

**Annual Meeting of the Alabama Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2022 Business Meeting**

Virtual meeting via Zoom
12 July 2022
(submitted by Dennis DeVries)

Officers:

President: Cal Johnson
President-Elect: Jason Throneberry
Secretary: Dennis DeVries
Treasurer: Colin Dinkin
Immediate Past President: Keith Henderson

Meeting Minutes:

- The meeting was called to order by Cal Johnson at 1:10pm.
- It was determined that a quorum was not present for the meeting.
- Cal Johnson presented the President's report.
 - The next annual Chapter meeting will be held in Gulf Shores in January 2023.
 - Cal discussed the bank account situation, including past problems with having a debit card for the account. The officers have found it difficult to make purchases so a debit card has been reinstated on the account. The officers will maintain complete and total transparency relative to its use (to be discussed during new business).
 - Fees for the annual meeting for professional levels will be increased due to the increased costs of the Gulf Shores meeting site. There will be no change in student fees. The meeting will run ½ day on Tuesday and ½ day on Wednesday.
- Jason Throneberry presented the President-Elect's report.
 - A call for abstracts for the 2023 annual meeting will be sent out around 1 September.
- Keith Henderson presented the Immediate Past President's report.
 - The 2021 annual meeting was successfully held at the Kickback Ranch with a combination of in-person and virtual attendees.
- Dennis DeVries presented the Secretary's report.
 - Chapter membership currently stands at 73.
 - Minutes for the 2021 annual business meeting, the 2022 EXCOM meeting, and the 2022 annual business meeting were all distributed via email prior to this meeting. The 2021 annual business meeting minutes require approval by the membership, but without a quorum, this will wait for the 2023 annual business meeting in Gulf Shores.
- Colin Dinkin presented the Treasurer's report.
 - A \$10,000 investment was made in the AFS portfolio.
 - The Regions account has a balance of \$6,663.65.
 - \$500 was contributed to the AFS Southern Division meeting.
 - \$91 was paid for the EXCOM meeting.
 - The Paypal account balance is \$817.08.
- Old Business
 - Nominations Committee: Keith Henderson said that we need to nominate a new President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary for the 2023 Gulf Shores meeting.

- Membership Committee: Greg Whitis asked what the bylaws said were the duties of his committee. Cal said he would pass that on to Gregg. Jason said he would touch base with Greg as well.
- Scholarship Committee: Katie Lawson was not present, but the officers noted that a date for David Bayne scholarship applications would be sometime in fall 2022.
- Program Committee: Jason Throneberry said that aquaculture would be back in the program, and hoped to have a coastal session as well, along with the other usual topics. The committee will have to see what papers are submitted and then group them into appropriate categories.
- Student Affairs Committee: Henry Hershey provided an update on a meeting held at Auburn University where professionals were invited to meet with students to talk about what they like about their jobs, hiring processes, etc. Attendees included 6 undergraduates from Troy University. The committee is looking at ways to increase participation (particularly that is hard to get participation even within Auburn University).
- Sponsorship Committee: Kyle Bolton said that sponsorship levels would remain the same for the Gulf Shores meeting. He has a flyer and letter to go to prospective donors.
- Website Committee: Chad Fitch noted that all information concerning the meeting, scholarship, etc. will be put up on the Chapter's web page. He can put registration information there as well. And he still needs photos for the web page, particularly panoramic views.
- Audit Committee: Larry Lawson had nothing to report.
- Southern Division AFS meeting to be hosted by ALAFS: An exploratory committee was formed to look at having ALAFS host the 2027 AFS Southern Division meeting. Steve Sammons noted that the group has started to learn about how to proceed with organizing and hosting a meeting, and that they are still 5 years out from the actual meeting. They are starting to think about cities to host it.
- Anthony Overton had several announcements from Jason Olive (SDAFS President):
 - Remember to nominate individuals for AFS Society awards
 - Consider volunteering for Southern Division committees,
 - We need better vertical communication between the Southern Division and the Chapters.
 - There are student rooms at the AFS Southern Division meeting- 2 students/room; reach out to Southern Division officers if interested.
 - Change of officer forms need to be completed.
 - There is an AFS Code of Conduct for meeting participation that should be put on the Chapters website.
 - Remember upcoming AFS, SEAFWA, and Southern Division meetings.
- The web site will continue to be updated.
- Updates concerning the 2023 Gulf Shores meeting have already been noted earlier in the meeting.
- New Business
 - Officers (Colin and Dennis will rotate off their 3-year terms at the Gulf Shores meeting in 2023):
 - President: Cal Johnson
 - President-Elect: Jason Throneberry
 - Treasurer: Colin Dinkin
 - Secretary: Dennis DeVries

- Past President: Keith Henderson
- Bank account info:
 - Have had some difficulty getting Cal Johnson added to the bank account.
 - Currently there are no debit cards for the account, so checks have to be written for everything to be purchased.
 - The EXCOM voted to get debit cards for the President, President-Elect, and Treasurer. Monthly printouts from the Treasurer will be distributed relative to what was spent. They will talk with Regions about getting text alerts as well.
- 2023 Annual Meeting
 - Held at Gulf Shores, 24-25 January 2023
 - Costs are increased, so professional registration will go up to \$100 pre-registration and \$115 on site registration.
 - Call for abstracts will go out by 1 September 2022.
- 2027 Southern Division Annual Meeting
 - Alabama (ALAFS) will host
 - Will be announced at the Gulf Shores meeting.
- Action items-- none
- Meeting was adjourned at 2:46pm.