

South Dakota Walleye Classic

Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2024

The meeting was called to order by newly elected Greg Yonkovich. The following members were in attendance: Becky Randall, Craig Mehlhaff, Bill Waeckerle, Lloyd Schlomer, Steve Mann and Chad Schilling.

A copy of the October 10th minutes was handed out to those in attendance. Bill Waeckerle made a motion to approve and second by Lloyd Schlomer. Motion carried.

The financial report was given by Steve Mann. Craig Mehlhaff made a motion to approve and second by Lloyd Schlomer. Motion carried.

President Greg Yonkovich went through everything that SDWC does and who will continue to help with those things so he can get a handle on everything.

Old Business:

2024-gun drawing status- there are only 4 guns that haven't been claimed. Greg will call the winner in HI to see how they want to claim their gun.

2025 Calendar Sales Status- we have collected about 200 stubs thus far and we have about 100 calendars that are available to sell.

2025 Calendar Sponsor Status- all sponsorships have been collected except Oahe Wings and Walleyes, Craig will be getting that from Shonda.

LOWC update from Bill W.-Bill will be attending a meeting in Pierre in December for updates.

Kids Fishing Tournament Jan. 18, 2025- Tony takes care of most of this. Becky will be gone at that time but will get the food ordered and someone will have to pick it up and prepare it.

Old Business from floor: Bill Waeckerle made a motion to remove Jane Sorensen from the checking account and add Greg

Yonkovich, President of SDWC along with Steve Mann, treasurer and Craig Mehlhaff, past president. Lloyd Schlomer second. Motion carried.

New Business: We are getting another sign out at the fish cleaning station, so all fishermen know that there is a certified scale at The TAV.

Chad and Becky came to the board with fantastic news about AFTCO wanting to bring a freshwater fishing tournament to Akaska on July 25th, 26th and 27th. Mike Valster and Bill Shepke are mutual friends of Chads, and they came to him asking if they could come to Akaska. AFTCO will take care of the whole tournament from advertising, to weighing fish, and funding all the prizes. AFTCO makes nothing for profit on the tournament, they give everything back in prizes and will also give back to conservation. Entry fee would be \$100 per person, and anyone can fish, young and old. We are in the process of getting the rules in place as AFTCO will start advertising the tournament with the SDWC logo also on all the advertising. They recommend starting registration from noon to 6pm on Friday, July 25th, fishing all day Saturday and ending at noon on Sunday. A swag bag will be given to everyone on registration day. This is a win win for all of us bringing more people into our community to support the TAV, Sportsman, Hotel, Mansland and surrounding hotels. AFTCO expects at least 200 people participating and a very nice grand prize along with all the other prizes that will be given away during the tournament. Stay tuned for more info as we start the process of planning.

We posted a tournament survey on our SDWC web page on Oct. 30th pertaining to our tournament to get a feel of what fisherman want to see in a tournament. I attached a copy of the results that I have been keeping track of.

Greg went through the leadership roles and responsibilities going forward.

- a. Tournament permit- Craig has contacts; We can submit permit for tournament Nov. 1st

- b. Tournament insurance: Marin Biel- Craig has contact
- c. Tournament Rules- we will work with AFTCO to develop the rules
- d. SDWC facebook page comments/updates- Dick Sorensen updates
- e. AVID Hawk does website and Becky sends meeting notes and other updates to them monthly.
- f. SDWC email monitoring- Craig sends out calendar winners on the specific email address
- g. Tournament scale operation- Craig has set that up in the past but we won't have to worry about it as Terrell does all the weighing for tournament.
- h. Weekley gun drawings- Bill and Craig will continue to do this on Mondays
- i. Kids Fishing Tournament- Tony takes care of the prizes and Becky orders food
- j. Senior Fishing Day- Bob Heier is in charge
- k. Pull tab machines are taken care of by Craig and Bill W.
- l. SD GF&P fish cleaning station payments are paid once a year in Nov.- last year we paid 5K
- m. We will get a computer from Craig to get excel on it so Steve Mann could manage the monthly report to make it easier for him to do the monthly expenses and deposits.

New Business from the floor: Bill W. was contacted by Angie Marin family about a rot iron memorial placed on the town digital sign, a fish or wildlife. They will let us know when they get something made.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lloyd Schlomer and second by Craig Mehlhaff. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be December 11th, 2024, at 7:00pm and it may be in Aberdeen.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Becky Randall, Secretary

