



North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society
Joint Summer Business Meeting of the Centrarchid, Esocid,
and Walleye Technical Committees



10:00-12:00 AM, Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Virtual Zoom Meeting (Coordinated by Max Wolter)

WTC Chair: Lawrence Eslinger, lawrence.eslinger@wisconsin.gov

WTC Chair elect: Vacant

WTC Immediate past-chair: Mark Ermer, Mark.Ermer@state.sd.us

WTC Secretary: Dave Seibel, david.seibel@wisconsin.gov

ETC Chair: Addie Dutton, DuttonA@michigan.gov

CTC Chair: BJ Schall, Benjamin.Schall@state.sd.us

Minutes - Draft

1. Call to order @ 10:05 am
 - Introductions
2. Agenda additions – New Item 8 added – Dan Isermann: Walleye Stocking Success Project
3. Approve minutes from 2020 winter meeting
 - Mailed out prior to meeting*
 - No discussion
 - Motion to approve: Mark Ermer; Seconded: John Bruner; Approved
 - Dave Seibel will contact Brian Borkholder and have him post the minutes on the NCD website
4. WTC Treasurer's report (Dave Seibel)
 - WTC general/operating fund (expenses, deposits, and balances for calendar year)
 - Mark Ermer will check back with the Dakota Chapter concerning their pledge of \$1,000 towards publishing the 2021 Walleye Symposium
 - NCD has also pledged \$5,000 towards publishing the 2021 Walleye Symposium
 - WTC AFS Investment Account
 - John Bruner asked if we should withdraw from this account due to market instabilities and fluctuations
 - Discussion followed with points made on both sides of the issue. However, since we don't need the money for certain right now, decision was made to let it be
 - Lawrence Eslinger will check into this issue to see what the withdrawal process would entail (e.g. timeline, fees, etc.). Lawrence will report back on this at the Winter Meeting.
 - Motion to approve Treasurer's report: Mark Ermer; Seconded: Dale Logsdon; Approved

5. 2020 National AFS virtual meeting (Joseph Conroy – NCD president-elect)
 - Joe gave an overview of the upcoming virtual National AFS meeting; additionally, as incoming NCD president, he desires to empower the committees within NCD by supporting their respective efforts as much as possible.
 - John Bruner gave an update on the National AFS Symposium he organized: “Biology, Management, and Culture of Walleye, Sauger, and Yellow Perch: Status and Needs”; Sponsored by the AFS Habitat Section, symposium contributions to be published by Springer for free, Title: “Ecology, Management, and Culture of Walleye and Yellow Perch”, John and Robin DeBruyne (University of Toledo) are editors of the publication effort.
6. 2021 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference update (Dale Logsdon)
 - WTC sponsored symposium details: “Effects of System Change on North American Percid Populations”
 - Call for Midwest Conference papers will go out August 10 with abstract submission deadline of September 18
 - Discussions ensued on associated NAJFM page costs and how we would make funds available to contributors of symposium pub; 15 Symposium papers at an average of 15 pages each would result in a cost of about \$35,000 to publish (\$150 per page)
 - Dale Logsdon and Dan Isermann will put a document and questionnaire together for authors about the publication process, instructions, information on potential WTC help with page fees (aimed especially at state, federal, & tribal biologists, etc. with limited page funding options), and what is expected of Symposium authors
 - Dan will bring up publishing cost concerns at upcoming editors meeting
 - Sponsorship efforts: AFS sub-chapters and private entities
 - Lawrence Eslinger discussed ideas for soliciting sponsorship funds via targeted letters (showed a draft letter) and calls to prospective entities
 - Steve Gilbert gave an overview of the process that has worked well for him in the past for securing sponsorships
 - Lawrence mentioned creating a sub-committee to work on this effort; Mark Ermer offered to help; Lawrence and Mark will move the effort forward by developing the sub-committee and leading a coordinated, consistent sponsorship solicitation process
7. 2021 Summer Meeting Proposal: third week of July, Kemp Natural Resources Station, Woodruff, WI
 - Lawrence proposed for the 2021 Summer Meeting to be held at the Kemp Natural Resource Station in Woodruff, WI (as it was planned for in 2020, but cancelled due to COVID19 health concerns and restrictions); No objections or other ideas proposed; 2021 Summer Meeting will be in Woodruff, WI, third week of July.
8. Dan Isermann – Midwest Walleye Stocking Success Project
 - New project looking at identifying the potential factors influencing large fingerling stocking success (temps, latitude, relative predator abundance, etc.)

- The focus will be on large fingerlings, may involve OTC marking, with a project objective to provide a decision-making framework for more successful allocation of walleye fingerlings
 - Dan will give another update at our Winter Meeting
9. Break-out sessions for CTC, ETC, and WTC- State and Provincial Reports
- ETC broke out into a separate Zoom meeting “room”
 - MN – Dale Logsdon: no walleye eggs taken due to COVID19 so there will be limited fry stocking occurring this year (only privately grown contracted fish); They are ramping up to do more fall EF (1 dipper) to evaluate walleye NR and past stocking success
 - WI – Steve Gilbert: walleye eggs taken and production on schedule to meet quotas - small fingerlings already stocked out and 6” fall fingerlings are on schedule to be stocked; For the first time, WI will be fully following the regional walleye genetic stocking guidelines after successfully collecting eggs from a Lake Michigan drainage broodstock source; No spring survey work was done due to COVID19; Universities and GLIFWC were able to do some survey work; Fall walleye recruitment EF surveys may be able to be done, but possibly with only 1 dip netter
 - MO – Ben Parnell: walleye production exceeded goals and 2 million fingerlings and some fry were stocked; Limited spring survey work was done due to COVID19; Fall EF survey work is up in the air but if done, it will likely be with 1 dipper per boat
 - U of IL Natural History Survey, Illinois River Biological Station – Jason DeBoer: able to do some field work and use 2 dip netters in EF boats
 - SD – Mark Ermer & Dave Lucchesi: did not spawn walleye due to COVID19; Limited lake survey work done; EF surveys are allowed to use 2 dip netters but must wear masks whenever they work within 6 feet of each other; Limited perch stocking success has been noted in the past but this year perch eggs were taken (fry and fingerlings successfully stocked) as part of a stocking study to see if stocking perch in wetlands can create a winter fishery
 - UWSP Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit – Dan Isermann: centrarchid removal project continues and this study and another are designed to look at potential centrarchid impacts on walleye production; Green Bay walleye telemetry study continues and Green Bay walleye diet study is being wrapped up
 - IA – Rebecca Krogman: shot for an egg-take goal to satisfy about 50% of their walleye stocking requests, exceeded that 50% production goal; successfully completed fry and 2” fingerling stockings for walleye research needs; fall research projects are on schedule
10. Old business WTC
- Request \$5,000 from NCD to publish 2021 Midwest Walleye and Perch Symposia – Approved
 - Lawrence Eslinger re-iterated that the NCD approved this WTC proposal at this past winter’s NCD meeting, and the funds will eventually be deposited into our WTC account after NCD settles their finances from a couple other outstanding items/transactions (noted from NCD Treasurer Drew Holloway)

11. New business WTC

- Sander travel award (solicit for applications in August); Lawrence Eslinger and Dave Seibel will see to it that the Sander travel award opportunity for travel to the upcoming MWFWC is announced
- Chair-Elect: Since current WTC chair-elect is vacant, Lawrence Eslinger offered to remain as Chair for 2021 as long as NCD by-laws allow for that (Lawrence will check); group agreed; Lawrence will start a discussion with state representatives to help identify potential chair-elect candidates for getting someone in that position as soon as possible.
- Officer elections, amend/update by-laws to allow electronic and/or virtual quorum for conducting business (e.g. voting)
- Lawrence Eslinger will contact the NCD Executive Committee about amending our by-laws to allow for virtual/online meeting participation to satisfy meeting quorum requirements and business voting needs; Lawrence will present this as an action item at the Winter Meeting
- This Zoom meeting format worked well and discussion followed to allow for this type of virtual option in the future for both the Summer and Winter Meetings
 - Dave Seibel and Lawrence Eslinger will check into microphone costs to be used at the in-person portion of future meetings to help with the virtual meeting experience and report back at the Winter Meeting

12. Adjourn - Motion to adjourn: Mark Ermer; Seconded: John Bruner; Approved @ 12:15 pm