

South Dakota Walleye Classic

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Gregg Yonkovich. The following members attended: Becky Randall, Steve Mann, Bill Waeckerle, Marissa Gilyard, Craig Mehlhaff and Jerry Beadle. Members attending via teams meeting; Bryan German, Mike Valster, Bob Heier and Dick Sorensen.

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

The financial report was read by treasurer Steve Mann. Bill Waeckerle made a motion to approve and Craig Mehlhaff second. Motion carried.

New Business:

- 1)2026 tournament updates were given by Mike Valster.

- a. As of today, we have 49 entries. Midwest Fish Tournaments is handling all the registrations on their website and has no issues.
- b. Advertising~ large posters have arrived and the 8x10 posters will be arriving next week. Jerry Beadle recommended advertising on Dakota Outdoors radio out of Bismarck KFYZ which would be free. Jerry will have the grand prize Ford Maverick at the NWT Mobridge fishing tournament May 20-21st. The other advertising idea that Jerry brought to the table was putting our tournament on FB and if you liked, tagged a friend and shared and guessed the total weight of fish caught for 1st place winner at the NWT tournament someone could win the entry fee for our tournament. We would do a random drawing from FB. Bill W. made a motion to the FB drawing and Steve Mann second. Motion carried. Marissa will work on the FB page.
- c. Gunnar Latham Concert status- Gregg will sign contracts and confirm and Bryan will get rider policy for concert through Marin

Biel. It was confirmed that Gunnar would be staying with Chad and Shonda Schilling that weekend.

2) 2027 Tournament dates discussion; Fri/Sat vs Sat/Sun~ there was discussion about asking the entrants to vote but it will be listed on the calendar as the 3rd weekend in July going forward.

Old Business:

a. Senior Fishing Day~ Bob Heier updated the group that he has 11 confirmed pontoons; he is trying to get 14 for sure. Jim Houck will make lunch; Becky will have the breakfast donuts/coffee and will get the snack bags ready for each pontoon/boat.

~We will run the ad 3 weeks before (May 27th, June 3rd & June 10th)

Marissa has it all ready to go. Becky will have it on DRG radio also. We will advertise in Hoven, Gettysburg, Bowdle and Selby papers. The fishing will start at 8am-3pm.

~6 people have signed up already

~Jerry Beadle offered to pay for breakfast or help with the advertising bill from Beadle Ford.

b. 2027 calendars at 2026 tournament

- i. Marissa will use 8 photos on each calendar page along with sponsorship ad, she has 12 years of photos to use.
- ii. SueAnn and Lisa are collecting the sponsorships as they have a letter that is going out to previous sponsors. They will have this completed by mid-June so that the calendar can go to press.

c. LOWC update by Bill W~ tagging of fish but some mechanics to do yet.

A motion to adjourn meeting by Craig Mehlhaff and a second by Steve Mann . Motion carried

Next meeting: May 21st @ 7pm

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Becky Randall, Secretary