

MERCER COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, Inc.

Harthegig Conservation Club	Hadley Rod & Gun Club
Mercer Co. Coonhunters Association	Sandy Lake Sportsmen's Club
Hidden Valley Sportsmen's Club	Pardoe Sportsmen's Association

WWW.MCFSC.NET

Help the Federation by becoming an Individual member.
Visit <http://mcfsc.net/Membership.html>

Meeting Date: February 24, 2010

Held at: Mercer Co. Coonhunter's Association

Time Meeting Called to Order: 19:10 hrs

Time Meeting Adjourn: 21:25 hrs

Chaired By: Pres. Fordcye

Number In Attendance: 21

Officers Present:

Pres. Fordcye, V. President Anderson, Secretary Myers, Treasurer Tidd, Delegate Preston

Affiliated Clubs with Delegates Present:

Harthegig, Hadley, Coonhunter, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley and Pardoe

Resource Agency Represented:

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission and Pa Game Commission

Life, Associate, & Club Members and Visitors Present:

Bo Preston, Wes Osborne, Keith Pearce, Ginny and Walter Richardson, and PGC NW Commissioner Ralph Martone

Guest Speakers:

Ginny Steese Richardson:

- Ginny thanked MCFSC for our votes and confidence in her role as the county treasurer
- The county has an opening for deputy county treasurer. Get resumes to Ginny at the courthouse.
- There has been stories in the local paper about Mercer County employees did not receive their direct deposit paychecks, this is true. Due to a bank error, employees did not receive their direct deposit on Friday morning. The error was corrected and all but three employees had their paychecks by 7pm.
- Walter Richardson is running for Republican State Commission. If you could provide your support for his candidacy.

N.W. PGC Commissioner Ralph Martone:

- Mr. Martone discussed the changes to the hunting seasons from the January Commissioners meeting. Proposed changes can be found online at the PGC website
- The "DRAFT WHITE-TAILED DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PENNSYLVANIA 2009-2018" is available online at the PGC website. The document is 145 pages and very technical. If you review the last eight pages, you will get the recommendations.
- Organized Coyote hunts are getting a bad reputation due to certain groups behaving badly. There are some issues that were discussed such as dispatched Coyotes hanging up in plain view and hunters stopping suddenly and jumping out with their firearm and running into the field. Though these actions may not be illegal but we need to maintain a positive view in the public.
- Mr. Martone wanted to get feedback from MCFSC members on the idea of moving the fall turkey season to two weeks before the rifle deer season. They are only discussing the topic and the season is not moving. If you can discuss at your club meetings and provide some feedback at the next MCFSC meeting.

Keith Pearce:

- Mr. Pearce wanted to discuss the topic of the proposed Bobcat season change. The Bobcat population is good in Western PA. The new season could see upwards of 40,000 hunters. This could destroy the population in Western PA. The

population is significantly higher in eastern PA. Western PA hunters are not going to travel five hours to hunt Bobcat in Eastern PA.

- Commissioner Martone will take key points on the Bobcat discussing from Keith Peace and Wes Osborne to the next commissioner meeting. Mr. Martone will also discuss with PGC biologist.

Last Month's Minutes:

Motion made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the January minutes.

Northwest Division Minutes:

Next meeting will be March 14th, 2010 at PGC NW REGIONAL OFFICE, 1509 Pittsburgh Road, and Franklin Pa at 1pm. Please note that **March 14th is daylight savings time. Spring Ahead one hour!**

N.W. Secretary Carl Rhoades passed out a copy of the N.W. minutes from the last meeting. If you would like a copy, contact Carl Rhoades or MCFSC Secretary Shawn Myers.

Vote/Action on Present and State Resolutions:

Introduced by Lehigh County

Whereas: Title 34, Chapter 27 Subchapter (B) Section 2722 (a),(b) to read that the PGC issue Doe License through Point-of-Sale instead of County Treasurers.

Whereas: The PGC now has Point-of-Sale and can issue licenses on a first come first serve bases on a timely manner.

Whereas: To eliminate the problems that the hunters have with County Treasures issuing Doe Licenses.

Therefore Be It Resolved: Therefore Be It Resolved that the PFSC endorse and support the change of Title 34 Chapter 27 Subchapter (B) Section 2722 (a),(b) and that the PGC issues doe licenses by the Point-of-Sale on a first serve bases without a lottery system.

Due to time constraints of the convention and MCFSC will not meet before the March convention, club delegates voted on behalf of their club.

Pardoe: **No** Harthegig: **No** Hadley: **No** Coonhunter: **No** Sandy Lake: **No** Hidden Valley: **No**

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tidd reporting:

Current balance was provided. Treasurer has received payment from the following clubs that have re-affiliated: Harthegig, Coonhunter, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley, and Pardoe.

Motion was made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the Treasurer's report.

State Delegate Report:

- There will be another "What's your Beef" raffle this year. Through the sales of tickets, hopefully this can help with the dues increase that will occur at the Spring Convention.
- The PA Federation will be having its spring convention on March 19-21,2010. The convention will be in Middletown PA at the Best Western Inn & Suites. (815 S. Eisenhower Blvd, Middletown, PA 17057 (717) 939 - 1600). Please try to attend and let your club members know of the event. The PFSC website does not have the form listed at this time, contact Steven Preston for the form. (724-813-5641)
- There will be some major changes at the Spring Convention in March. There will be a dues increase that will go into effect for 2011.
- The PFSC needs more members. Reach out to your club membership and encourage a membership to the PFSC for only \$20. (Applications were distributed by the Secretary)
- The PFSC will be moving out of the current office and leasing property. There will be a significant cost savings.

Committee Reports:

***Conservation Committee:**

- The Marcellus Shale continues to remain a issue. Continue to follow the Marcellus Shale situation and contact your local political leaders. Marcellus Shale will hurt PA streams and land. We need to help stop the damage.

***Membership Committee:**

- Clubs received so far: CoonHunter, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley, Harthegig, and Pardoe Sportsmen's.
- Please get in your affiliated membership dues in immediately.

- Individual Membership application was passed out. You can download an application from the MCFSC website at www.mcfsc.net. Please encourage your clubs to join PFSC.

***Youth Field Day Committee:**

- The 2010 Youth Field day for Mercer County will be held on June 12, 2010 at the Grove City Sportsmen's Club.
- Youth Field Day Chairman Jim Tidd is in need of volunteers. Contact Jim Tidd if you can help.
- If you have contacts with local business that may be able to provide supplies for the Youth day, let Jim Tidd know.

***Fund-Raiser Committee:**

- The tickets for the 50/50 raffle have been printed and distributed. The cost per ticket is \$2.00. The winner will be drawn at the Old Timer's Banquet on May 15th, 2010. Contact Bob Fordyce if you need tickets.

***Old Timers Dinner Committee:**

- The date for the 2010 Old Timer's Banquet will be May 15th, 2010 at Hidden Valley Sportsmen's Club. Doors will open at 5pm and dinner will be served at 6pm. Cost will be \$12.00
- Please have your nominations in by the March meeting of MCFSC. You can download the By-laws of MCFSC from the website to see the requirements of the awards.

***Poster Contest Committee:**

- Poster contest form 2010 were collected. One poster was accepted. The first place winner will be award \$50 from MCFSC. The posters will also be judge at the N.W. meeting in March.

Resource Agency Reports:

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission:

- 2010 will have 2 Trout Openers; April 3rd and April 17th
- 2010 Fish for Free Days; May 22nd and June 6th
- Fish report for Mercer County from PFBC site:

Lake Wilhelm – Ice anglers have been observed lake wide with most anglers targeting the stumps. Anglers are reporting that the best luck for catches of bluegills, crappie, and perch is early morning in the stumps.

Stoneboro Lake – Anglers have been observed on the lake over the last couple weeks. Catches of bass, northern pike, and perch have been observed. Some anglers have reported a few muskellunge being hooked but not landed. Reminder a Pennsylvania Fishing License is required to fish any Commonwealth Waters.

Conneaut Lake – Ice fishermen have started venturing out on the ice within the last 2 weeks. The ice has been getting harder and thicker. Nice bluegills and some northern pike have been caught.

- Erie Sport and Travel Show is coming March 5th-7th, 2010

Friday, 5th, Noon to 8PM
Saturday, 6th, 10AM to 8PM
Sunday, 7th, 10AM to 5PM

General Admission \$7.00 Children under 10 FREE FREE PARKING

- There is currently no North West Commissioner in place. Applicants are being reviewed
- 2010 Mercer County Trout Stocking is available online at the PFBC website. PFBC is asking for assistance in stocking fish in 2010.
- 2010 Linesville Open House will be on Saturday, April 3, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
This Open House is our chance to show you how the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission provides fishing and boating opportunities. It's also your chance to shake off winter's grip and get a taste of what awaits you this fishing and boating season. This fish hatchery plays an important role in growing and stocking walleye, musky and other fish species statewide. Events, demonstrations and displays are designed to give you some insight into how our agency works.
- PFBC passed out Pocket Guides for the 2010 Seasons, Sizes, and Creel Limits

Pa. Game Commission:

- Hunter Trapper Education class scheduling is underway. A new system has been installed on the PGC site for HTE registration.
- New HTE registration website has been updated and is available. There will be tutorials offered to train instructors on the new system. Contact your WCO if you have not been invited to a training tutorial on the new system.
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Club Announcements:

- Hidden Valley will be hosting a Right to Carry class. Details to come later.
- Whitetail Banquet will be held on April 15th, 2010 at the Hickory VFW.
- PGC will be hosting a deer management open house on March 13th from 10am-5pm:
Brokenstraw Fish and Game
1001 Mead Run Rd.
Pittsfield, PA 16340

Mercer County Federation website is available. Please visit the site at WWW.MCFSC.NET Feel free to offer suggestions to add content to the site. Individual clubs should review their club page and supply content. Email suggestions to mercercounty.federation@gmail.com.

Next Meeting: March 24, 2010 at 7 PM at Harthegig Conservation Club

Jan 27 2010	Greenville	July 28 2010	Harthegig
Feb 24 2010	Coonhunters	Aug 25 2010	Fair Grounds
Mar 24 2010	Harthegig	Sep 22 2010	Sandy Lake
Apr 28 2010	Hidden Valley	Oct 27 2010	Pardoe
May 26 2010	Pardoe	Nov 17 2010	Coon Hunters
June 23 2010	Hadley	Dec 15 2010	Hidden Valley

Disclaimer: Reports contained in these minutes are as given by the reporter and don't necessarily reflect the stand or opinion of the Mercer Co. Federation or any of its affiliates. *Any wording found within these minutes in italic form is a Secretary note or comment only and not directly related to the report or reporter.* Any questions regarding information contained in these minutes should be addressed immediately to the Co. Secretary listed below. ***Please ask rather than Assume!***

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 mercercounty.federation@gmail.com www.mcfsc.net

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

2426 North Second St. • Harrisburg, PA 17110

Phone: 717-232-3480 • Fax: 717-231-3524

info@pfsc.org • www.pfsc.org

Providing leadership and advocacy for the enhancement of fish and wildlife resources for the benefit of all hunters, anglers and conservationists.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St./Zip: _____

County: _____

Phone # _____

E-mail: _____

Check appropriate membership level

_____ \$20 Individual Member

_____ \$50 Contributing Member

_____ \$300 Life Member*

*One time payment or Installments

\$_____ Additional Donation

\$_____ **Total Enclosed**

Payment by Credit Card:

Credit Card Type (please check one) _____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Name on Card: _____

Address: _____

(If different from above):

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please make all checks payable to PFSC

Send Payment and Application to:

PFSC State Office

2426 North 2nd. Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110