



Overmountain Chapter Trout Unlimited

President – Rhett Morris, rhettflyfishingtn@gmail.com

Vice President – Sam Henry, shenry415@yahoo.com

Treasurer – Ryan Turgeon, ryanturgeon76@yahoo.com

Secretary – Philip Tipton, pgtipton1@gmail.com

Minutes of meeting held at Poblanos 2/10/2026

PRESIDING: Rhett Morris, President

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Elliott, Philip Tipton, Evan McDougall, Jeff Mann, Sam Henry, Rhett Morris, Ryan Turgeon, John Kempton, Michael Fick, Nicole Fick

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM by Rhett Morris. Agenda reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

Previous Meeting Notes: Approved - Yes Motioned: J. Kempton
Second: R. Turgeon

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Report:



\$ 5,600.34 Starting Balance (Bank of TN)
 \$ 62,424.76 Starting Balance (Edward Jones)
 \$ 68,025.10 Starting balance as of 1-01-2026

\$ 17,616.61 Ending Balance (Bank of TN)
 \$ 62,618.74 Ending Balance (Edward Jones)
 \$ 80,235.35 Ending balance as of 1-31-2026

DEPOSITS

\$ 193.98 Dividend (Edward Jones)
 \$ 0.67 Interest (Bank of Tennessee)
 \$ 12,170.00 Grant reimbursement for Hampton Creek fencing
 \$ 12,364.65 Total Deposits

EXPENSES

\$ (24.12) Fly tying case
 \$ (50.00) Raffle permit application
 \$ (44.83) Fly tying case reimbursement
 \$ (17.50) Trial Membership
 \$ (17.95) Website - Domain
 \$ (154.40) Total Expenses

AVAILABLE BALANCE AFTER COMMITMENTS

\$ 57,825.91

OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS

\$ (2,136.00) TIC
 \$ (857.65) DRIFT
 \$ (207.93) meetings/speaker meals
 \$ (682.50) Gift Memberships
 \$ (100.00) sign board updates
 \$ (500.00) small display board for pint nights, etc.
 \$ (550.00) Trout Camp for one
 \$ (75.00) Chili Cook-off supplies
 \$ (433.11) Raffle Ticket Sales
 \$ (1,115.32) Storage Unit
 \$ (1,500.00) Tailwater Roundup Food
 \$ (1,200.00) Thirsty Orange
 \$ (278.78) Materials for level sensors
 \$ (250.00) CleanMyWater Initiative
 \$ (172.10) Fly tying vices & tools
 \$ (181.05) Cases for fly tying materials
 \$ (12,170.00) Hampton Creek Fencing
 \$ (22,409.44) Total Commitments

Approval:

1st R. Elliott2nd S. Henry

***Board Members on Bank of TN account:** Ryan Turgeon, Rhett Morris, Philip Tipton, Rick Elliott, and Evan McDougall*

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Membership Update (V. Ketron): N/A

- New:
- Renewed:
- Set to Expire:
- **Total:**

Fishing Days/Pint Nights (Evan):

- Dates are scheduled on OMTU web calendar and Facebook.
- Saturday fishing days continues to engage with members of OMTU.
- We continue to see younger anglers attending.
- Fishing Days are on the 1st Saturday of each month. 9AM starting time during the fall/winter months.
- Marketing and advertising were discussed with ETSU Marketing students on 1/9/26 with a goal of gaining better community engagement and new membership.
- They will create an action plan and present it to us when ready.
- Deep Creek Trip is scheduled for May 15-17th and members can sign up on the website.
- Fly Tying Socials scheduled. Over 20 people came to the last event!

Women's Initiative (Rhett/Nicole):

- Sign up on the OMTU website
- Date: May 2nd, 2026, with 16 slots
 - Currently 4 slots filled

TIC (Michael):

- A release date is planned for May 1st. Volunteers are needed.
- Sullivan East has decided to stop TIC. Their equipment will be used at another location.

Drift Trail (Rick):

- Cleanup February 21st @ 9AM
- Pizza will be provided by OMTU for volunteers

Doe River Habitat Restoration (Ryan):

- The Doe River Association has contacted OMTU to partner in habitat restoration.
 - Meeting on March 12th @ 11:00AM (Roan Mt State Park Visitor Center) for the cleanup.

Hampton Creek (Ryan):

- JB Hill started on the layout last week.
 - JB Hill is continuing to work. It is going slow because of all the rock.

Houston Brown (TU Community Member and Guide)

- East TN fishing community set up a GoFundMe to help with his medical needs.
 - OMTU voted to donate \$200. 1st P. Tipton 2nd E. McDougall

Trout Camp (Ryan):

- Registration is open until March 1st

Member Meetings (Rhett):

- We plan to move them to Food City in Johnson City. More details to come.
- We need 2 meeting speakers to fill out our yearly roster.

Tri Fly Donation (Ryan):

- Need to find a place on Beaverdam Creek to install level sensor
- Proposal for next year's project has been submitted
- Tim Belk requested a map with all the monitored streams. Evan created one.
- OMTU is getting all money this year (\$7000). BRGA will receive all the money next year for their project.
- Because of the increase in funds, they want us to do 4 streams (Stony Creek, Laurel Creek, North Indian Creek, South Indian Creek).
- We will receive the funding in May.
- We need to start looking for installation locations on each stream.

2026 Raffle (Ryan):

- Application has been submitted and approved
- Drawing will take place on August 18th at the Chapter Meeting

Tailwater Roundup (Ryan):

- March 14th @ 8:00AM
- After Party @ 4PM Elizabethton Moose Lodge

Regional Rendezvous (Ryan):

- **March 13th – 15th**
- TN Council will reimburse \$300 per person to attend. The chapter will cover the remainder of the cost, if anyone would like to attend.
 - They are offering a Friday pass now
 - Register by 2/25/26

Spending Vote

- Spending Vote
 - Food for Doe River Cleanup - \$150
 - Projector screen - \$200
 - Food City Chapter Meeting Venue - \$700
 - Wagon for carrying items to various events - \$200

Approved

1st R. Elliott

2nd R. Morris

ACTION ITEMS INITIATED

ITEM	WHO	DUE	DONE
New Banner Display Designed	R. Morris	5/2026	
Last Instrument Installation	R. Turgeon	5/2026	
Finish Fly Tying Supply Kits	P. Tipton	6/2026	

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM. Motioned by: P. Tipton 2nd: R. Elliott