

East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 3008

Cody, WY 82414



<http://www.eastyellowstonetu.org/>

February 9th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

Dave Crowther, Lorna Anderson, Bob & Judy Capron, Elaine & Bill Tabacinski, Larry & Maxine Thomas, Alicia Viskoe, Jason Burckhardt, Mark Vondersaar, Bob Vossellor, Linda Trask, Tom Reed, Duane Feick, George Simonton, Amanda Wilson, Angela Marchant, Becky Frickey, Mrianda Roberts, Kaleb Zier, Diana Miller, Dave & Cathy Sweet, Gregg Bierei, Tom Anderson, Birney Holberg, Ray Zubik, Bobby Rock, Andy Whiteman, Justin Esser.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Tom Reed followed by introductions by those in attendance.

Approval of Minutes of January, 2017 Meeting: -- a motion was made, seconded, and approved after it was noted that the January Minutes reported incorrectly that the Game & Fish Commissioner's tag was awarded to the Cody Firearms Experience; it was awarded to the Cody Shooting Complex.

Acceptance of Treasurers Report: current total EYTU assets of \$79,800; in January we earned \$0.60 in interest, \$1527 proceeds from the December Christmas party auction was deposited, an expense of \$119 for our web site was posted, and, per the May, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting, the Newton Lake Endowment CD was cashed and deposited into the EYTU checking account. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Report. Treasurer Dave Crowther suggested that \$20,000-30,000 of our checking account balance (@ \$50,000) be converted to a CD. A motion was made that the Treasurer can use his discretion in converting \$20,000 to \$30,000 of checking account funds to a CD; the motion was seconded and approved.

Committee Updates

Conservation – Bob Capron

- Bob did not have anything to report.
- Tom Reed mentioned that Adiposse (see comments under "Other Discussion") is interested in assisting EYTU with future fish recovery activities on weekends.

Fundraising Committee - George Simonton & Birney Holberg:

- Regarding the G&F Commissioner's Tag
 - George Simonton recently spoke to Commissioner David Rael who indicated that it was very likely that EYTU would receive a tag in 2018
 - Commissioner tag issuance is completely up to the discretion of the Commissioners
 - It has to be a non-profit organization but does not have to be an organization involved in conservation
 - There are currently 8 commissioners and each one gets 8 tags to issue
 - They receive requests for tags from numerous organizations
 - It is currently not clear when new commissioner will be appointed
 - If there is a new commissioner for an area in which there is a TU chapter then that chapter would receive preference for a tag over a chapter outside the commissioner's area.
- Possibility of acquiring another Monster Lake Annual Pass for an EYTU raffle – Tim Wade told Tom Reed that he doubts the owner will donate another pass.
- TU hats – good promotional tool – should we order more?
 - \$15 each
 - Any alternatives to hats, eg. Pens with TU logo?
 - A motion was made to give Birney discretion to order more hats and/or alternative promotional give-aways such as pens

- An alternative motion was made to have the EYTU Board of Directors meet and allocate to Birney a specific discretionary fund for promotional materials.
 - Motion was seconded and approved.

Web Site Coordinator – Lorna Anderson:

- A Northwest College Graphics Art student (Rebecca Kron) has been selected to help with projects such as an EYTU brochure (to educate public on the chapter and its conservation projects) and an EYTU logo
 - The brochure committee will meet next week
- We will continue to utilize the Yahoo web site for now @ \$119 per year
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved to continue to fund the EYTU web site for up to \$150 per year

Wyoming TU Council – Dave Sweet

- Dave mentioned that Powell Tribune reporter Gib Mathers, who has given EYTU favorable press in the past, has been reported missing somewhere along the North Fork. Dave sent an email to the Tribune on behalf of EYTU.
- The Wyoming TU Council Meeting is scheduled for the weekend of March 31st through April 2nd in Lander. It would be good if at least 2 EYTU chapter members could attend.
- The Wyoming Council is raffling a 6-pack fly rod package that has a retail value of more than \$6000.
 - Raffle tickets are available from Dave for \$100 each.
 - Only 250 tickets were printed.
 - The date of the drawing depends on when tickets are sold but will be no later than June 1st.
 - In an effort to support the WY TU Council a motion was made for this chapter to purchase 5 tickets (individuals can still purchase tickets)
 - The motion was approved with 2 nays, 1 abstention, and the rest yays.
 - Once purchased the chapter will decide what to do with the tickets
- Updates from Diana Miller, Dave & Cathy Sweet's daughter and Game & Fish Fisheries Biologist in the Jackson region
 - The Snake River Fire Spotted Cutthroat Trout is doing well
 - The Blue Headed Sucker is also being studied.
 - Chemical treatment projects to remove invasive species
 - Rainbows from Mystery Lake
 - Brook trout from Dime Lake
 - Where fishing is minimal or absent, Cutthroats will not be restocked
 - Every summer fish populations are estimated
 - Interesting fisheries management change on the Hoback River
 - Stocked fish were not surviving the winters so restocking stopped in 2005
 - In the absence of restocking Cutthroat reproduction rates and population size have actually increased

Unfinished Business: nothing to discuss

New Business:

- Tom Reed proposed that a committee be formed to develop a 5-year plan for the chapter that would address things like fundraising strategies.
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved.
- A motion was made by Bill Tabacinski to form an educational outreach committee that would investigate opportunities to get information about fly fishing and conservation into schools in the Cody, Powell, and Meeteetse areas.
 - The motion was seconded and approved
- There is going to be an Earth Day event at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West on April 22nd from 1pm to 4pm.
 - Do we (EYTU) want to have a booth there?
 - No cost is involved but we would need to staff the booth with 2 volunteers
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved

- A motion was made to get more National TU brochures printed to be used at various events.
 - Motion was seconded and approved

Other Discussion:

- Update on WY House Bill 0261 (Diversion Dam Operation and Turbidity Measure)
 - Would allow annual releases of sediment below all WY dams and could potentially result in negative environmental impact
 - see Tom Reed's Feb. 3rd email
 - The bill was sponsored by Northrup and Coe
 - It was pushed through and passed out of the agriculture committee with a 5-4 vote
 - It required 3 public meetings and public input prior to a full house vote – this did not happen so the bill was effectively “killed”
 - Various groups, including TU, opposed the bill, with several people meeting with legislators communicating that opposition; Dave Sweet testified in Cheyenne.
 - David Northrup is holding a town hall meeting at the Irma on February 18th at 1:30pm
- Tom Reed obtained permission to have a public viewing of a 10 minute segment of a Ken Burns documentary regarding the Tetons to educate people on the public lands issue.
- An upcoming Adiposse fundraiser will be a March 25th viewing of a fly fishing film at the Cody Theatre.
- Dave Sweet discussed Adiposse, a new TU Alternative Engagement Group (AEG)
 - Part of WY TU
 - Adiposse members are TU members; currently mostly from Cody area
 - They're on Facebook; have an upcoming river clean-up project in Thermopolis
- Tom summarized activities related to Bob Jacklin's involvement in our May monthly meeting
 - 2-day event, Friday and Saturday, May 12th and 13th
 - See Tom's Feb. 16th email
- Members were reminded to use Amazon Smile for their Amazon on-line purchases.
- Willwood Dam Sedimentation Update
 - 3 working groups
 - Short-term clean-up below dam
 - Dam operations to prevent future silt accumulations behind dam (eg flushing flow strategies)
 - Long-term watershed sediment loading management and mitigation
 - Working groups will include participants from Game & Fish, DEQ, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Irrigation District.
 - TU is trying to get members on one or more of these groups
 - EYTU has volunteered to work with the irrigation district to help clean up trash before water flows increase in April

Adjourn Meeting: a motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Program:

- Guests from Advantage Rehab provided information about how to reduce injuries during activities such as fly casting
- Primary presenter was Kaleb Zier who has a B.S. in Kinesiology from U of W and is currently working on a graduate degree
 - Powerpoint presentation on common injuries, their causes and prevention
 - Handouts were provided on a variety of stretching exercises
 - Web site where more information is available: physicaltherapywyoming.com

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2017, Sunset House; Tim Wade will discuss stream entomology