



**Directors:** Art Cottrell, Lisa Gilmore, Keven Graham, Ken Krueger, Mike Lesiak, Steve Shapiro,  
**Ex Officio Director:** Willie Beshire; **Emeritus Directors:** Jeff Berg, Joe Hammon, Ed Michael, Gregory Prosen,  
Marvin Strauch, Doug Vanerka, Joseph Vitti

**Officers:** Dave Carlson, President; Dan LaFave, Vice President; Jack Potts, Treasurer; Carol Hennessy, Secretary

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

On Wednesday April 12, 2023, 7:19 PM, the OBTU Board of Directors held their monthly meeting at the Downers Grove Public Library and via conference call (Zoom)

### **Officers and Directors present**

Dave Carlson, President  
Dan LaFave, Vice President  
Jack Potts, Treasurer  
Willie Beshire, Past President  
Art Cottrell  
Lisa Gilmore  
Keven Graham  
Greg Prosen  
Steve Shapiro  
Marvin Strauch  
Joe Vitti

### **Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Excused:**

Carol Hennessy, Secretary  
Mike Lesiak  
Ed Michael

### **Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Not Excused**

### **Members present:**

### **Call to Order:**

D. Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m.

### **Approve Minutes From the March 8, 2023 BOD Meeting:**

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by K. Graham to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2023 Board of Directors' meeting with the correction in the regarding the amount budgeted for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event,

### **Order of Business:**

The order of business was approved without objections.



## **Reports:**

### **Education**

M. Strauch updated the Board regarding the upcoming Trout in the Classroom activities and schedule. Dean Hansen will be staying at an AirBnB in Willow Springs which is relatively close to M. Strauch's home. M. Strauch reported that they have 22 volunteers signed up to help with the entomology component of the program. Regarding the trout release component, he and Steve Carlson surveyed Rock Creek at both the location in Kankakee River State Park as well as the section north of the park. Both sites looked great for our program.

In regards to Stream Girls, Alexi Cottrell is doing a marvelous job registering girl scouts and getting the word out about this program. Steve Carlson and he surveyed Hickory Creek today and determined that this location will be a wonderful site for our Stream Girls Program.

As introduced last month, there is a traveling exhibit on loan from the National Fly Fishing Museum which will be on display in Monee. We have been asked to participate in a fly fishing program. If we decide to participate, we need to select a date asap since Will County will be printing the calendar of its events later this month. One possibility is to have four volunteers at the building where this exhibit is on display to demonstrate fly tying for one day. At the same time have three or four volunteers demonstrate casting and discussing fly rods. The Board selected Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> as the date where we could schedule this program.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

J. Potts reported on the past month's activities. There were a flurry of activities in the last month. He reported that the Vanguard Account was up \$3,600 for the first quarter, For the entire fiscal year we were down \$2,400. The chapter money is in a money market account earning 4% interest. The moneys in the endowment fund are in bond funds that are also earning 4%.

J. Potts reviewed the expenses with the Board including the Oak Brook Post Office Box Fee, the Go Daddy payment (reimbursed to Willie), the Oak Park District Meeting Room Fee (explaining the process on how he is reimbursed for the amount that he pays via his credit card), raffle licenses fees (reimbursed to Carol), Youth Fly Fishing Vises, the Alpha Graphics printing and mailing cost, the annual TUDARE donation, and the donation to the Youth Camp.

J. Potts reminded everyone on the Board regarding the upcoming report due to TU National. This report is due in May.

### **Membership:**

K. Krueger reported on membership activities, This past Saturday they had a fly tying event in Urbana. Eight people showed up for this event. Many may come up for casting on the Fox River later this week. He is still working on putting together an event on Devil's Kitchen Lake for some of our Downstate members later in July – last weekend in July – although not official yet. He is still working on the details. He will resume publicize for Trout on Tap instead of Fly Tying. We get more members out for Trout on Tap. Members can still bring their fly tying equipment and material.



### **Illinois Youth Camp**

D. LaFave reported that they are doing pretty well recruiting for this year's camp. He is still looking for females and scholarship campers. He has eight mentors lined up, but is still looking to add two more mentors. M. Strauch recommended that he reach out to Fly Girls for potential mentors. They have sold about 125 rod raffle tickets to date. We have TU Nationals blessings as long as we don't sell raffle tickets on line.

### **Communications & Publicity**

W Beshire reported that the latest newsletter was sent out within the last week. The newsletter was about 19 pages long with the conservation section being the longest. In the past year we put out two longer newsletters, but used other platforms for regular communications. He likes this cycle instead of more frequent newsletters with more redundant articles. Constant Contact and our social platforms can be used to send out more timely material.

W. Beshire recommended that we get our committee together to develop a more systematic approach for using Instagram and Facebook. We currently use an ad hoc approach which works for now, but we can improve.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

K. Graham reported on the planning for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. He is meeting with the Park District to nail down some of the details. We are looking to confirm all of the vendors. He recommended that W. Beshire reach out to Chris Wood's assistant to coordinate the details and definition of his role for the event. He and Jim are working on scheduling the next committee meeting.

The Board discussed how to develop a method of inviting and confirming attendees to this free event. Possibilities include using the Facebook platform. The committee is working on the save the date flyer.

D. Carlson reported that he spoke to Stan Z about the fly boxes as discussed at last month's meeting. He also has additional samples of the OBTU 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary stickers.

D. Carlson reported that he spoke to Steve Troutman regarding the band and additional gigs to help cover their expenses.

### **Conservation**

D. Carlson reported on Conservation activities. The next event is in tandem with the Southeast Wisconsin work day. As discussed at previous meeting, the Board had discussed the purchase of a brush cutter. The Board discussed whether to purchase the piece of equipment verses giving them as check. The recommendation is to purchase the equipment and present it at next week's meeting.

D. Carlson updated the Board about E-DNA which samples for any species. The committee has been reviewing this for a while. Dennis Wisnowsky located some potential contacts on this



subject. A potential resource is working on developing a marker for this process. The committee is researching equipment that can be used for this project. D. Carlson briefly discussed what we can use this data for and where we can share this data with. As we move forward we need to determine where we should sample. Is it only Illinois or is it in other locations where we have a history. The Conservation Committee has set-up a sub-committee to develop a plan which addresses those questions. This could be the legacy project that we are looking for.

D. Carlson reported on May activities. May 6<sup>th</sup> is our DuPage River cleanup. Coldwater survey is May 20<sup>th</sup>. Jay Anglin is our May meeting speaker – he is the president of MEANDERS, which covers the Dowagiac River projects and concerns. No new information on the Traverse Valley Creek project.

### **Programs**

S. Shapiro reported on the speakers for April and May. The Board discussed whether we should do the brats for the May meeting. A. Cottrell will help with the technology setup for the April meeting.

### **President's Report**

D. Carlson reported that E Michael's wife passed away recently. He will be off-line for a while.

D. Carlson reported that Stan offered to run a Fall Steelhead trip in Michigan. This would be open to all members. OBTU would promote the trip. It would be out of Traverse City. It is an all-inclusive trip. It is a two-hand swing rod trip. Cost would be \$1,800..

D. Carlson reported that there are 19 people signed up for the Fennimore Trip.

D. Carlson reported that Robert Rowe has been appointed to the Illinois Council and we hope to appoint him as our advocacy chair. We hope to form an advocacy committee in our chapter. He briefly highlighted some of the items that were included in his report to the chapter.

### **Endowment:**

No report

### **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by K. Graham to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: May 10, 2023  
Date

Carol Hennessy  
Carol Hennessy  
Secretary