

Minutes of Meeting
Lower Mountain Fork River Foundation
February 22, 2014
Beavers Bend Forest Heritage

Directors Present:

Patrick Waters, Chairman
Tom Atwood, Treasurer
Jim Kelly, Membership
Chris Schatte
Roger Turner
Mike Emerson
Bill Leinberger
Lew Duckwall

Others Present:

Linda King	Bill Hodges
Keith Hampton	Chris Horsley
Ken Cole	Michael Mendez
John Slocomb	Mandy Mendez
Main Hutcheson	Suresh Venagopal
Jerry Hendon	Fishy Fullum
Sandy Maris	Carol Fullum
Jenny Woodruff	Kyle Whitaker
Brian Jackson	Stephanie Walker
Chris White	Frank Rust
Martin Weaver	Lara Rust
Vickie Weaver	Lothar Sachs
Les Jackson	Chelsea Sachs
Mark Lewis	Simon Aleman
Henry Edmondson	Stephanie Edmondson
Kurt Calender	Lynne Calender

Advisory Board:

Jesse King
Robert Woodruff

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Waters by welcoming all members and guests.

Tom Atwood gave a financial report. (Available upon request).

Jim Kelly reported that we currently have 42 paid annual dues along with 33 lifetime members, up 4 from the previous year.

Rob Woodruff gave the results of the Mystery Fly event earlier that day. There were (the most yet) participants, raising \$2860 from entry fees and mulligans. Main Hutcheson was proclaimed the winner of the Mystery Fly 2014.

Mark Hannah gave a brief report on new stream regulations for 2014. He explained they would probably issue warnings to violators until about June 1. He mentioned they thought compliance was better recently and that people were now reading the signs with the new regulations. He talked about the stringer rule that came in place January 1. Anglers are no longer allowed to share stringers. Each person's stringer must be tagged with their name and fishing license number.

Don Groom, representing the ODWC, added that another sign would be placed at the Cold Hole and that banners had been given to the two fly shops which explained the fishing regulations. It was discussed that the new boot washing stations could use assistance from fly fishermen to change the salt solution and the water as needed. With regard to the bubble diffuser, he explained that they ran a preliminary test and it was working good. It was their hope to run a full system test from May into October. He said the ODWC administration doesn't feel it is a big priority but would work with the USACE to get a full test done. Groom explained the reason why the bubble diffusers are needed and that they are looking at some other water monitoring equipment. He said that the City of Broken Bow plans to do a water management program and the ODWC would work with them. He explained that the staff is low and doesn't have the manpower for some of the projects on the streams program. He talked about having a full-time biologist

for this trout stream and ready had someone in mind to do to that. Funding was an issue and asked the LMFRF to consider helping with that. The biologist could also have game warden capabilities. A short discussion followed but no action was taken at this time.

Jesse King mentioned that the Evening Hole trail had gotten muddy and dangerous. He asked if the ODWC could possibly get gravel to fix it.

There was some discussion on the stocking schedule which is now every three weeks. Don Groom explained the reason for the change was due on the part of the ODWC and not the vendor.

There was much discussion on various subjects. It was requested to get more flow from the spillway that would increase flow from 69 to around 90cfs. The increase would enlarge the area of bank fishing on the trout stream. Jesse King observed that the Evening Hole is now one of the best dry fly fishing areas around. Don said they were going to look at some of these holes with a snorkel and maybe seine some fish out to see if there are too many, then move them around.

Roger Turner gave a report on the Vibert box results. They put in approximately 7,000 brown trout eggs (15 boxes). When he came back to look at the boxes, he found a 93% hatch rate. This is the third time to do this project in the last four years.

Someone reported that a tree at the upper end of the Evening Hole had been snapped off and asked for several volunteers to help fix it.

Pat Waters opened a discussion on the different projects that had happened over the last few years.

With regard to the philanthropic opportunities, he said we needed to look at how much money the foundation can give so that we don't get into the principal of the money we need for stream restoration. Tom Atwood reported that the foundation gave \$11,787. It was decided to table the request for charitable contributions at this time.

Mike Emerson reported on Reel Recovery by first explaining the purpose of the event. The foundation had given them \$7200 for the October event. They had fifteen participants and fifteen fishing buddies. There is another event planned for May and October 2014. Mike introduced Martin Weaver who will help with the Oklahoma retreat. He then read letters of gratitude from some of the participants. Mike asked for help from the foundation of any amount for the upcoming retreats.

Lew Duckwall presented a report on Project Healing Waters-North Texas. He explained the process and that there were five outings planned in Broken Bow for 2014. He said he was looking forward to approximately twelve vets coming for the March outing. He thanked the foundation and the volunteers for their support.

Pat Waters reported that the foundation would be involved in the June 2014 Youth Forestry Camp. He asked for volunteers to help teach them to fly fish.

Dr. Waters also reported on other business. The foundation had requested a trademark be enacted for "Mystery Fly" to ensure that we could always use term that had replaced "One Fly" for our annual fly fishing tournament each February. The paperwork was being taken care of.

He told the group that the web site issue was being reconsidered and that different options were currently being looked at.

There was a short discussion on getting the "Stream Watch" program back up. The purpose of the program is to educate anglers on the trout stream of the rules.

At this time, there was a ticket drawing for the final prize for Mystery Fly participants. The winning ticket was Lotha Rust.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Linda King
in the absence of Ken Cantrell, Secretary

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