

Walleye Technical Committee

North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society



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2003 Summer Meeting Minutes

Chair Tim Banek opened the business meeting of the Walleye Technical Committee at approximately 8:10 P.M. on July 25, 2003 with **33** members in attendance.

Minutes from the 2002 winter meeting: Tim Banek, chair (MO). Minutes from the 2002 winter meeting were approved as published in the *Mainstream* (John Pitlo moved, Steve Hewett second). Chair Banek read portions of the minutes related to the walleye synopsis.

Financial report: Donna Muhm, secretary (IA). Balance as of November 1, 2002 was \$7,319.38. Interest disbursements from December 1, 2002 through May 31, 2003 totaled \$79.89, and Symposium manual sales were \$620.00. This leaves a balance as of May 31, 2003 of \$8,019.27. Thanks to Don Kline (IA) for this information.

Walleye Management Symposium module publication: Tim Goeman (MN) - handout. A handout from Symposium Editor Tim Goeman was distributed. As of the end of June, 2003, 186 copies of the symposium had been sold at \$10 per copy (\$1,860 in gross sales). A total of 495 copies were ordered, so a healthy quantity is still available. They are housed at the MN-DNR office in Grand Rapids. It does not appear that the WTC has been billed for the reprints (estimated \$1,200 - \$1,400). Sales have slowed considerably. Tim Goeman suggested that at some point the WTC consider methods for distributing the surplus reprints and terminate the project.

Walleye Synopsis Update: Nick Baccante. Nick discussed background behind and development of a walleye/sauger literature synopsis while he worked with the Walleye Unit, so there is a substantial start to such a synopsis (up to 1996). He stressed that this is a large undertaking and that no one will be able to do this off the corner of their desk. He clarified that FAO does not hold the copyright, so there is no need to be concerned about infringement. FAO just happened to have the money at the time to publish the synopsis.

Nick stated that the WTC simply needs to develop a strategy and suggested that the work not be divided among agencies and that a graduate student not be used. Instead he suggested using retired fisheries professionals. In addition, he recommended that a template be developed that describes what needs to be extracted from a publication for the synopsis.

Funding issues were discussed. It was noted that the importance of this work should be impressed upon agencies and that funding it would be beneficial. Alternative sources of funding include AFS and Sea Grant. Nick felt that the cost may not be as high as perhaps anticipated (retired folks may well enjoy working on the project). He also suggested that the WTC focus on making the synopsis available via the web rather than printing to avoid publishing cost.

Nick offered to provide direction to the project and his previously developed literature synopsis. Finally, Nick recommended that the synopsis be a 'living document' whereby authors or agencies can update as they publish materials.

There was discussion about the potential cost. It was felt that hiring retired fisheries professionals would be cheaper than agencies doing the work. A very rough cost estimate of \$10,000 to \$20,000 was provided as a reference for those contacting potential contractors. Mike Sullivan felt that cost may not be a huge issue to agencies that replied they used the synopsis in the survey.

Neil Billington offered to work with Brian Sloss (UWSP – WI Coop Fish Unit) on the genetics portion of the synopsis. In addition, Neil expressed his support for a web-based synopsis to facilitate fast and easy updates. Finally, Neil suggested that sauger be included in the synopsis.

The group felt that most of the work would be in developing the strategy and template. Once established, a commitment from authors of papers would be necessary to submit the completed template and keep the synopsis updated. No one would have time to assume the workload of adding new publications to the synopsis.

John Pitlo suggested that we simply approach a retired fisheries professional about doing the project. Nick Baccante offered to assist with the template. Discussion led to the determination that the individual must have access to online library searches and abstract services. Nick felt that getting any money at all together could get a lot of work done.

Chair Banek identified the subcommittee (John Pitlo, Steve Newman, Jim Breck) and asked for a strategy and decisions to be made on how to proceed.

Steve Hewett moved that the subcommittee contact 3 retired fisheries professionals (Dr. Robert Summerfelt (IA), James Schneider (MI), and Dennis Schupp (MN) to inquire about their interest and potential costs associated with creating the synopsis. Jeff Reed seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

John Pitlo moved that the state representatives on the WTC approach their state's fish chiefs and state AFS chapters for support (\$\$) for the synopsis. Neil Billington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Neil Billington moved that the synopsis be published as a .pdf file. Dave Luchessi seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Neil Billington offered to have an update on progress toward the genetics portion of the synopsis in a year.

It was determined that John Pitlo will contact Dr. Summerfelt about his interest. Tim Banek will contact Jim Breck (Schneider). Jeff Reed will contact Schupp.

Chair Banek requested clear direction for the synopsis by the winter meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

2003 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference: December 7-10, 2003. Kansas City, MO. The winter WTC meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, December 7.

2004 Chair/Chair-elect: Chair Banek noted that the WTC had departed from the procedures that are set and were a year behind schedule in finding a new chair and chair-elect. Chair Banek asked for nominations. John Pitlo nominated Jeff Reed (MN) for chair-elect. Nick Baccante nominated Mike Sullivan (AB) for chair (2004). Both accepted nominations.

Thanks: Thanks were expressed to Steve Gilbert (WI) and others for the planning and execution of the summer meeting. Per usual, well done, Steve!

Steve Gilbert moved that the WTC approve up to \$1,000 to assist the WTC chair travel to the WTC meetings (if needed) that was seconded by Jeff Reed. The motion passed.

Adjournment: John Pitlo made a motion for adjournment that was seconded by Jeff Hendrickson. Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Schmalz
Pinch-Hitter for Donna Hanen Muhm, Secretary