

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: January 27, 2010

Held at: Greenville Sportsmen's Club

Time Meeting Called to Order: 19:00 hrs

Time Meeting Adjourn: 21:14 hrs

Chaired By: Pres. Fordcye

Number In Attendance: 21

Officers Present:

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

Affiliated Clubs with Delegates Present:

Harthegig, Greenville, Hadley, Coonhunters, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley and Pardoe

Resource Agency Represented:

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission, Pa Game Commission, and US Army Corp of Eng.

Life, Associate, & Club Members and Visitors Present:

Bo Preston

Last Month's Minutes:

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

Northwest Division Minutes:

Next meeting will be March 14th, 2010 at PGC NW REGIONAL OFFICE, 1509 Pittsburgh Road, and Franklin Pa at 1pm. Carl Rhoades will confirm if the building will still be available. The Northwest building is set for demolition and new construction in 2010. N.W Secretary Rhoades will have the minutes out soon.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tidd reporting:

Current balance was provided. No activity for the month. Motion was made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the Treasurer's report.

State Delegate Report:

- Looking to have second "What's your Beef" raffle. Hoping that clubs will help sell the tickets to prevent doubling club affiliation dues.
- At the January Board meeting:
 - At the State level, things are not going well. State is continuing to lose money for the past ten years. They will be moving out of the state office and plan to lease another location. The current club affiliated dues is enough to run the office for only six months.
 - Executive Director Al Smith and Office Manager Melanie Newby have both resigned. Melanie will work per diem at a rate of \$1000 per month to maintain the books and help with "on Target". Jeff Souders will be running the office.
 - A letter was sent out to request donations to help with the organization. If the state does not see enough donations, there will need to be a dues increase. There is no other organization in PA that goes to Harrisburg in your favor and

supports our rights. They keep on the 2000+ bills that is introduced every session. The state is asking if you can donate the same amount as your club affiliation dues to help them get through this year.

- **We can also support the organization by becoming an individual member for \$20. This will get you 6 issues of "On Target" and help support the organization.** Application on last page of the minutes.

Committee Reports:

***Membership Committee:**

- Clubs received so far: CoonHunters, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley, and Pardoe Sportsmen's.
- Please get in your affiliated membership dues in immediately.
- Other clubs that Committee Chairman Anderson is actively seeking:
 - White Oak Club
 - Western Reserve
 - Grove City Sportsmen
 - Transfer
 - Fur Fin Feather
 - Sharpville Beagle
- Dennis introduced the idea of a teleconference line that clubs can call in and get information on pressing issues weekly. This would allow us to get our message to our local Senators and Representatives on our stand.
 - A toll free line would run \$70 plus a month.
 - A toll line would be free but the caller would be responsible for the toll call.

****Motion made** by Dennis Anderson. Take the idea back to your club and get their feedback on having a weekly conference call to get pressing issues weekly so they can address immediately. Motion to second was made.**

***Youth Field Day Committee:**

- Pardoe Sportsmen's Association announced that they would like to host the Youth Field Day. A Feasibility committee met on 1.23.2010 at Pardoe and discussed the layout. It was determined that Pardoe could handle the Youth Field Day.
- Grove City Sportsmen's Club wants to still have the event at their location.
****Motion made** to have the event at Grove City Sportsmen's Club in 2010. motioned made by Bob Fordcye and Second by Gene Free.**
- May look into Pardoe hosting the 2011 event. This gives Pardoe a year to prepare.
- Posters to announce the event will not be made available. This will be the responsibility of the individual clubs.
- PGC will no longer to be taking the registration calls for the event.

***Fund-Raiser Committee:**

****Motion made** To have a raffle. Ticket cost will be \$2.00 a ticket, 1/2 goes to Federation and 1/2 to winner. The ticket will be printed with Youth Field Day as the fundraiser benefit. Motion to second was made and all in favor. Winner will be drawn at the Old Timer Award Dinner.**

***Old Timers Dinner Committee:**

- Two proposed dates were selected: May 8th or May 15th. Hidden Valley will check on the dates and catering.

***Poster Contest Committee:**

- Poster contest form 2010 is available. Contact Carl Rhoades for the form. Must be returned in February for the County Level.

Resource Agency Reports:

US Army Corps of Engineers - Shenango Lake:

- John Kolodziejcki introduced himself to the group.
- There is still good ice at Shenango Lake
- Moderate catches at Shenango Lake and a lot of Bluegill
- The water level was up to the summer pool and the gates had to be opened to lower the water level.
- US Army Corp has taken over the swim area at the lake
- The Mahaney Area will be available 24x7 until winter condition makes it unsafe.
- The annual Bald Eagle survey was conducted on January 11, 2010 and there was 12 Bald Eagles sited.
- There was a water safety meeting on January 12, 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to determine who had the best training and equipment to respond to an ice rescue situation. Transfer Fire Department is best in the area.

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission:

- Ice fishing is still going on at Conneaut Lake
- Good ice fishing is happening at Stoneboro Lake for Northern Pike.
- Dr. Austen has now retired and a acting Director is in place, Brian Barner.
- The PFBC WCO cadet class is back until their August graduation. They are in Bellefonte, PA.
- Recruitment for new WCO cadet Class underway. Will start July 2010
- 2010 will have 2 Trout Openers; April 3rd and April 17th
- 2010 Fish for Free Days; May 22nd and June 6th
- 2010 PFBC Summary Books for the new Fishing season is available.
- Fish report for Mercer County from PFBC site:

Anglers have been non-existent. There have been a couple of brave persons that ventured out on the ice, however it is unknown if they did anything more than risk their lives on the thin ice. The Shenango River has ice throughout the river. It will be stocked with trout in February, and most likely there are still holdovers from the fall. If you feel the need to venture out on the thin ice, wearing a Personal Flotation Device or at least keeping one handy might be a good idea. Also carrying a section of rope may not only help yourself, but you may be able to help others.

- 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 NorthWest Commissioner in place. Applicants are being reviewed
- 2010 Mercer County Trout Stocking is available from County Secretary if needed. PFBC is asking for assistance in stocking fish in 2010.

Pa. Game Commission:

- Hunter Trapper Education class scheduling is underway. A new system has been installed on the PGC site for HTE registration. More information will be coming on the classes that have already been scheduled.
- PGC is offering the "Seedlings for Schools" program, in which students will be able to plant a variety of tree seedlings at home, on school grounds or in their community.
- A new WCO cadet class that will start on March 31st, 2010. The Northwest division will host the DWCO training class.
- There was a Wild Boar hit on I-80. It was a little over 200 lbs. It was tracked back to a local guy in Grove City. It was reported that there was four others that ran across the road but there was no trace of the others.
- There have been rumors spreading that there are Mountain Lions in PA. There has been no type of evidence found that there is any Mountain Lion in PA.
- There was a shooting on State Game Land 39. There was a shot from a rifle that hit a Chevy Silverado left rear tire. The jacket from the bullet was able to be traced back to the firearm.
- Game commissioners have set the seasons and bag limits at their January meeting. You can view the seasons and limits at the PGC website. Some changes that have occurred:
 - Junior Rabbit season was introduced. If approved in April, the junior rabbit season would be held Oct. 9-16
 - Bear season that would open on Saturday, Nov. 20, and then continue on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 22 and 23. The Board also eliminated all extended bear season that previously were held during all or portions of the first week of the firearms deer season.
 - The overall bobcat season to three weeks (Dec. 18-Jan. 8 for hunting, and Dec. 18-Jan. 9 for trapping), and allow all licensed furtakers the opportunity to purchase one permit to harvest a bobcat in Wildlife Management Units 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4D and 4E.
 - The creation of a six-day fisher trapping season (Dec. 18-23) and allow all licensed trappers the opportunity to trap one fisher in WMUs 2C 2D, 2E and 2F.
 - preliminary approval to a slate of deer seasons for the 2010-11 seasons that includes adding Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) 2C, 2E, 4D and 4E to the split five-day antlered deer season, Nov. 29-Dec. 3, and seven-day concurrent season, Dec. 4-11. Those WMUs now part of the split season structure are WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2G, 3C, 4B, 4D and 4E. The proposed package retains the two-week (12-day) concurrent, antlered and antlerless season in the remaining 14 WMUs.
 - The death on Tuesday of a 9 year old boy was tragic. The 3 boys were hunting Racoons. Their .17 cal. rifle was in the buggy when the dog jump into the buggy and hit the rifle causing it to discharge. The 9 year old was taken to UPMC in Greenville and then transported to Children's Hospital where he died the next day.

Club Announcements:

- Pardoe Sportsmen's Association is hosting a junior rifle class. Visit the Pardoe site at http://www.pardoesportsmens.com/junior_rifle_course.aspx
Call to register or for more info 724-748-3924
Class begins February 9th for 3 weeks 6 Classes Tues and Thurs 6-9PM
- Pardoe Sportsmen's Association is hosting a Bullseye league on Friday nights at 7pm.

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: February 24, 2010 at 7 PM at Mercer Co. CoonHunters

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

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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