



Coulee Region TU Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on December 12, 2024.

Board directors present: Berger, Freund, Hubbard, Jonson, Kyte, Muresan, Townsell, Welter D., and Welter K.

Board directors absent: Jester, Rees, and Spademan

Quorum is present.

The President called for any discussion of the minutes of the October 10th meeting. There was no discussion and it was moved by Welter K. to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Townsell. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous. There are no minutes from the November 14, 2024 meeting due to lack of quorum. Notes of the November meeting were filed for good form.

President's Report

- The President reported to the board that board member Suz Jester had resigned. The necessity of a replacement was discussed but since the board is already over the Bylaw limit for members, it was decided to not seek a replacement.
- The President reported that the sampling project on the Coon Creek watershed is proceeding. This project was announced at the November membership event on the UW-L campus with the Ecology student presentation. This project will involve the WDNR, U. S. Wildlife and Fisheries for research on the watershed. The CRTU loggers along with ones from UW-L will be deployed to collect data.
- The President reported that the Wisconsin TU State Council had requested a Driftless Angler guide trip donation from CRTU for the State Banquet. Freund made a motion to purchase the guide trip for a cost of up to \$500. The motion was seconded by Berger. The vote to approve the purchase of a Driftless Angler guide trip with a cost of up to \$500 was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Financials were unavailable for presentation. However, due to recent emails it was noted that \$1,000 had recently been received as donation to the chapter. The appropriate acknowledgement had been sent by the Secretary. It was noted that the current bank balance is sufficient to support anticipated activities.

The President reported that Curt Rees, the current Treasurer had submitted his resignation due to his family relocation to Lexington, Kentucky. Rees would continue to work with the chapter for the annual banquet ticket sales. Discussion ensued regarding a replacement for the Treasurer. Muresan, as chapter Secretary, noted that the Bylaws allow the Secretary to hold both positions and since she was also an accountant, this seemed to be an obvious move. Muresan volunteered to take the duty reassignment from Rees at an appropriate time. The motion to accept the chapter Secretary assume the duties of chapter Treasurer was moved by Hubbard. The motion was

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seconded by Freund. There was no further discussion and the vote to accept the motion was unanimous with the abstention of Muresan. The board expressed their appreciation for the offer to combination the duties under the current Secretary. Muresan was instructed to follow-up with Rees to schedule the transition.

Committee Reports

- Membership Events – Muresan reported that the arrangements for the December holiday party were engaged and the January 15, 2025 membership event in Viroqua was set. Freund reported that Tommy Hill with WDNR will join the January meeting to discuss the Cook Creek watershed project mentioned in the President’s Report. The January meeting is also the annual meeting of the chapter. Berger also confirmed to the Board that the StreamGirls event would be scheduled for August 9 and that he was working on coordination with the Girl Scouts on publicity. No word yet on a date for TroutFest.

Old Business

- 2025 Fundraising Campaign Update – Muresan reported that the CRTU website home page donation button had been updated with others way to donate including Venmo. An additional page for Donations & Support was added giving more details. It is planned to create a FB post with similar information.
- Community Partner’s Day/Event – This item has been tabled.
- Driftless Trout Trifecta idea update – Muresan reported that this idea will be revisited later in 2025 – after brief email discussion with the Utah Cutthroat Slam organizers, this idea will take considerable effort to establish. Open for future consideration.
- Rent-A-Goat – Muresan reported that she had been unable to find information on this topic. It was suggested that the director of the Vernon County Parks be contacted as well as another source of information volunteered from Jonson. Muresan will continue to investigate.
- University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh “Freshwater Camp” – Berger reported that he was still gathering information from both the university and others.
- Westby area educator requesting ‘Fishing Day’ interest – Berger reported that this would likely be a Spring date and he is still coordinating with the school district
- Fly-tying event at Logan High School – Berger reported that he and John Newton held an event on December 12. It is planned that they will return in April/May for a casting clinic.
- Vernon County Flood Mitigation Alliance – Freund and Muresan reported that they attended the meeting at the invitation of the Alliance. Muresan reported that she was looking for ways that CRTU could be helpful to the Alliance.

New Business

- CRTU Annual Banquet Committee – Freund proposed a separate committee to plan the banquet and discussed items that would be needed including an inventory of existing items (Rees has these items will they will need to be stored elsewhere after the holidays). Kyte noted that there will be activities for Leopold Day on March 1 and offered to give a reading at the banquet as a tie-in. Freund will issue meeting invite for the planning to begin.
- Harry Peterson Donation – Muresan reported that the chapter had received an email from Harry Peterson (TU Life Member) about donating his fishing gear and fly-tying material to the chapter for fund raising. Several ideas were discussed including finding out if there were

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any needs at the State Council level. Muresan was instructed to contact Peterson with options and offer complimentary tickets to the banquet.

- WDNR Grants – Freund reported that while it would be great for the chapter to be able to benefit from applying for a grant, the only event that necessitates a large expenditure is for the purchase of stock fish for TroutFest. Unfortunately, that activity is not eligible for reimbursement under the grant program.

Adjournment

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Hubbard and seconded Jonson. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted:

Deborah Muresan, Chapter Secretary