

MERCER COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, Inc.
Harthegig Conservation Club Greenville Sportsmen's Club Hadley Rod & Gun Club
Mercer Co. Coonhunters Association Sandy Lake Sportsmen's Club
Hidden Valley Sportsmen's Club Pardoe Sportsmen's Association

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* Dedicated to Promoting Better Outdoor Recreation and Cooperation Between the Farmers and Sportsmen since 1935 *

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June, 24 2009

Held at: Greenville Sportsmen's Assoc.

Time Meeting Called to Order: 1905 hrs

Chaired By: Pres. Fordcye

Officers Present: Pres. Fordcye, Secretary Myers, Treasurer Tidd, Delegate Preston, Alt Delegate Rhoades

Affiliated Clubs with Delegates Present: Harthegig, Greenville, Hadley, Coonhunters, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley and Pardoe

Resource Agency Represented: Pa. Fish & Boat Commission, DCNR Goddard

Life, Associate, & Club Members and Visitors Present: Ricky McDaniel G.C. Sportsmen's Club member, Bo Preston, Cheney Preston, Walter Richardson

Guest Speakers:

Walter Richardson supplied 2009 Antlerless Deer license updates and changes pamphlets. Mentioned that Ginny Richardson would attend a meeting if we need her for our local clubs. Contact her at the court house PH: 724-662-3800 EXT. 2514

Ricky McDaniel introduced himself and announced he will be joining as an individual member. Ricky was originally from Mississippi and moved to PA 5 years ago.

Last Month's Minutes: Motion made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the May minutes.

Northwest Division Minutes:

- Next meeting will be September 13th, 2009 at PGC NW REGIONAL OFFICE, 1509 Pittsburgh Road, and Franklin Pa at 1pm.
- Meeting was held on June 14th, 2009 and four of the nine counties were present. There was a good turnout from the resource agency.
- DEP discussed the Butler County plant that was discovered to have arsenic in the soil. There was a glass-making facility on the property from the 1930s to the 1960s and arsenic was a chemical widely used in making glass.
- Governor Rendell has officially nominated a Commissioner candidate for the Northwest Division of the state to replace Dan Hill. Ralph Martone from New Castle, Lawrence County, PA.

College education: Westminster College '89, Master of Education/ BS in Physics, Physics/ Secondary Education

High School: Shenango Area Junior - Senior High School '77

Employer: Shenango Area School District Position: Physics teacher Time Period: August 1989 - Present

Activities: Hunting, Fishing, Hiking, Travel

Interests: Nature writing

Other: freelance outdoors columnist for The New Castle News, Awarded the Best Newspaper Column in 2003 and 2004 by the Pennsylvania Outdoors Writers Association, HTE instructor since 1991

Steve Preston will try to contact Ralph and setup a breakfast to meet and greet.

- The PFSC Fall Convention will be on September 18-20, 2009 at Altoona Ramada Inn. More information in the coming months
- A new Executive director was selected to replace Melody Zullinger. Al Smith was unanimously selected by the board to hold the position of Executive Director of PFSC. Al is from Alabama and came with strong recommendations. More information will be disclosed when it is available.

Vote/Action on Present and State Resolutions: None

Vote/Action on Present County Resolutions: None

Presidents Report: None

Vice Presidents Report: None

Secretary's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tidd reporting:

Current balance was provided. Discussed the cost of the Youth Field Day. Motion was made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the Treasurer's report.

State Delegate Report:

- Delegate Preston confirmed that the County Federation Endorsement was still in good standing for the fall election.

Alt. State Delegate Report:

Committee Reports:

***Membership Committee:** None

***Youth Field Day Committee:**

- Youth field day was held at the Grove City Sportsmen's Club on June 13th. There was 75 youths that attended.
- Will need to have discussions on how to get a better turnout for next year's Youth Day.

***Fund-Raiser Committee:** None

***Mercer County Booklet Committee:** None

***Old Timers Dinner Committee:**

- Non affiliated clubs have inquired about the dates of the dinners. They would like to know when the events will be held so they can attend. Suggestion was to get a contact for club and we can email them upcoming dates. A second idea was to add the dates to the MCFSC website calendar and the clubs can check the site.
- The idea to send MCFSC minutes to non affiliated clubs was not well received. The minutes are for affiliated clubs only.

***Awards Committee:**

- Alt. Delegate Rhoades picked up two Green Tie Award tie tacks from the jeweler. One tie tack was presented to Steve Preston to replace the one that was borrowed. Steve Preston has also taken position of the other tie tack will keep it with the Green Ties.
- Sam Aubel Dinner was discussed. Need to start planning for the dinner in the fall. Need to check with other County events to prevent a conflict with dates. A committee will need to be put together to get the dinner setup.

***Legislative Committee:** None

***Conservation Committee:** None

***Stoneboro Fair Committee:**

- Tickets were designed and printed for the prizes at the Stoneboro Fair. We received 2,000 tickets. Tickets were passed out at the meeting and you can start selling at any time. If you need additional tickets contact Bob Fordcye at (724) 813 - 4560
- Lollipops will need to be ordered
- Last year's booklet will be passed out at this year's fair.
- The new building fund will not be coming through this year.

***Poster Contest Committee:** None

***Audit Committee:** None

***Bylaws Committee:** None

Resource Agency Reports:

US Army Corps of Engineers - Shenango Lake:

- The Summer Festival will be held on July 10th from 9am to 3pm at Mahaney Recreation Area
- Shenango Lake celebrated Earth Day and hosted "Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful" event on April 25. There was over 120 volunteers

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission:

- Shenango Lake has been doing good with large catfish and walleye.
- Good reports are coming in for fishing at Pymatuning and Lake Erie

DCNR - Forestry: None

Goddard State Park:

- Park Manager has no information on any park closing
- Pioneer Frolic will be held the weekend of June 27-28th
- The park has a new boat concession.
- Bill Wasser presented a PowerPoint and video presentation on Switch Grass and the use for Bio-Fuels.
- Contact Bill Wasser for additional information. Below is key points from the presentation.
 - Former manager of the park planted 40 acres of Switch Grass
 - There are two types of fuel supply on the park now; Switch Grass and Natural Gas Wells
 - Why Plant Switch Grass: Serve as a Conservation Buffer and provides wildlife habitat.
 - There are currently 5 natural gas wells on the park and he expects more to come
 - Switch Grass prevents soil erosion due to deep root systems (12 feet)
 - It is a Perennial and can last up to 20 years
 - Grows with little fertilizer
 - Store 7 tons more carbon per acre than corn
 - Can be harvested with same equipment used for straw and hay
 - There are machines that convert Switch Grass to pellets that can be burned for heat
 - 2 acres can heat an average home for a season with a stove manufactured from Quadra Fire www.quadrafire.com
 - If you allow it to overwinter, it reduces the potassium and chlorine content
- It will take wise planning, education and public support to transition to Bio-Fuels

Pa. Game Commission: Agency not present but below are some headlines from the PGC Site

- County Treasurers will begin receiving antlerless license applications from resident hunters beginning July 13. That's three weeks earlier than last year
- Hunters and trappers harvested 487 bobcats during the 2008-09 bobcat seasons.
- On Monday, June 15, Pennsylvania hunting and furtaker licenses for the 2009-10 seasons went on sale throughout the state using the new "Pennsylvania Automated License System (PALS), licenses will be available for purchase through the "The Outdoor Shop" on the agency's website (www.pgc.state.pa.us), over-the-counter at all Game Commission region offices and the Harrisburg headquarters, as well as the more than 600 in-state and out-of-state issuing agents.
- Board of Game Commissioners to meet on July 8 & 9

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Order:

- A special THANK YOU is extended to the Grove City Sportsmen's Club for hosting the 2009 Youth Field Day

Club Announcements:

- Harthegig will be hosting their Family Fun Day on August 23rd. The event is open to the public and there will be a \$1000 Cabela Gift card raffle.
- Harthegig club will be part of the 2009 Farm tour. The event will be September 19th and 20th.
- Hidden Valley Sportssmen's Club will hold their 4th annual Military Rifle Combat Shoot on July 19th, 1009. Open to any Pre 1950 Military rifle, bolt action and only open iron sights. No Scopes \$10 for one rifle shoot and \$5 for additional rifle. You will need approx. 60 rounds of ammo. Call 724-528-2700 or call Andy at 330-984-9278

Motion to adjourn meeting was made and second 20:11pm

Next Meeting: July 22nd, 2009 at 7 PM at Harthegig Sportsmen's Club

Jan 28 2009	Greenville	July 22 2009	Harthegig
Feb 25 2009	Hidden	Aug 26 2009	Fair Grounds
Mar 25 2009	Harthegig	Sep 23 2009	Sandy Lake
Apr 22 2009	Coonhunters	Oct 28 2009	Hadley
May 27 2009	Pardoe	Nov 18 2009	
June 24 2009	Greenville	Dec 16 2009	Pardoe

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Minutes taken and entered by Secretary Myers

*Secretary contact information: Shawn Myers/ 523 N Broad St / Grove City, PA 16127/ Cell 724-974-9886 /E-Mail mercer.county.federation@gmail.com www.mcfsc.net