

MOSAF Winter Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2022

Attendance: 28 in person, 19 online

1. **Welcome:** Michael Bill called the meeting to order and gave introductions:
 - Michael Bill, chair
 - John Kabrick, past-chair
 - Kristen Goodrich, chair-elect
 - Angela George, secretary
 - David Vance remains as Treasurer
 - Chapter welcomed special guests Terry Baker, SAF Chief Executive Officer; and Sam Cook, Vice President of SAF Board of Directors

2. **Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from fall meeting was passed.

3. **Treasurer's report:** We have a flat budget with plenty of money to get work done.

4. **Announcements:** Spring meeting date is not yet set but will potentially be held in the bootheel. Missouri Natural Resources Conference gives 8 Certified Forester CFE credits, and a reminder that any tours our chapter puts on provide CFEs.

5. **Progress report on 2021 MOSAF objectives:** Received good feedback on previous meetings. There were some attempts to reach out to student chapters but Covid made it difficult.

6. **2022 MOSAF objectives:**
 - Actively solicit new members
 - Hold one day and two-day events, possibly piggybacking meetings and tours with Arkansas chapter for networking opportunities and see what issues they're having.
 - Address the missing young professionals demographic in the chapter. Suggestion for monthly short member presentation to each of the colleges, as well as 4-5 person panels.
 - "Find your Five"- Bill calls for all members to reach out to past or potential members with a personal note or discussion about joining MOSAF. The national SAF talking points about member benefits will be refined for Missouri.
 - Engage new members in committee rolls to get them engaged.

7. **Committee reports:**
 - Audit- Megan Buchanan- we passed 2020 audit; 2021 audit will start shortly.
 - Communications and Websites- Jon Skinner- Website needs a little updating.
 - Council, Fellows and Awards- Jim Barresi- Karkhagne and Outstanding Forester awards will be presented later that evening. Recipients of the two \$1,000 scholarships (Ed Stagner and MOSAF chapter) will be awarded shortly.
 - Education- Mike Goerndt- Please send agendas and information about an event you want CFEs provided for at least 4-6 weeks before so it can be approved on the national level. If an event already occurred, requests for CFEs must be submitted by individual attendees.
 - Membership- Hank Stelzer- 138 active members, down from 151. 12 new student members.

- Nominating- Gus Raeker- Expressed appreciation for the suite of candidates who ran for offices, and for John Kabrick and Ben Knapp for helping. He is willing to keep this chair role but is also willing to pass the torch if someone is interested.
- Policy and Legislation- Jason Jensen- RAWA could increase state funding. Current state legislation proposed to double the number of Conservation Commissioners and make them elected positions. Some people testified in favor, their position being that MDC is not conducting good forest management. MDC has tried to do an educational tour for legislators, but no elected officials showed up. This might be an opportunity for MOSAF, as experts for forest management in the state, to hold a similar tour.
- Program- Kristen Goodrich- Chapter brainstormed of ideas for spring and fall tour and meeting location and dates. Suggestions included bootheel swamp forests in spring; Ozark Shavings in Licking for fall; tour of Royal Oak Charcoal in Dent Co to see their \$40M in plant improvements; a workshop on the White Oak Initiative, with focus on issues with recruitment and retention; community forestry; state nursery in the spring.
- Special funds- David Massengale- Received around \$500 for silent auction today. Blackjack Forester Award goes to Mike Goerndt, electric chainsaw winner is Rod Tucker. Crader Distributing has donated a saw to MOSAF for 40 years.
- Forest Science- Lauren Pile- Central Hardwoods conference coming up. National Convention is Sept 20-24 in Baltimore. She will focus on graduate research in the chapter newsletters.
- Newsletter Editor- Chris Lohmann- the fall newsletter is on the website. Requests for articles and photos for spring newsletter will come out soon.
- MNRC Steering Committee- Jon Skinner- MOSAF is the lead host for the 2024 conference. Listed people who have volunteered to help. Jon still needs an exhibits and sponsors person, and a budget person soon so they can shadow for the 2023 planning.

8. Old Business:

- SAF wants all local chapters 5501(c)(3); we have been a nonprofit since March 2014.
- Directors and Officers insurance to protect leaders against legal issues with MOSAF their personal finances are protected. Membership dues would cover this on a per person basis. We could use an external company but the SAF rate is good, and we would be part of an umbrella coverage. We are covered so long as our officer roster is up to date on the website.

9. New Business:

- None that wasn't discussed elsewhere in the meeting.

10. Reports from National Office:

Report from Terry Baker, CEO

- SAF hired a consultant to look at bylaws and documents and will come up with a structure of membership that will make us more successful.
- Membership support: Creating handouts to share with potential members that will connect the dots of how SAF can benefit them.
- Infrastructure bill had a lot of forest management funds, it didn't but pass but created good conversation. He recently discussed the 10 year fire strategy with the USFS chief.
- SAF will be a part of the discussion with the new Farm Bill, as part of a coalition of 15 forestry organizations.

- Position statements- Forest Policy Committee emphasized more concise messages, and proactive position statements rather than reactionary. There are more coming.
- There are updated accreditation standards, including a new community forestry credential.
- SAF is investing in continuing education. For example, Michigan state has many courses on ForestEd.
- Invited all members to join an SAF working group.
- Tradewind is an online collaborative platform where you can share articles and have conversations.
- Invited all members to write an article for ForestrySource.
- The board of directors has a new seat, for a young professional to help SAF engage with young professionals. Member must be under 40 and not in college.

Report from Sam Cook, Vice President SAF Board of Directors

- Membership recruitment is a big issue. He challenged all of us to get close with the schools and faculty, as well as to engage more minorities. This includes high school and elementary schools since we are losing forestry students.

11. Reports from Agency Representatives

- Mark Twain NF
 - Agency-wide positions being advertised, many of which are geared for students and young professionals.
- FS Northern Research Station
 - Brown headed nuthatch introduction and monitoring continues.
 - Looking at compaction and establishing pollinator plantings on log landings.
 - Savanna and woodland restoration project at Prairie Fork CA.
- NRCS
 - Currently hiring a bunch of people.
 - Forest Management Plan process went through a change and is now broken into two pieces. Often both pieces will be recombined through EQIP.
 - Fire training is in process so more staff can write prescribed burn plans.
- MU
 - FFA district contest rules are now in line with national rules. Make sure your local teachers know of the changes. Missouri took national last year.
 - Oak regeneration position that is 70% Extension and 30% teaching will be advertised next week. Funded extensively through private businesses.
 - MU is accredited in forest resource management and terrestrial ecosystem through 2029.
 - Mike Stanbaugh moved into a tenured forest ecologist and forest health position. Jeff Wood is tenured as tree physiologist, also runs MoFlux tower. The forest economics position is a weak spot at present.
 - Student enrollment is stable, not high.
- MSU
 - started new degree a couple years ago - natural resources with forestry emphasis. Forestry minor still exists and remains very popular. College of Ag numbers went down, Natural Resources numbers are increasing.
 - Going to proceed in earnest to get a student SAF chapter.
 - Diversity- at least 2/3 of forestry club are women.

- Midwest conclave- MSU was supposed to host spring 2021, Southern Illinois University was to host in 2020, both were cancelled due to Covid. Now no students left that have ever been to a conclave.
- MDC
 - Continue to be SFI certified, next audit end of August, this one will be the full recertification audit.
 - Staff been focused on increasing forest management on state land, particularly harvesting. Double the amount of wood on the market in the last 12 months. To keep up, they have contracted some of the timber marking and thanks was giving to the FS for contracting assistance.
 - Simplified funding opportunities in community forestry. Prioritization process within community forestry as a part of the Comprehensive Conservation Strategy. Criteria- ethnicity, poverty rates, canopy coverage, distance to nature/public land. Priority areas to be identified by end of FY, with implementation in FY23.
- Missouri Consulting Foresters Association
 - Two training sessions per year. Upcoming virtual meeting Feb 24-25, offering 11 CFEs. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25. Email Lynn for info actuallywood@gmail.com.
- LAD foundation
 - 2 new foresters on Pioneer Forest.
 - Will begin on an ecological management plan.
 - Has a virtual silviculture video.
 - Roger Still is the new LAD foundation manager.
- Other reports
 - Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) will give funds to implement the state Wildlife Action Plan, as well as increasing recreation and education. Missouri's Wildlife Action Plan is contained in the Comprehensive Conservation Strategy, which also includes the Forest Action Plan. Missouri is well-positioned to have good forest management activity if RAWA passes.
 - Independent Stave is getting chain of custody SFI certification. This is a volume credit system, so all their barrels will be getting the SFI mark.

Meeting adjourned