

South Dakota Walleye Classic

Meeting Minutes

January 23, 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, Mike Valster (AFTCO) & Bill Shepke (AFTCO).

A copy of the December minutes was handed out to those in attendance. Bryan German made a motion to approve and second by Steve Mann. Motion carried.

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

Old Business:

2024-gun drawing status-

LOWC update from Bill W.-

LOWC Raffle Status- Bill W

Kids Fishing Tournament- rescheduled to Feb. 1st at 3pm with a meal and prize given away. No fishing tournament this year with the death of Brad Schilling and Kent Kramer.

New Business:

Mike Valster, marketing director from AFTCO and Bill Shepke also from AFTCO gave a presentation on the logistics of how Midwest Fish will run the Walleye Classic July 26, 27 & 28th. The tournament name will be called, "Walleye Throwdown" hosted by SDWC. Craig Mehlhaff made a motion to approve and second by Steve Mann. The cost per person will be \$200.00 but in return AFTCO will give everyone an Angler Pack worth \$200.00. Items will include shadow hoodie, performance shirt, sun mask, hat, lens wipes, decals, koozies and sun gloves. Proposed payout with 200 anglers will be \$10,000.00 for biggest walleye. There will be Bi-Hourly winners also. We can find our own sponsors to give a bi-hourly giveaway like biggest fish in the time frame and maybe could be Memorial award?? Lots of things to make this a fun fishing tournament for all ages. AFTCO also will give each angler a yellow bag to pick up garbage on the lake and the

shore and will get a \$25.00 gift card from AFTCO. We will need dumpster at boat dock to collect all the yellow garbage bags.

- i. Tags for Fish? Bill W will get ahold of Brent Kemnitz to order tags for each angler in a boat.
- ii. We will release boats from Walth Bay, Dodge Draw, Witlocks and Swan Creek, and the tournament is from 7AM-3PM. Bi-hourly weighs will be at Swan Creek.

Finalize rules- Greg will get this completed

Permit- we will get our permit as we always have and also the insurance

Mike will get the new logo finished so that we can start advertising this after our meeting Feb. 17th.

Registration will take place here at Akaska Community Hall on Friday from 10AM-6PM with rules meeting starting at 5PM- we will need 6-10 people for registration.

Midwest will bring everything for the weigh-ins but they will need help with internet so we will work on that.

We will have the craft fair and will look for other vendors to come for the weekend.

New Business from the floor: Bill Waeckerle made a motion to purchase the pump that was used for divers in retrieval process this past week for \$4,450.00. We are collecting donations and if we collect more than the \$4,450.00 we will purchase equipment for our volunteer fire dept. Craig Mehlhaff second. Motion carried.

Becky Randall asked the SDWC to pay for advertising for the upcoming fundraiser, March 8, 2025, for the ADC and for some decorations for the hall. Bryan German made motion to approve and Craig Mehlhaff second. Motion carried

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

Next meeting will be February 17th, 2025 @ 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Becky Randall, Secretary