheduled for Fall 2010 meeting. We will likely remain in the one-meeting-per-year mode through 2011 at least, due largely to DNR budget and travel restrictions, in which case SW Chap would host 2011 meeting, and Chippewa would host 2012. Exec committee needs to discuss with SW & other chapters.

Kerkman will send letter to Paul DeLong about coordinating DNR training and SAF meetings into a jointly sponsored training session. (Jim: cc this letter to DNR training office in Rhinelander.)

Policy & Legislation – Bob Mather not present

No report.

Communications Committee – Kirsten Held not present

Kerkman reminded us of upcoming September 4 deadline for newsletter items.

We should revisit idea of electronic distribution of newsletter.

Forestry Science Center in Milwaukee is still in organizational formation stage.

Education & Training Committee – Brian Spencer not present

A written report was submitted. The first Woody Biomass Volume Estimation Workshop and

Biomass Harvesting Equipment Exposition was held August 20, with 26 participants.

Awards Committee – Gary Vander Wyst

Four awards will be presented at the banquet tomorrow evening:

John Macon Award will be presented to Allan Waelchli posthumously.

Fellow Awards will be presented to Jay Gallagher and Sam Radcliffe.

Mike King Field Forester of the Year Award will be presented to Julie Peltier.

CFE Committee – Melinda Vokoun not present

A written report was submitted. Since May, 16 events have qualified for CFE's.

Science & Technology – Paul Doruska not present

A written report as submitted. Science Fund is now available for loans to assist in planning scientific meetings.

Foresters' Fund – Jeff Barkley not present

- Kerkman updated us on three national grants recently approved: Oak Forests of the Driftless Area, Forest Biomass Workshops, and Wisconsin High School Conference on the Environment
- Dave Czysz will put together by September 15 a proposal for a grant to purchase about 3 dozen grade school level books, "The Tree Farmer," to be given to school kids in Rhinelander following a discussion or presentation. Dave will email proposal to executive committee.

Forestry Hall of Fame Committee – Tom Albrecht not present

A written report was submitted. Dr. Robert Engelhard will be inducted into the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame at the UWSP CNR Fall Migration on October 24, 2009.

Historian – Will Kiefer

No report this meeting.

NRCS – Miles Benson not present

A written report was submitted to Kerkman, who will forward to executive committee.

Dave Czysz has expressed interest in taking over as chair of this committee.

Chapter Reports

Chippewa – Jay Gallagher

A written report was submitted. Two chapter meetings were held this summer.

Fox River Valley – Ray Perry

A written report was submitted. Summer meeting has been rescheduled to October 6.

Mid-Wisconsin – Charles Mentzel

A written report was submitted. Chapter meeting was held June 11th.

Northeast – Lee Steigerwaldt not present

A written report was submitted. Planning is underway for March 10-11, 2010 meeting in Marinette.

Southeast – Randy Cooper not present

A written report was submitted. Planning October visit to Leopold shack and joint meeting with SW Chapter in January.

Southwest – Carmen Wagner

A written report was submitted. Planning October meeting and joint meeting with SE Chapter in January.

UW Madison – Ray Guries not present

No report.

UW Stevens Point – Paul Doruska not present

A written report was submitted.

New Business

Aldo Leopold Foundation sent a short DVD to Julie Peltier to help raise funds for a PBS movie.

Exec committee did not watch it, but it is available on-line at www.aldoleopold.org/greenfire.

They are seeking \$500. Julie will respond to politely decline at this time.

Going Green Without Going Crazy – private organizations are looking for ways to promote “green” building.

Next meeting is to be held January 14, 2010 in either Stevens Point or Wausau.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Jerry Van Cleve