



Tennessee Council, Trout Unlimited

Chairman, Dick Geiger, geiger3892@gmail.com
Vice Chairman, Mike Bryant, mjbryant1954@hotmail.com
Secretary, Frances Oates, franceshoates@gmail.com
Treasurer, George Lane, geohlane@gmail.com
National Leadership Council, Steve Brown, wsbrown08@gmail.com

Minutes of Tennessee Council meeting held March 7, 2015, at Lawson McGhee Library, 500 W. Church Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902, the afternoon following the Cooperative Meeting for the Enhancement of Coldwater Fisheries (see notes on the coldwater meeting at the end of these minutes).

Chapters present: **Appalachian**, Brian Batka, Steve Fry; **Cherokee**, Ed Mueller, Lori Webb Paris, George Upton; **Clinch River**, Steve Brown, Dennis Baxter, Dick Geiger, Frances Oates, Jim Reynolds, Steve Thompson, Zan Thompson, John Thurman; **Cumberland**, Dick Davis; **Great Smoky Mountain**, Charlie Chmielewski, Rick Murphree, John Reinhardt, Bernardo Rico; **Hiwassee**, Don Denney; **Little River**, Charlie Chmielewski, Mark Spangler; **Overmountain**, Linda Good, Ron Harrington.

Chapters Absent: None.

Also present for the coldwater meeting, council meeting or both: Caleb Abramson, National Park Service; Evan Crews, Tom Barnett, David Bowling and Hill Henry, Tennessee Valley Authority; Bart Carter, Will Collier, Jim Habera, Jason Henegar and Mark Thurman, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency; Jim Herrig, U.S. Forest Service; and Allan Brown and James Gray, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Geiger called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

Financial:

All chapters have filed annual financial reports and federal Form 990s as required.

On a motion by Steve Brown, seconded by Jim Reynolds, the council budget was approved unanimously as proposed (see Pages 2 and 3 for the budget).

Conservation:

Fry reported that \$32,197.08 in Tennessee Specialty Conservation License Plate funds had been distributed, including grants of \$9,835 to Little River Chapter for work with Great Smoky Mountains National Park; \$9,994 to Appalachian Chapter for a two-year brook trout program with Tennessee Aquarium; \$1,400 to Overmountain Chapter for repairing a Hampton Creek barrier; and \$970 to Hiwassee Chapter for Trout in the Classroom (TIC). For details, see the attached report.

Davis said the annual accounting for the TU license plate had been reviewed and accepted by Timothy M. Hardy of the Tennessee Division of Local government Audit.

Legislative: Geiger asked that Murphree, together with Chris Nischan of Cumberland Chapter, keep an eye on Tennessee House Bill 442, which would authorize non-commercial gold mining in Tennessee streams. In February, the council had alerted Tennessee TU members to the bill, asking that letters be written opposing mechanized prospecting with dredges that would degrade water quality (non-mechanized prospecting with pans and hand tools results in minimal degradation).

Trout camp: Thurman said the 2015 trout camp promises to be the best ever, with more volunteers showing interest and 14 youngsters from six states applying (11 boys and three girls).

National Leadership Council: Brown reported on a study that shows communications to members from the NLC need improvement; he is serving on a new NLC communications work group. He asked for suggestions to be carried to national staff and the board.

Chapter reports:

Appalachian: Fry said the chapter is drawing more people at meetings, which are held at a variety of locations.

Clinch River: Baxter mentioned an upcoming road cleanup, the spring fishing seminar for the public, and the Big Clinch River Cleanup in July.

Cherokee: Paris reported the chapter has 11 TIC programs in 10 schools. In March, Cherokee is offering the Fly Fishing Film Tour without charge; nine vendors (fly shops and lodges) will set up at the event, there will be fly tying lessons and fly casting. At the May 9 kids' fishing day, there were 250 to 300 children.

Cumberland: No report.

Great Smoky Mountain: Reinhardt said that the chapter, though struggling, is working to build itself back up.

Hiwassee: Denney said the chapter has on schedule two stream cleanups, two kids' fishing days and TIC.

Little River: Chmielewski said Little River wants to get more involved with TIC; the chapter has four programs now and a member has offered to pay for two more. One resulting benefit has been that two students and their fathers have volunteered for Smokies stream sampling—an idea the kids got from TIC.

Overmountain: Harrington reported on development of an access parking lot and on an April craft beer fundraiser.

On a motion by Brown, seconded by Harrington, the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Balance 11/1/14 | | | 7575.06 |
| National meeting 2014 | | -1000.00 | |
| Bank charges | | -35.44 | |
| Balance 3/3/15 | | | 6539.62 |
| Council rebate | From TU National | +5755.00 | |
| Balance, 3/4/15 | | | 12294.62 |

Approved Budget for 2014-15

| Recurring Operating Expenses | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------|----------------|
| National meeting | Participants' travel | 2000.00 | |
| State quarterly meetings | Lunch and coffee | 600.00 | |
| Southeast Regional Meeting | Subsidies: \$200 per chapter=\$1,600; \$400 for council | 2000.00 | |
| Chairman travel | Visit chapters | 500.00 | |
| Liability insurance | | 110.00 | |
| Administration | Office, stamps, website | 250.00 | |
| Telephone | Conference calls | 250.00 | |
| Trout camp | Additional \$4,700 funded from license plate moneys for a total camp budget of \$6,200 | 1500.00 | |
| Total recurring | | | 7210.00 |
| Other Expenses | | | |
| Training event | All-chapter gathering | 1000.00 | |
| Chapter development | Memphis field day | 750.00 | |
| Total other expenses | | | 1750.00 |
| Total budget | | | 8960.00 |

At the Cooperative Meeting for the Enhancement of Coldwater Fisheries, in the morning preceding the council meeting, speakers and their topics were:

Tennessee Valley Authority:

- **Tom Barnett**, on upcoming tailwater improvement projects
- **Dennis Baxter**, on extension of the reservoir health program including collection of data on water quality, benthics, fisheries and sediment
- **Evan Crews**, on natural resource partnerships
- **Hill Henry**, on the status of trout hatchery funding

U.S. Forest Service:

- **Jim Herrig**, on work to restore Southern Appalachian brook trout

National Park Service:

- **Caleb Abramson** (now a permanent employee of NPS whose earlier positions with the service were funded by Trout Unlimited), on brook trout restoration and genetics

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency:

- **Jim Habera, Bart Carter, Jason Henegar and Mark Thurman**, on TWRA coldwater activities throughout Tennessee.

Trout Unlimited Tennessee Specialty Conservation License Plate - March 7, 2015

| TU TN license Plate Regions account balance | 10-Oct-14 | Debits | Credits | Balance |
|---|-----------|--------|---------|----------|
| | | | | \$28,201 |

Deposits

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 11/3/2014 State-TN Paymnts TN Paymnts | Q3:2014 proceeds | | \$ 12,152.36 | |
| 1/28/2015 State-TN Paymnts TN Paymnts | Q4:2014 proceeds | | \$ 9,059.60 | |
| | | | Subtotal | \$49,413 |

TU Conservation Grants including Trout Camp and others for 2014

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| Q2:2014 | Check | | | |
| | 1049 Payment made Cumberland Chapter TU @ 40% | (5,998.08) | | |
| | 1050 Appalachian Chapter TU Conservation Grant | (9,994.00) | | |
| | 1051 Clinch River Chapter TU Conservation Grant | (1,000.00) | | |
| | 1052 Hiwassee Chapter TU Conservation Grant | (970.00) | | |
| | 1053 Little River Chapter TU Conservation Grant | (9,835.00) | | |
| | 1054 Overmountain Chapter TU Conservation Grant | (1,400.00) | | |
| | 1055 TU Trout Camp balance of funds for 2015- GSMP | (3,000.00) | | |
| | | Subtotal | | (32,197.08) |

Escrowed Funds for Cumberland Chapter TU

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Q3:2014 | Payment due Cumberland Chapter TU @ 40% | (4,860.94) | | |
| Q4:2014 | Payment due Cumberland Chapter TU @ 40% | (\$3,623.84) | | |
| | | Subtotal | | (\$8,484.78) |
| | Minimum balance necessary for no fee checking | | | 17,216 |
| | | | Balance | * |

Funds available for TU TN State Council Conservation Projects as of March 7, 2015:

| | | |
|----------|--|---------------|
| * | Funds escrowed to meet requirement: State Council = \$ 1200 and Cumberland Chapter = \$ 800 | 15,216 |
|----------|--|---------------|

Note: Prepared by Dr. Dick Davis



STATE OF TENNESSEE
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT
DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT

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JAMES K. POLK STATE OFFICE BUILDING
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402
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January 15, 2015

Board of Directors
TN Council of Trout Unlimited
265 Andorra Lane
Clinton, TN 37716-6228

Board Members:

I have reviewed the annual accounting for specialty license plates funds, filed in compliance with Section 55-4-201(k), Tennessee Code Annotated, for TN Council of Trout Unlimited for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. As a result, the annual accounting has been accepted and filed as part of the public records of the State of Tennessee.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact this office.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Hardy".

Timothy M. Hardy, CPA, CFE
Division of Local Government Audit