



DATE: Tuesday February 19th, 2019
TIME: 6:34 PM –7:34 PM
LOCATION: American Legion post 773

Erie Pennsylvania Sport Fishing Association

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday February 19th, 2019

Call to Order Time: 6:34 PM

E.P.S.F.A. Board of Directors Meeting to Discuss: Buoy fund, bonus on tournaments, cooler raffle, GLSFC, tournament dates and rules, kids' day, website fish reporting, review old and new business.

Board Members Present: Pete Alex, Paul Olszewski, Terry Kremer, Joe Nemet, Quinn Bayle, Justin DiRado, Mike Vincent, and Todd Redmond.

Associate Board Members Present: none

Directors Not Present: none

Current Membership: 148 (23 Members present at January public meeting, 15 + 8 Board members)

Approval of Previous Minutes

Pete Alex motioned to accept January's minutes, Todd Redmond seconded.

Treasurer's Report

Pete Alex motioned to accept January's Treasurer's report. Paul Olszewski seconded.

- ✓ CHECKING: \$4,783.46
- ✓ SAVINGS: \$13,886.57
- ✓ BT SAVINGS: \$9,656.66

Reimbursements:

Cooler items, Raffle tickets, Legion hall rental

Old Business

- 1) Trophy presentation for 2018 Fall Trout Tournament win to Jason Whitman of Team Outcast, and Overall 2018 Trout Cup to Dr. Bob Ferraro of Team Heartbeat.
Tournament dates have been set. We will have spring trout on April 14th, Summer Slam on August 10th and 11th. Fall Trout on October 20th. The only major changes to the rules this year will be Summer Slam amateur division: reduction to 6 fish instead of 9. The double down optional entry will be changed to pay out 20% of field formula (same as tournament payout). However, be sure to check rules for each tournament as they become available on the EPSFA website (tournament section).
- 2) The BOD announced that we will not be hosting the traditional Walleye Challenge. Paul O. spoke on that and clarified that due to lack of a tournament director or membership volunteers and moderate turnout, we decided to engage in (1) large event, that being the Summer Slam/Pro Am two-day (optional) event in August. We also want to combine this with a FishUSA event that weekend and make it our annual flagship event.
- 3) The EPSFA received a large year end donation of \$3,000 designated to be added to our 2019 Tournaments. This will be broken up over the three tournaments of this year. This will be in addition to the normal pay out for each tournament: Additional \$500 bonus money to the 1st place for Spring Trout Challenge and Fall Trout Challenge, \$500 to the 2019 Trout Cup winner, 1st place in Summer Slam Pro division \$1,000 bonus, Amateur division first place \$500 bonus.
- 4) Schedule of events flyer need created for 2019. We will need to post at all marina's, sport stores to get the word out. (Terry volunteered to complete this again)
- 5) Update rules for all tournaments, approve by BOD, and post to website. (Terry & Quinn)
- 6) Completed contract for TREC center auditorium rental on August 9th and send check. (Terry & Joe)
- 7) Possible future presenters: Lake Shore Towing, commercial net fisherman, and PFBC. EPSFA to invite them to meet for information/presentations.
- 8) Can Lake Erie stamp money be used to fund buoy? Question to be asked to PAFBC.
- 9) Pete communicated with Jeanette Schnarrs regarding this year's buoy(s). She stated they have the funds (\$10,000) to deploy at least (1) buoy this year and is still seeking funds to deploy the second buoy. Pete relayed to her that one is better than none and maybe the goal should always be to keep (1) active buoy and save excess money for funding (1). With exception to use it or lose it grant opportunities.
- 10) LEPMAG (Lake Erie Percid Management committee) has a video conference call scheduled for this week. Ralph and Pete will try to engage in it. (Ralph and Pete are the EPSFA's committee members)
- 11) Justin discussed AFTCO (American Fishing and Tackle Company), a national outdoor products and apparel retailer becoming involved with fishing related conservation projects. More specifically, fishery

projects such as GLATOS. FishUSA and AFTCO intend to work together in the future on such projects as the local walleye tagging project (GLATOS).

12) Quinn to create a new category on EPSFA message board Forum called "Fishing Reports".

New Business

- 1) Schedule of events flyer are done, but need to be posted at all marina's, sport stores, FishUSA, and any place a fisherman may visit. We **MUST** get the word out early!! Any other marketing ideas would gladly be discussed.
- 2) We did find out Lake Erie stamp money could be used to fund the buoy's if needed, once the new proposed HR Bill is approved. Currently, the near shore buoy has funding to be deployed this year and they are still trying to get funding for the second buoy normally deployed off Walnut.
- 3) BOD to ensure Lake Shore Towing and Capt. Paul Greiner are on for March Meeting.
- 4) We received a donation for the Kids' Fishing Day from Ameridrives Company. BOD to send thank you letter.
- 5) Pete will be attending Lake Erie Committee meeting meeting in Michigan in March. They will be announcing the 2019 TAC (total allowable catch) at this meeting and providing the Lake Erie report.
- 6) Would like to thank our guests from the PAFBC; waterway conservation officers Matt and Tyler gave there update on regulations and what is happening now with the new director in place.
- 7) Would like to thank guest; commercial fishermen Jim Schafer, for his presentation on commercial fishing nets. What the flags mean, how they are set-up and how to avoid a tangle. There are three commercial licenses in PA, and each license can use 6 nets. Most are set within 10 foot of the bottom except when targeting White Fish. White Fish nets are set as high as 45' off the bottom.

Unfinished Business

- 1) PAFBC's Mark Haffley and Chuck Murray are scheduled to be our presenters for our April's public meeting. EPSFA wants to solidify the plans for the brown trout program and stocking of browns and steelhead. How many are going to be stocked, where, and when. Co-op and PAFBC grown. Pushing for east side release. Plans are also in the works to Adipose clip and insert snout ID tag into steelhead in the next 2-3 years. This would be a similar program used on Lake Erie Lake Trout and Lake Ontario Coho and Chinook Salmon
- 2) Club fund raising opportunities discussed but need more input...Ongoing...
- 3) Kids day will be on Saturday, May 25th this year. Due to the overwhelming success of this program, allowable entries have been changed from 75 to 100 kids! Paul Olszewski will spearhead this program as he does every year. Sign-ups will be online at EPSFA.com. Donations are needed to help this program with food and prizes for the kids. Donations needed: **\$1,500**. All members should reach out to employers and contacts for donations to make this kids day a success. Want to volunteer? Call Paul @ 814-566-4995.SONS will have volunteers to teach casting and help.

- 4) Justin discussed AFTCO (American Fishing and Tackle Company), a national outdoor products and apparel retailer and their involvement with fishing related conservation projects. GLATOS is one they and FishUSA will be involved with.
- 5) Request made to members to invest some time to our “fishing reports” area on the forum on this year. This was a big selling point for membership in our club originally but faded way. Members could get the latest and best fishing information for our area. Our members, including charter boats and serious fisherman, should be willing to share (most) of their information on our “members only” fishing report forum. We need to be focusing on getting more members in our club, and this is one of the best ways to do it.
- 6) Terry work on Raymarine for summer slam prize. Contact has been made and discussed with marketing director. No firm commitment made yet. Trying for Axiom 9” display.
- 7) Organize EPSFA equipment at Alex Roofing. Board approves \$200 if needed for shelving and organizing materials.

Motions Summary

- 1) January minutes approved.
- 2) January Treasurer’s report approved.
- 3) Motion to adjourn. Quinn Bayle seconded

Announcements:

Next public meeting (third Tuesday of month) March 19th, 2019 at American Legion post #773 located at 4109 West 12th street, Erie, PA 16505. BOD at 4:30pm and public at 6:30pm.

March Guest Speakers: Lake Shore Towing and Capt. Paul Greiner (Boater Safety Topic)

Other Business

- 1) There are still BOD’s, associate BOD’s and a tournament director position available.

Public Comments

- 1) SONS of Lake Erie need fish donations. If you would like to donate your catch, take them to Poor Richards, whole or cleaned and tell them for SONS donation.
- 2) 3-C-U is also looking for cans and plastic bottles with NY recycle on them. They raise and feed their stocked fish from monies received from recycling effort. Drop off at Poor Richards.

Adjournment Time: 7:34 pm THANK YOU ALL FOR ATTENDING

ACCEPTED BY: TERRY KREMER (EPSFA SECRETARY) DATED: 02/20/2019