

MSSFA State Board Meeting
March 19th, 2008
Lansing, Mi.

1. The meeting was brought to order by President Rick Balabon at 7:00pm with a 15 member quorum present.
2. **Motion** (Pietila) to approve minutes as presented... Second (Hoort)...passed.
3. Presidents' Report (Balabon)... The new web server is online. Greg Gumbrecht (MSSFA webmaster) will field any issues that local chapters encounter. Greg's phone # is 248-249-2469. The new website domain is (michigansteelheaders.org). A group of fishermen from the Ionia area want to establish a new local MSSFA chapter.
4. Financial Report (Haddad)... YTD income is \$ xxxx... YTD expenses are \$ xxxx...Total Balance \$ xxxx **Motion** (Potts) to accept report as presented... Second (Saladine)...passed.
5. Old Business
 - A. Newspaper Update (Haddad)... The latest issue was mailed on March 17th. The eastern sector of the state has suffered a delivery bottleneck while a new bulk mail depot is constructed in Pontiac.
 - B. It Pays to Belong Update (Davis)... Renee Davis distributed the latest list of 43 participating vendors. Most are located on the west and central portions of the state. The Gander Mountain vendor requires the use of "gander bucks" which local chapters can request from the manager of the store in their area.
 - C. Membership Challenge (Hoort)... The recruitment awards contest is underway. Some chapters are adding more incentives for recruiters. For example; a free MUCC membership for signing up 5 new members.
6. New Business
 - A. Budget (Sickon) ... the finance committee will be working to update the budget.
 - B. Small Harbors Coalition (Merckel)... a communication was received announcing their website (www.miseagrant.umich/harbors.com). The next meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel (Lansing) on April 29, 2008 (12:30 to 5:00pm).
7. Legislative Report (Merckel)... On April 9, 2008 a joint Lake Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be held in Roscommon. The agenda will include: 1) raising the daily salmon limit from 3 to 5 fish, 2) extending the 3 rod limit to all fishing, 3) changing the status of Saginaw Bay walleye, making them allowable catch for commercial fisherman. Walleye now must be returned to the water from trap nets and their survival rate is questionable. A date must be established at this meeting regarding the (5 salmon) or (3 rod) changes if they are going to effect the 2008 season. The MSSFA encourages the local chapters to send a representative to this meeting for the purpose of voicing support for the 5 salmon rule change.
8. Committee Reports
 - A. Lake Huron (Merckel)... The DNR projects a 10 million \$ budget deficit in 2010. The inland consent agreement has been signed. Go to the DNR website to read it. The lake herring pilot project had a 10% increase in recruitment over 2006. The egg taking and fertilizing procedure must be improved for project success. Steelhead hatchery success is substandard. The Platte Lake hatchery water is too cold for adequate fish growth. Brown Trout stocking proposal is for 60,000 fish distributed between 3 sites along Lake Huron. The Sea Grant will hold a Lake Huron fisheries workshop in Bad Axe (Franklin Inn) on April 12, 2008.
9. Good of the Order (Potts)... Bud Potts distributed an excellent primer on how to establish a "Salmon in the Schools" program.
10. **Motion** (Potts) to adjourn at 9:30pm...Second (Saladine)...passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald Sickon