

Date: Wednesday Oct 25, 2022
Location: Holiday Inn, Cape Girardeau MO

1. Welcome

Michael Bill, MOSAF Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:22pm

2. Minutes

Motion to approve the spring meeting minutes was passed.

3. Treasurers Report: David Vance, Treasurer, was not in attendance but provided a written report. As of Oct 1, 2022:

- Account balances:

Savings	\$121.18
6 Month CD	\$19,155.83
12 Month CD	\$19,335.70
Checking	\$10,743.36
PLT Money Market	\$11,558.71
- Recent Transactions:

Donation, MU Student Chapter to attend National Convention	\$500.00
Deposits, Fall Tour/Meeting registrations	\$383.52
- Some government computers wouldn't allow use of Square. Most folks used their phone instead. Overall, David found using Square saved a lot of time and effort.
- A request was made to the chapter to think of ways to spend down our \$40k balance, such as providing more or bigger scholarships. The officers will discuss this further at the leadership meeting at MNRC.
- MU students appreciated the donation from the chapter to send them to the National Convention. They placed 2nd in the quiz bowl.
- Megan Buchanan will audit the chapter again this year.

4. Announcements

- Missouri Natural Resources Conference is coming up. We need to start planning.
- The biennial Southern Silviculture Conference will be held in Texas this spring.
- The Wetlands Summit in Missouri will be the week before MNRC at Lake of the Ozarks.
- MU and MSU forestry students will be attending a regional Forestry Conclave at SIU next weekend.

5. Committee Reports:

- Communications/Website (Jon Skinner)
 - Got Square up and running on the website.
 - Put a permanent link on the site to donate \$5 increments to the student fund. Square takes 2.9% and 0.30 off the top.
- Council, Fellows and Awards (Jim Barresi)
 - Please give nominations to Jim, to be awarded at spring meeting at MNRC

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- Education (Mike Goerndt)
 - We have Project Learning Tree funds.
- Membership (Hank Stelzer)
 - Membership is flat; 135 total.
- Program (Kristen Goodrich)
 - Options for our spring tour were discussed in New Business
- MNRC Steering Committee (Jon Skinner)
 - Conference is Feb 7-9, 2023. The theme is “New Frontiers in an Old Landscape.”
 - The Wildlife Society (TWS) is in charge this year but most people running MNRC are not in TWS.
 - If you have a topic for the Forestry workshop, abstracts are due Nov 8.
 - Any topics longer than 2 hours can be presented under the affiliated workshops. If you suggest a topic, you are in charge of planning the workshop.
 - Costs
 - Registration is \$115 for society members, late registration is \$135.
 - Margaritaville has increased price dramatically. Example: price of kegs has doubled. The contract with the hotel is through 2024.
 - A room is now \$114/night, and room reservations begin Jan 9th. Jon encourages everyone to reserve a room even if you may not attend, since you can cancel the room up to 72 hours beforehand.
 - Commercial Booths are increasing from \$300 to \$400. Anticipate that commercial booths will go up to \$450 in 2024. Non-profit booths are 150 with 1 registration.
 - Sponsorship levels are unchanged.
 - Our MOSAF chapter is hosting in 2024.
 - The theme is “Education: the Theme of Conservation Success.”
 - Looking for a plenary speaker. Let Justine Gartner or Jon Skinner know if have an appropriate suggestion.
 - No outside food will be allowed our year, so no more Lutz BBQ.
 - This will be Jon’s last year, so someone will have to take over.
 - Soil and Water is going to look at other hotels for a cheaper option for 2025.

6. Old Business

- Update on progress related to MOSAF Nonprofit status
 - Completed.
 - Student chapters are supposed to be under our chapter. MU is currently our only student chapter. They have their own account which is run entirely through students. No faculty or MU staff can be on their account.

7. New Business

- Planning for Forestry session at MNRC Due Nov 8 and Spring meeting
 - See committee reports for MNRC planning. Michael Bill and Kristen Goodrich will work on the conference.
 - Kristen Goodrich asked for suggestions for a spring meeting topic. Urban forestry was suggested. Jon Skinner thinks he could get Danny Moncheski and Mark Gruber to help us plan if it is held in St. Louis. This topic can tie into MDC’s push

for prioritizing community conservation cities. Kristen will send an email to poll folks on dates.

- Report of the SAF national conference
 - 1,300 attendees. The theme was “Our Working Mosaic.”
- Support of students to attend SAF convention
 - There was general chapter consensus that we continue to give financial assistance to students to attend the National SAF convention, since it is a great networking and learning opportunity.

8. Agency/consulting firm/NGO/university news

- FS Northern Research Station
 - Dan Dey is now serving as the Acting Assistant Station Director for Research in the Northern Research Station.
 - John Kabrick is serving as Acting Project Leader while Dan is in this role.
 - Texas Nall, the Chief Technician at the Sinkin Experimental Forest, retired on September 30th after more than 20 years of service to the Experimental Forest, so his vacancy is planned to be filled.
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
 - Expecting a substantial influx of funds as a result of Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Dollars will be targeted at Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF). Not sure what this will look like specifically, but will provide more funding towards forest management, agroforestry practices, and general tree/shrub establishment.
 - NRCS staff numbers will not change much. To deliver increased funding, they are looking into utilizing new and existing partnerships. They are also looking for ways to streamline internal Farm Bill Program implementation processes.
 - In FY22, conservation practice 666/Forest Stand Improvement was not on the list of CSAF practices because there was not sufficient documentation to show a short term benefit to carbon sequestration or storage. This means no additional funds available to implement our #1 forest management practice.
 - Many states lobbied on behalf of 666 and other practices based on their merits for climate resilience. Joe Alley was part of a small team involved with providing input.
 - FY23 CSAF list does include 666 in provisional status but requires support in terms of quantifiable carbon benefits. NRCS is working with USFS researchers and others to assist with this. This is a good opportunity for SAF assistance.
- University of Missouri
 - Brian Schweiss is starting Nov 1 in a position that is mostly Extension with some teaching. He will be working with the Missouri Woodland Steward program and a liaison with the White Oak Initiative. He'll be teaching forest mensuration, forest management, and a new harvesting/operations course.
 - The director for the Center for Agroforestry, Sarah Lovell, is retiring January 1. SNR has announced to refill the position, and Ben Knapp will be serving as the interim director until the position is filled.

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- Missouri Department of Conservation
 - A third party auditor recertified MDC through the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Full recertification occurs every 5 years.
 - The agency continues to have difficulty recruiting foresters for its vacancies, as well as difficulty with forester retention.
- Missouri Consulting Foresters
 - Having their meeting next week.

Meeting adjourned