



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, June 14, 2023, 7:05 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
Carol Hennessy, Secretary
Willie Beshire, Past President
Art Cottrell
Keven Graham
Lisa Gilmore
Mike Lesiak
Steve Shapiro
Marvin Strauch
Greg Prosen

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Excused:

Jack Potts, Treasurer
Ed Michael
Ken Krueger

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Not Excused

Members present:

Call to Order:

D. Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approve Minutes From the May 10, 2023 BOD Meeting:

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by K. Graham to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2023 Board Meeting with the corrected amount donated to the Timber Coulee project being \$1,500 not \$15,000 . The motion passed.

Order of Business:

The order of business was approved without objections.



Reports:

President's Report

D. Carlson reported that there is a 50th Anniversary Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow night via Zoom.

50th Anniversary

K. Graham updated the Board on the progress for the 50th Anniversary event thus far. The flyers advertising the event have been dropped off at various locations. Other outreach efforts continue. The AV needs for the entertainment still need to be finalized. Work continues on tying down details for the number of tents needed by vendors and by other organizations. A food vendor still needs to be finalized. K. Graham also reported that as part of tomorrow night's committee meeting potential kids activities will be explored and discussed.

As discussed and approved at prior meetings, a request to cut a check for a donation of \$750 to the Oak Brook Park District was made.

The Board briefly discussed the Social Media tools available to us. A post on Facebook will be done shortly. A post on Instagram was made earlier in the week. We did get the permission from the Illinois Council to use it I-Contact to invite members of other chapters to this event.

D. Carlson reported that he has given S. Zarnoweicki a P.O. number to order the 200 fly boxes as discussed at prior meetings.

The Board discussed what table we should have set up at the event for our programs, i.e. Conservation table, Education / Youth Table. It also briefly discussed if we should have a contingency in case of rain or storms. There will be no rain dates. It was recommended that we plan to rent one large tent or large pavilion if rain is forecasted.

D. Carlson reported that we will be providing water to attendees. The food vendors won't have to worry about that. Because of food safety concerns we will be distributing bottled water.

L. Gilmore stated that she could invite Driftless Women on the Fly as well as Wisconsin Women Fly Fishers. She will also reach out to John Van Vliet the author of the books Fly Fishing N.E. Iowa, Fly Fishing S.E. Minnesota, and Fly Fishing Wisconsin to see if he is interested in having a book signing table at the event.

D. Carlson reported that he did send out information about the Silver Trout Award. We can publicize it using Constant Contact, Facebook and Instagram. He did note that credit for this also goes to the strong foundation that our chapter was built as well as our long-term relationships with other chapters. He and W. Beshire will be heading to Spokane Washington for the September 29th award presentation.



Illinois Council:

D. Carlson reported that the Illinois Council had its first in-person meeting since the beginning of Covid on Monday evening. One of the items discussed was the development of an Advocacy Committee to assist with the Council's advocacy efforts.

Illinois Council Youth Camp:

D. LaFave reported that we have 10 campers registered. They are all boys, no girls. He has 10 mentors to-date. In regards to the bamboo rod raffle, 193 tickets have been sold. The drawing will be at the end of the month or as soon as all 200 tickets are sold, which ever is first. As in last year, he is in receipt of the \$5,000 contribution from a generous donor.

Financial Development:

C Hennessy reported that the 2023 Solicitation Drive letter and flyer will be sent to the printer shortly. She is looking at a printer in Berwyn instead of Alpha Graphics. She hopes to have the letter and flyer in members hands by the end of the month.

She is still looking at venues for the Holiday Party.

Communications:

W. Beshire reported that he will be launching a wave of publicity about the chapter's Silver Trout Award. He will also start publicizing the chapter's Fall Fishing Outing to Wisconsin and to Iowa. He will be sending out the Action Alert regarding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative via Constant Contact. The news releases for the 50th Anniversary will be sent to the Daily Herald, the Chicago Tribune, Wisconsin Trout and Midwest Fly Fishing.

Education:

M. Lesiak reported on the Youth Fly Fishing sessions. The second session was held on June 10th. The next session is July 8th. They are going well.

M. Strauch reported that despite all of Alexa Cottrell hard work in the recruiting. The June 3rd StreamGirls was cancelled. The next Girl Scout StreamGirls is scheduled for August 26th at Camp Dean. A number of girl scouts have already signed up for this session.

M. Strauch reported that Joe Vitti's daughter, Annie Vitti contacted him about having a StreamGirls session at Kankakee River State Park in August. The date for this session is Saturday, August 19th. The Education Committee realized that this meant back-to-back programs, but felt that it was doable. The Kankakee River State Park event will be cross-promoted by us and by the State Park.

M. Strauch updated the Board on the new Trout in the Classroom school. Lincoln Elementary in Glen Ellyn was the only schooled that applied and was then chosen. This program will be used in the third grade classrooms.



Conservation

D. Carlson reported that the Dowagiac River group, MEANDERS has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, June 29th to discuss the next phase.

In regards to the recent Cold Water River outing, there were 17 people in attendance with lots of local Schrems and new members in attendance.

D. Carlson updated the Board on the Traverse Valley Creek project. Peter Jonas, Clear Water Chapter representative told him that there was an issue with the project. The grant was approved, but before proceeding more paperwork needs to be filled out. They need to verify when their chapter was founded and they are having problems finding that documentation. D. Carlson reminded the Board that our chapter had pledged \$6,000 to help finance the match for the grant.

M. Strauch informed the Board that John McKenzie called to report that the cable to our Mayfly Monitoring Station has been cut. It was probably critter damage. Jake Lemon reported it to the Watershed Council. It needs repair. The cost for the new and improved cable, which prevents critter gnawing, is \$600. Jake Lemon's TU division will cover half. Of the remaining \$300, the Watershed Council will pay half. Our portion would then be \$150.

A motion was made by C. Hennessy and seconded by D. LaFave to spend the \$150 necessary to replace the cable. The motion passed.

It was recommended to see if we could get a Mayfly Temperature Logger display for our August 12th event.

Programs and Special Events

S. Shapiro reported that Joel Ruby, the local videographer who has worked with Orvis and recently did a video called "All in the Water" will be the presenter at our September Meeting. Other speakers that he is working with for Fall presentations are P.J. Smith, a Driftless area guide and Mat Wagner who organizes trips to Patagonia.

Treasurer's Report

D. Carlson reported that J. Potts had sent out the Financials for the Board's review and comments.

Membership:

The next Trout on Tap is set for Thursday, June 22nd.

Old Business:

As discussed in the past, M. Strauch recommended that we publicize our Board agendas and our Board Minutes, once passed, on the website.



Adjournment:

A motion was made by D. LaFave and seconded by M. Strauch to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: July 12, 2023
Date

Carol Hennessy
Carol Hennessy
Secretary