

## South Dakota Walleye Classic

### Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Gregg Yonkovich. The following members were in attendance: Becky Randall, Dana Randall, Bill Waeckerle, Steve Mann, Bryan German, Craig Mehlhaff, Kenny Vogel, and on team meeting was Mike Valster (AFTCO), Bill Shepke (AFTCO) and Bob Heier.

A copy of the January minutes was handed out to those in attendance. Bill Waeckerle made a motion to approve and second by Craig Mehlhaff. Motion carried.

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

#### Old Business:

**2024/25-gun drawing status-** 1 unclaimed gun; Levi Vandervorst will be contacted; Craig is updating some of the emails.

**LOWC update from Bill W.-**Blue dog is putting up another building for RAS system; should have 4-6 million fingerlings will be stocked.

**LOWC Raffle Status- Bill W-** one gun at TAV and board is not sold yet

#### New Business: Update of 2025 Tournament from Mike Valster

- i. Entry and website are up and running on AFTCO and our SD Walleye Classic website- we have 20 entries
- ii. Chad Schilling has made the video that will be going live on SDWC website. Mike will send to Becky when it is ready. Radio advertising will start in April on DRG and ad in Dakota Magazine.
- iii. Physical posters are being made and will be made to SDWC PO Box so we can then distribute them.
- iv. Tournament has been approved through GF&P and insurance will be finalized in April. Midwest Fishing Tournament will have their insurance also.

- v. Bill W. got have ½ of the fish tags and Midwest will supply the bags to carry the fish up for the weigh-ins; they are getting bigger bags for walleye
- vi. Bills Hinds is checking on temp dock
- vii. There will be a kids division (under 16) for the biggest fish and AFTCO will provide an award. AFTCO will also be doing a memorial in honor of Brad Schilling and Kent Kramer for the weekend.
- viii. Tournament details list- weigh station will be at 1 dock only; we will have side by sides and gold carts to bring the fishermen up when they are weighing in fish.
- ix. Gregg asked Mike to put a FAQ question and answer together as there have been lots of questions about the tournament and we want to make sure that the questions are answered correctly. Once we have that FAQ sheet we will put on the SDWC website.

#### Other New Business:

Income tax has been taken to Cahill Bauer in Mobridge but not returned.

The funds collected for Dive Team Donations was \$14,690.00. \$3450.00 was spent on the new pump so that leaves a balance of \$11,240.00. Bill W. made a motion to give \$1,000.00 to Selby Fire Department, \$1,000.00 to Selby Ambulance, \$1,000.00 to Akaska Fire Department and the balance will go to the Pierre Dive Team. Craig Mehlhaff second motion. Motion carried. Gregg will put a letter together along with a check thanking the dive team for all their efforts in recovering Brad and Kent.

Gregg inquired about the Tav and if there was any talk about it closing as we have SDWC assets in the building such as the pull tab machine, certified scale and gun raffle. There has been no talk of closing so we should be okay at the present time.

New Business from the floor: Bob Heier shared info for Senior Fishing, which is June 18th. Bob has 12 reserved boats.

We will need water, snacks and ice. Craig will talk to Brandy to see if they will provide breakfast buffet before seniors go out that morning, we will ask for Free Will donation. Craig will also speak to Mike Schaeffer about donating worm flats

that day. Bernie Bisbee will take photos that day. Jim Houck will be asked to cook lunch that day.

Other new business from floor: Are we going to do a Calcutta for Walleye Throwdown? Continued discussion next meeting. Split pot????

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

Next meeting will be April 10, 2025 @ 7:00pm in Akaska. We will also have available Teams meeting for those that can't attend in person.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Becky Randall, Secretary