

DRAFT MINUTES
Wisconsin SAF Executive Committee Meeting
Schmeckle Reserve Conference Room
Stevens Point, WI
Friday, January 22, 2016

Attendance (Bold = present):

OFFICERS		CFE	Melinda Vokoun
Chair	Julie Peltier	Forest Science & Tech	Brad Hutnik
Chair-Elect	Jeff Kante	Foresters' Fund	Ray Perry
Immediate Past Chair	Tom Hittle	For/Cons Hall of Fame	Tom Albrecht
Secretary	Jerry Van Cleve	Historian	John Kotar
Treasurer	Valerie Johnson	NRCS	John Kotar
District V Rep	Gary Vander Wyst	CHAPTERS	
Council on Forestry Rep	Jim Kerkman	Chippewa	Jay Gallagher
COMMITTEES		Fox River Valley	Anthony Rynish
Membership	Will Smith	Mid-Wisconsin	Ron Schneider
Program	-	Northeast	Haakon Hagemeister
Policy & Legislation	Tom Hittle	Southeast	Laura Giese
Communications	Anthony Rynish	Southwest	Brad Hutnik
Education & Training	Brian Spencer	UW-Madison	Logan Wells
Awards	Gary Vander Wyst	UW-Stevens Point	Logan Jones

Roll call and introductions.

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m.

Anti-trust statement was reviewed by Tom Hittle.

Tom Hittle handed the gavel to Julie Peltier, our new Chair.

Agenda Repair: No changes.

Minutes: Minutes from the September 21, 2015 meeting were distributed. One item needed clarification:

Our previous policy had been to allocate \$50 per student, capped at \$500 per student chapter (UWSP & UW-Madison), to help send students to the National SAF Convention. The motion made by John Kotar, which was seconded by Vander Wyst and subsequently carried, was to provide \$100 per student, maintaining the 10 students per school cap, for this purpose. Motion to accept minutes as corrected made by Vander Wyst, 2nd by Kerkman, approved.

Chair's Report – Julie Peltier

National Convention planning progress—see Old Business.

Treasurer's Report –Valerie Johnson

Committee tabled treasury report until status of payment for the printing of the Hall of Fame panels can be ascertained. Has this been paid yet?

Audit committee: National needs a report from our audit committee by mid-February. Committee members are Gary Vander Wyst, Jay Gallagher, and Jerry Van Cleve. Audit committee will review our books between now and then.

2016 Budget—see New Business.

SAF District V Representative Report – Gary Vander Wyst, written report

- Foresters' Fund grant has been increased nationally from \$30,000 to \$60,000 annually.
- New address for SAF National Office (same building, new address):
Society of American Foresters
10100 Laureate Way
Bethesda, MD 20814
- Please send National an updated roster of State and Chapter officers ASAP.

Council on Forestry Report – Jim Kerkman, written report

- The Governor's Council met twice (Sept 30 and Nov 13) and also had a conference call (Dec 7) since our last SAF Exec Committee meeting. Visit www.wisconsinforestry.org for minutes.
- Changes are afoot regarding the DNR's Dispute Resolution Process.
- Bills before the Assembly would lift the leasing ban on MFL properties.
- SAF has the lead for Forest Economic Summit Goal #7. One topic to be brought forward is Pesticide Applicator Licenses for loggers.

Committee Reports

Membership - Will Smith

Will needs to bow out as Membership Chair due to medical issues, and seeks a replacement.

Program – Chair position is vacant

Julie Peltier provided update on Fall meeting held Sept 22-23 in New London, hosted by Fox River Valley and Mid-Wisconsin Chapters.

Income: \$3,225.00

Expenses: \$1,510.82

Profit: \$1,714.18

The usual split is 25% to each hosting Chapter, and 50% to WI SAF.

Motion made by Jeff Kante to distribute proceeds in the usual manner, 2nd by Vander Wyst, approved.

Policy & Legislation – Tom Hittle

- Chair position of this committee has been vacant. Tom Hittle volunteered, and was appointed by Julie Peltier as our new Policy & Legislation Chair.
- As WI SAF Chair, Tom had recently sent two letters to representatives: one to Rep. Ryan about the omnibus bill regarding fire funding; and one to Rep. Tiffany about the qualifications needed to sign off on MFL cutting notices. In both cases, our SAF voice was heard but not followed.
- Should we as a State Society adopt a position statement on high-grading?

Communications – Anthony Rynish

Website updates—Anne Lupton (our website designer) can do updates, for \$40/hour. Kirsten Held is currently our webmaster. Direction: go first to Kirsten with updates; if she gets overwhelmed, then go to Anne. WI SAF Secretary will forward Executive Committee news through Anthony Rynish to Kirsten; chapter folks will forward chapter updates. Anthony will ask Anne about webinar hosting/posting possibilities?

Education & Training – Brian Spencer absent, no report

Awards – Gary Vander Wyst

- Fellow nominations due Feb 28.
- Also need nominations for Field Forester of the Year, and John Macon Award.
- We have three new Golden Members (50 years): Paul Pederson (Chippewa), Paul Litwin (Fox River Valley), and Fred Lintelmann (Mid-Wisconsin). (Certificates distributed to Chapter Chairs or reps.) Chapter Chairs please distribute these certificates and pins to our Golden Members, preferably at a State or Chapter meeting.

CFE – Melinda Vokoun submitted written report

Forester's Fund – Ray Perry absent, submitted written report

Two active FF projects:

- Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame Display Panels, regular grant, \$900. Project is complete, came in under budget. All that is needed to close out project is to do final evaluation and return surplus dollars to National.
- Aldo Leopold Memorial Site Interpretive Signage, regular grant, \$1,500, still in progress.

Forestry Hall of Fame – Albrecht not present, submitted written report

Al Barden and Rachel Jordan were inducted September 19th, 2015.

Historian – vacant

John Kotar has volunteered to take on historian duties.

NRCS – John Kotar absent, no report

Chapter Reports

Chippewa – Jay Gallaher absent, no report

Fox River Valley – Anthony Rynish

Planning underway for fall meeting with GLTPA.

Mid-Wisconsin – Ron Schneider absent

Ron Schneider will be leaving the Mid-Wisconsin chapter. He will be moving to the Southwest chapter.

Northeast – Haakon Hagemester absent, no report

Southeast – Laura Giese

Chapter members have been doing “dry runs” of field trips for National Convention.

Southwest – Brad Hutnik

Chapter execs are meeting to plan Chapter events.

UW-Madison – Logan Wells, written report

Student chapter has a Facebook page, might be able to grow this into a WISAF Facebook page. National SAF has one. Interactivity versus Consistent messaging.

UW-Stevens Point – Logan Jones, written report

Five students attended national convention in Baton Rouge.

Old Business

2016 National Convention – Julie Peltier

- Nov 2-6, 2016, Madison, WI
- Field Tours – need help getting info to National about possible Technical field tours, and Companion field tours. Short turn-around time to National. Julie has list of possible tours.
- Need on-site volunteers.
- Call for presentations is out.
- Plenary session ideas:
 - Paul DeLong
 - Sec'y of Interior
 - CIF “Chief”

- Leopold impersonator
- Curt Meine (Leopold biographer)
- Theme: Our Transcontinental Land Ethic: Exploring Differences That Unite Us.
- Opening ceremonies—voyageurs, lumberjacks, native Americans?? Kante is lead.

Chapter Consolidation

Tom Hittle broached topic at HSD. National not all that concerned. If two chapters want to combine, they need to petition National. MN has 2 chapters, MI has 2 chapters, should WI consolidate to 3 chapters? Just seeking ways to rejuvenate stagnant chapters...

New Business

Trees for Tomorrow Forest Fest—New display is needed. Hittle will look into costs.

WI Young Forest Partnership—Should WI SAF join as a member? *Motion by Jim Kerkman that WI SAF should pursue becoming a member of the Wisconsin Young Forest Partnership, 2nd by Vander Wyst, approved.* Hittle will serve as our representative, unless someone else volunteers.

2016 Budget—Valerie Johnson provided 3-year averages of income and expenses. Exec Committee debated line items, and came up with a budget that, even though expenses are considerably less than in previous years, still shows a deficit. *Motion by Laura Giese to accept budget as planned, 2nd by Logan Wells, approved unanimously with one abstention.*

Next Meeting will be a conference call in February, tentatively the week of 2/15. Julie will send a Doodle poll to schedule. Following that will be a meeting in March.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Van Cleve

Items underlined are action items.
Items underlined and in italics are motions.