



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 Poblano 7/8/25

PRESIDING: Ryan Turgeon, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ryan Turgeon, Rick Elliott, Michael Fick, Nichole Fick, Jeff Mann, Jon Kempton, Evan McDougall

OTHERS PRESENT:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM by Ryan Turgeon. A review of the agenda gone over.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Previous Meeting Notes: Approved - Yes Motioned: J. Mann
Second: J. Kempton

Financial Report:

June 2025



\$ 10,425.66	Ending Balance (Bank of TN)
\$ 50,384.76	Ending Balance (Edward Jones)
<u>\$ 60,810.42</u>	Ending balance as of 6-30-2025

\$	100.00	Raffle ticket sales
\$	177.35	Dividend (Edward Jones)
\$	0.45	Interest (Bank of Tennessee)
\$	277.80	Total Deposits

\$ (4.53)	Gas for skid steer
\$ (3,294.00)	Cellular Level and Temp Monitors
\$ (500.00)	Rock Creek Kid's Fishing Day
\$ (20.46)	Business registration
\$ (210.00)	P.O. box rental (annual)
\$ (104.62)	Food for picnic
\$ (129.21)	Iron Fly Prizes
\$ (113.87)	Food for Women's Clinic
\$ (4,376.69)	Total Expenses

\$ 48,259.75

\$	(2,136.00)	TIC
\$	(857.65)	DRIFT
\$	(265.64)	meetings/speaker meals
\$	(315.00)	Gift Memberships
\$	(100.00)	sign board updates
\$	(500.00)	small display board for pint nights, etc.
\$	(550.00)	Trout Camp for one
\$	(123.94)	Raffle fees and tickets
\$	(75.00)	Chili Cook-off supplies
\$	(120.79)	Iron Fly
\$	(43.90)	Meet the Mountains
\$	(395.38)	Picnic
\$	(1,500.00)	Raffle Ticket Sales
\$	(2,200.00)	Storage Unit
\$	(1,500.00)	Tailwater Roundup Food
\$	(1,200.00)	Thirsty Orange
\$	(100.00)	Todd Burleson Cleanup prizes
\$	(500.00)	Watauga Riverkeeper
\$	(52.42)	Website - calendar
\$	(14.95)	Website - domain
\$	(12,550.67)	Total Commitments

Approve Financial Report: Approved - Yes Motioned: J. Kempton
Second: M. Fick

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER NEW BUSINESS**Membership Update (Jeff Mann):**

- Total: 284

Recovery Help (Ryan):

- Sally Petre from TWRA reached out to see if we are interested in helping TWRA with some stream restoration work in our area.
- There are several streams that have been scoured due to Hurricane Helene
- She will be in touch with more details
- We voted to help with this important work

Fishing Days and Pint Nights (Evan):

- Had our Blue Line fishing day at Beaverdam Creek on June 29th. Two people attended. They fished a couple of tributaries and caught several very small Brook Trout.
- Future Blue Lines Fishing Days include the following:
 - Horse Creek – July 19th @ 8:00AM
 - Roan Mountain – August 23rd @ 8:00AM
 - Laurel Fork – September 21st @ 12:00PM
- Iron Fly contest in July for our monthly meeting – Thursday July 10th @ 6:00PM – South Fork Tap House in Bluff City
- We are looking to incorporate cleaning up the fishing dock at Blevins Boat Ramp during one of our fishing days in the future

Women's Initiative (Rhett/Nichole):

- Nothing new at this time
- Will possibly schedule an intermediate class for past participants in the fall

TIC (Michael):

- Done for the year
- Things will ramp back up next month
- Egg delivery should be in September

Tri-Fly Donation (Ryan):

- Stream monitors for Beaverdam Creek, Doe Creek, and Laurel Fork have been delivered. Ryan is working to set them up to ensure that they are functioning properly before we install them.
- Ryan and Rick will be going to look at installation locations on Friday, July 11th
- We hope to have them installed by the end of August
- We submitted a TN Conservation grant application to cover the remaining cost

Raffle Tickets (Ryan):

- Please continue to sell your raffle tickets
- We are looking to setup a booth at Bass Pro Shops to sell tickets
- The drawing will be Tuesday, August 19th during our member meeting

DRIFT Trail (Rick):

- Rick is waiting to hear back from the county
- Ryan is going to create a map of the DRIFT trail

Kids Fishing Day at Rock Creek (Ryan):

- We gave them a check for \$500 to go towards prizes for the kids
- They had a great turnout with 67 kids attending the event
- They will keep us in the loop next year to help out again

TN Council (Ryan):

- Zoom meeting on July 26th

Meet the Mountains (Ryan):

- August 15-16
- Volunteer slots for Friday are all filled
- We still need volunteers for Saturday

Tight Lines and Tall Tails (Ryan):

- BHA called and asked if we would be willing to partner with them for a pint night
- Neil Norman has written a book call Tight Lines and Tall Tails: Stories of Southern Appalachian Fly Fishing and will be at the South Fork Tap House in Bluff City on Thursday, October 9th @ 6:30PM for a book signing.

USFS Land Purchase (Ryan):

- Jay Chapman from the USFS contacted us to see if we would be interested in helping to purchase a tract of land along the Doe River in Roan Mountain.
- He is working to get us more details
- We decided to table this topic until next month when we have more information

Brochures / Business Cards in Fly Shops (Ryan):

- We talked about putting brochures and business cards at all of the fly shops in the area to increase the awareness of OMTU.
- Ryan mocked up a brochure and will send it out again for approval
- Ryan will also get a quote for printing the brochures
- Ryan will look to purchase holders that can house both brochures and business cards to place in the fly shops.

TVA South Holston Weir Dam Level Measurement (Ryan):

- Darrell Guinn from TVA informed us that the level device at the weir dam is installed and fully functional.
- Data is being send to Knoxville to alarm TVA is low levels occur on the weir dam. This is to help prevent the weir dam from completely draining out again.

June Chapter Meeting (Rhett):

- The picnic went well
- We had 25 people participate

Rocky Fork Hiker's Jamboree (Evan):

- Saturday, August 2nd at Rocky Fork State Park
- Not sure what all it will entail, but Evan is looking to get 3-4 volunteers to help out
- We will setup our booth and talk about OMTU
- Try to sell raffle tickets
- Evan will create a sign up for the event

Hampton Creek (Ryan):

- We received a grant from FishAmerica for \$25,000 to cover the cost of the barrier repair.
- The total cost of rebuilding the barrier was going to be well over \$50,000 and TDEC didn't want to try to get money from multiple sources to pay for it.
- FEMA is going to cover the entire cost of the repairs.
- Lisa Huff suggested that we write a letter to FishAmerica to see if we could reallocate the \$25,000 to go towards installing additional fencing in the area. FishAmerica agreed to allow us to do that.
- We will need to have 1-2 work days to remove some old fencing, brush, and debris so the new fence can be installed
- We have a deadline of December 31, 2025 to complete the fencing work
- We will pay for the fencing up front and FishAmerica will reimburse us.

Film Festival (Ryan)

- BRGA would like to hold another film festival this year on Saturday, October 4th
- Jon Hooper is checking with the Stateline Drive-In Theatre to see if we can hold it there again.
- We will split the profits with the BRGA

Member Meeting Location (Ryan):

- We discussed trying to find a new location for our member meetings
- We have been kicked out of our room at the Golden Corral 2 out of the last 3 meetings.
- This space is very noisy and it would be nice to have a better location
- Several locations were discussed and we all agreed that Food City had the best location.
- Ryan is going to talk to them to see what arrangements we can come up with for pricing and food.

Spending Vote (Ryan)

- N/A

Approve spending vote: Approved – N/A Motioned:
Second:

ACTION ITEMS INITIATED

ITEM	WHO	DUE	DONE
Design new display banners	Rhett	5/25	
Create mockup for brochure	Ryan	8/1	
Get price to print brochures	Ryan	8/1	
Get price for brochure holders	Ryan	8/1	
Find locations for level sensors on Beaverdam Creek, Doe Creek, and Laurel Fork	Ryan / Rick	8/1	
Talk to Food City about holding member meetings there	Ryan	8/1	

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Motioned by: R. Elliott
Seconded By: J. Kempton