

2017 McIntosh Rod and Gun Club Meeting Minutes

The meeting started at 11:05 AM with a quorum of 62 members.

Club President, Davis Poole, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

The 2016 meeting minutes were read by Laurie Poole; a motion was made by Jenny Luizer to accept, Susie Berry seconded the motion, and the minutes were passed as read. Treasurer Frank Lunsford read his annual financial report to the membership.

Old Business ~ addressed by President Davis Poole:

New dock work and repairs by Alan Drury had been progressing; there have been weather issues and site problems like hitting hard pack and old materials previously put into place. The new dock was well underway including the aluminum, arched walkway.

For 2018, we hope to have fuel on the outer dock. Signs will be installed at sites in the outlying marshes directing boaters in to Blue & Hall from the ICW. Future plans including a pump-out tank at the marina.

Davis informed the membership that the 501(c)(3) nonprofit status would not be a possibility for the Rod & Gun Club as it is a quasi-government entity acting on behalf of McIntosh County.

Vice President, Jason Coley discussed the tournaments from the year; the SWAT (Whiting) Tournament had 23 boats participate and cash prizes were paid out. 11 kids participating on the new date of April 15, 2017. The Trout Brawl had 27 boats participate. 6-7 kids participated; it was a good time with great fellowship! Cash prizes were also paid out. Jason noted special thanks to sponsors and volunteers that help out with the tournaments, especially Mel Amerson for always cooking for us.

New business included~

New MRGC website is up and active! No more Excel spreadsheets! Wild Apricot hosts the site and it is quite powerful; emails, membership renewals, membership sign-ups, tournament registrations, etc. can all be done on line. It is easy to use! Members can log into their profile and even load a photo there... It's a one-stop shop.

Fishing tournament proceeds; the club would like to set up two- \$1000 scholarships to encourage youth participation. More details will come as criteria is ironed out. First, they will attend a semester of school, then we pay out. Board approves applications.

Physical improvements for the club; the county has helped with paving the parking lot and road area, hoist repairs, water system. Future – power and water down the dock etc. SPLOST; \$30,000 was spent on Blue & Hall repairs and upgrades.

Hurricane Matthew update: damages- FEMA/DNR helped. The all-thread bolts were broken. Repairs were done quickly.

New cameras were acquired to reduce theft, but hard drive issues have been ongoing. Hi-visibility cameras will be coming to dock and exit.

T-shirts; getting rid of old shirts. Flat cuzzies, hats and visors are desired by membership.

Kit Jones update; history: club uniquely qualified to help, we have secured the vessel and saved her from scrap salvage, she will be brought back to McIntosh County!

Nautical Flea Market to come (Barry Owens). Details to be worked out and plans to be announced. We do not want to close the marina for this event.

Volunteer of the Year ; Treasurer Frank Lunsford recognized our **Keith Miller** for his continuous support and giving time to the club! Keith took a moment from his award to make note that *kids are our future!* We must teach them! He encouraged and challenged everyone to take their kids fishing and be involved!

Frank also thanked Ann Harris for coming down each year to help out, and recognized our wonderful members who volunteer as well!

Q&A

Elections were held for the offices of President and Secretary as per the two-year rotation guideline in our Bylaws. Frank Lunsford presided over. Nomination was made for Laurie Poole as secretary by Susie Berry. The nomination was seconded, vote was made and approved. Keith Miller nominated Davis Poole to continue his role as President, the nomination was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

Davis and Laurie thanked the membership for their support and vote of confidence.

Davis made a note that *he* was actually one of those kids that ran across Blue & Hall docks as a child and echoed Keith Miller's point that we have to keep the next generation involved in order to continue the good work that is ongoing.

Laurie and Frank reminded members to register, get wristbands for lunch, and renew memberships if due. Noted we have the Low Country boil first time in 5+ years thankfully, due to the abundance of shrimp and crabs once again.

The meeting adjourned at noon.