

MINUTES OF SCHEDULED
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE LOWER MOUNTAIN FORK RIVER FOUNDATION

February 20, 2010

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The Heritage Center, Beavers Bend State Park

Board Members Present:

Sandy Maris, President
Tom Atwood, Treasurer
Ken Cantrell, Secretary
Herman Bell
Clif Harden
Pat Waters
Eric Jackson
Jim Kelly
Tony Kirk
Teri Pearce
Roger Turner

Advisory Board Members Present:

Rob Woodruff
Jesse King

Members Present:

Mike Love
Main Hutchinson
Rick Mangus (One Fly Contest Winner)
Jenny Mayrell
Jared Williams
Tim Williams
Todd Williams
Jean Paul Hackert
Michael “Merc” Murcurio
Telishono Perlette
Lawrence Cross
Doug Robichaux
Chris White
Linda King

James Vincent discussed a variety of on-going projects of the fishery:

- Reconstruction of Lost Creek is underway. He wants to call in the expert from Colorado whom we consulted prior to the first construction of Lost Creek and the Evening Hole. Several issues prevail, including susceptibility to erosion from future high water flows, habitation for trout

reproduction and loss of creek water by percolation through the creek bottom. Advisor, Rob Woodruff, (and some board members) expressed concern about adverse effects on the current excellent fishing status of the Evening Hole by diverting water into Lost Creek once it is reconstructed. Rob and other members agreed that in many ways the Evening Hole modification is fishing better now due to some creek modifications from the “great flood” than it did before the floods last year. James discussed creek flows and temperatures and the turf wars between all parties involved, i.e. Corps of Engineers, Southwestern Power and Recreational interests. No resolution was had; time will tell how this works after Lost Creek gets flowing again.

- The water diffuser project is still scheduled to be underway this summer. James discovered that the cost difference between renting and buying the pump to power air diffusion was only about \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00. The Board agreed to go ahead and pay our part of the additional costs to purchase rather than rent the equipment. If the test does not prove to lower water temperature satisfactorily we can sell the equipment. (Who knows, if its like some fly rods on E-bay we may get more money than we paid for it new).
- Jesse King questioned if the trout stamp money that fisherman buy from the State goes toward the trout fishery or into the general fund. James could not answer the question.
- The much awaited creel survey should start soon (the week of February 21 ??) and should continue for approximately one year. James asked that we encourage everyone to participate to the fullest extent because the results will help determine funding by the State to support our trout fishery. Part of the survey (by the Department of Tourism) will include an estimate on the amount of money fishermen spend in the local economy. This is a big deal for all involved.
- James requested that the LMFRF members contact Jeff Boxrucker or Barry Bolton with the Oklahoma fisheries to express our appreciation for their support of our fishery.

Jeff Boxrucker – 405-521-4606
Barry Bolton – 405-521-4646

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved the minutes of the October 2009 Board Meeting.

Eric Jackson agreed to maintain our website. However, he highly recommended we spend \$400.00 to have the website professionally reworked by an acquaintance of his who has done the same thing for the Texas Bicycle Advocacy Group. The Board agreed to pay the fee. Jim Kelly and another board member, Cliff Harden (?) agreed to assist Eric in deciding new web design and colors. Eric stressed the need to streamline and update frequently to prevent the site from becoming “stale”. A motion was made and passed to recognize all the major contributors to the Foundation on the website. The FFA has asked to be a link on our website.

Rob Woodruff explained that the most reliable barometer of the health of the trout stream is the stonefly larva population. The result of his multiple sampling during his river entomology classes has demonstrated a significant improvement in the numbers of immature stoneflies. (Rob is a fly fishing guide on the Lower Mountain Fork and has a bachelor’s degree in Entomology from Texas A&M University). The “great flood” increased the number of stoneflies on the river.

Joe Lanza has had to relinquish his responsibilities as Board Secretary. Ken Cantrell will fill the vacancy.

Tom Atwood gave the Treasurer's Report:

\$117,302.75 in the bank

\$ 1,870.00 Gross Income on the 2010 One Fly (\$400.00 from "mulligan" flies)

There were no complaints in the recent increase of the fees for the contest. The Board approved a \$5.00 fee to register on line for future One Fly contests participants in order to recover credit card processing fees. Tom Atwood requested, and it was approved, that our books be audited by an outside entity. (Sandy Maris will try to recruit an accounting firm from one of his clients).

Jim Kelly reported that 91 members have paid their dues for 2010, and 44 members from 2009 have not renewed. By proclamation, Sandy asked we prepare a synopsis of our foundation activity to encourage previous members to renew their memberships.

Rob Woodruff had a drawing for a 2-day stay at The Sentinel Cabin owned by Linda and Jesse King. Rick Mangus won.

Tony Kirk would not accept money for expenses incurred with the purchase, installation and fish egg placement for Vibert Boxes in 2009. Volunteers assisted with the project with Tony. There is not an effective method of accessing hatch rate of the eggs. By email vote, the Foundation will go back to the state for funding of future vibert box egg projects. Thanks to Tony.

Jim Kelly said we don't know when the wooden bridges will be replaced, which were destroyed by the "great flood".

Roger Turner discussed a possible new date for the One Fly event. After some discussion, it was decided the last Saturday of February remains our best date for the One Fly contest.

Linda King reminded us of the Annual Fish Fry and Board Meeting on May 15, 2010. She has reserved the pavilion at Steven's Gap, but is looking into an inside venue through the Little Dixie enterprise. Linda will not be available for the event. Jenny Mayrell has volunteered to organize the event with Tom Atwood. September 25, 2010 is the date of election of officers Board Meeting.

Pat Waters reported on the following:

- He has made application for a grant from the Disney Foundation;
- National FFA council plans to give us a grant toward the re-reg dam clean out upon the work completion.
- Due to the economic slow-down, the pump company contracted to remove water in order to facilitate the re-reg dam clean out has lowered their price by one-half. This puts the total price estimate at \$160,000.00 for the entire job.
- The change of personnel on the State level has necessitated the Foundation to give a funding estimate for all of the fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 in order to receive matching state money. Pat has given the figure of \$67,800.00, with a list of needs to the State.

Roger Turner reports that:

- GRTU has given the Foundation \$3,000.
- Beaver's Bend Park Rangers hope to have the new communication system we agreed to fund last year in place by fall 2010.

Submitted,

Ken Cantrell