

Proceeding of Second Meeting of H.P. Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society held on 16th July 2002 at 11.00 hrs. under the Chairmanship of Sh. S.S. Parmar I.A.S., Principal Secretary (Fisheries) as Chairman of the Society.

The following attended the meeting:

1. Sh. S.S. Parmar
2. Sh. Satya Prakash Thakur
3. Sh. B.R. Koundal
4. Sh. S.P. Mehta, Chief Executive Officer FFDA, Kangra
5. Sh. Tapes Chohan
6. Dr. Kuldip Kumar, Adviser(Fisheries)
7. Sh. K.C. Verma, MD ,HP Agro Industries Corp. Shimla
8. Sh. A.K. Sood, GM HP Agro Ind. Corp. Shimla
9. Sh. Naresh Kumar, AE Directorate of Fisheries, Bilaspur

Welcoming the members to the 2nd meeting of the Society, the Chairman asked Member Secretary to take up agenda items for discussion.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of previous meeting:

The member secretary stated that out of the various decisions taken during the first meeting of the Society action has already been taken on all the items except item no. 5 & 6 and these are being re-proposed for want of certain clarifications. The Governing Council confirmed the minutes of the 1st meeting held on 8th February,2002 and the Governing Council also approved the by laws of the Society.

2. Formal approval of the appointment of Advisor-cum CEO:

The appointment of Dr. Kuldip Kumar, Ex Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries as Advisor-cum-Chief Executive Officer in the Society for a period of one year was confirmed.

3. Modification in the membership of Governing and Executive Councils:

The Member secretary informed the members that the monitoring and speedy completion of various environmentally related projects funded by the Hydel-project authorities has been included in the Society's mandate. These projects are being implemented in different districts of the State and obviously call for inclusion of concerned ADF's in the Society's Governing and Executive Councils. The Governing Council ratified the decision as per H.P. Govt. notification No. Fish F(8)-1/97 dated 15th July,2002.

4. Status of Society's Accounts:

The member Secretary informed that a total of Rs. 84,77,487/- has been deposited in the Society account. The Chairman directed that efforts be made for getting the remaining funds released from the project funded Agencies.

5. Appraisal and progress of department and private farm:

The Member Secretary informed that the proceeds from sale of fish, fish seed, fish feed etc. have witnessed an increase from all Society's fish farms. The details are as under:-

Patlikuhl	Rs. 659970/-
Deoli	Rs. 35207/-
Nagni	Rs. 218090/-
Barot	Rs. 54686/-
Total	Rs. 9,67,953/-

As far the success achieved in seed rearing in leased out fish farms, Member secretary informed that the private parties have already upgraded the Nalagarh and Gagret fish farms and stocked the seed of fresh water prawn and car. The results achieved so far are quite encouraging. At this, the Chairman instructed Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries, to contact with these parties and explore the possibilities of procuring seed for departmental reservoirs and private fish farms. To another query the Member secretary informed the Chairman that Bhandal farm located in Chamba district could not be leased out for want of any interested party. At this the Chairman advised that it is no use to keep the farm in abandoned state and as such Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries may take action for handing over the same to Zila Parishad/ Panchayat body or any other agency.

6. i) Progress under National Mahseer seed propagation of fish farm:

The Managing Director, HP Agro Industries Corporation informed that work on fencing of the Mahseer farm site has already been started. Further estimate amounting to Rs. 32.00 lakhs have been already been finalized but the work could not be awarded as the report of the 'Technical Evaluation Committee' on the protection work design prepared by IPH department is still awaited. At this DWF showed a letter received from IPH department may deposit an amount of Rs. 5.00 lakh for carrying out survey and preparation of report on the suitability of site through a control Agency.

It was felt that the preparation and finalization of report may take several months resulting into inordinate delay of this crucial centrally funded project. Intervening on the issue Advisor(Fisheries) submitted that in view of hill topography of the state, such flood fears are associated with all the fish farms. The last major flood at Sidhpur was reported during 1988 but since then not only water quantum in river Beas has shrunk but the river course has also been changed. He further said that the proposed construction of hatchery, tube well, approach road are being made at the elevated portion of the site, considerably away from the valuable flood zone. After detailed discussions on the issue it was decided that:

- The Chairman would discuss the issue of T.E.C report on Mahseer Fish farm with Principal Secretary(IPH) and would take the decision accordingly.
- Advisor(Fisheries) may discuss the estimate with Agro Industries officials and indicate departmental priority of works.
- The construction agency be asked to defer work on the staff quarters for the time being.

Setting up a trout feed mill by Agro-Corporation:

To a query made by the Chairman regarding the status work on setting up fish feed mill the GM corporation assured that the said work would be completed by the end of September,2002. At this the Advisor(fisheries) reminded that while transference of Rs. 15.00 lakhs by the department to the corporation it was assured that the said mill would be made functional by mid August. The GM stated certain reason for the delay and assured that the revised date would be faithfully adhered. The Chairman desired that the department may immediately consolidate the total trout feed demand to be met by the corporation and intimate the same to them .

ii) Progress under HJPC sponsored Sangla Fish Farm programme:

The Member Secretary informed that subsequent to a request made by the department estimates amounting to Rs. 1.18 crore have been furnished by SIDC for the various works to be taken at Sangla fish farm. An examination of the estimate reveals that 100% extra charges have been added as cost escalation, which seems total unjustified. The Chairman directed the Advisor-cum CEO to take up the matter with the SIDC official on the issue.

iii) Progress under NHPC sponsored project on up gradation of Chamba fish Farm:

In case of NHPC sponsored project, it was decided that the estimate received be sent to the Chairman for approval.

iv) Progress under NORAD sponsored fish health project:

In order to acquaint with the status as well as progress of NORAD and hydel projects, the Chairman desired that Advisor(Fisheries) may prepare a brief note incorporated following information:

- Copy of the project report
- Letter of Sanction/commitment of funding agency
- Funds received till date by the Department
- Cost of project, itemwise

v) Other projects:

The Member Secretary also raised the issue of environmental project 'Development of Fisheries in the riparian area of Suketi Khad' for which BBMB has concurred to provide Rs. 72.00 lakh. Reacting on it DWF informed that he has discussed the issue with BBMB authorities and is likely to meet them again for final settlement and release of money. The Chairman advised the DWF for expediting the issue so that the two farms viz Ghagus and Alsu could be upgraded with these funds.

vi) Issues pertaining to fish farms awaiting decisions:

a) Engagement of part time worker at Patlikuhl farm

>It was decided in the meeting that since the said case for engagement of 4 part time workers has already been sent to finance department, we may await the Government sanction.

>It was proposed to engage two part time workers for sealing, cleaning and degutting of sold out fish. The Society would charge Rs. 5/- per kg from the customers as cleaning charges of fish. The appointed part time workers would be paid salaries from this fund. The Governing Council approved the proposed and permitted to engage them on tenure basis.

b) Completion of work on additional water supply at Nagni Farm:

On an issue raised by Advisor (Fisheries) that in view of non-completion of water supply work of Nagni fish despite providing full funds to PWD authorities the farms activities are being affected seriously. It was desired by the Chairman that DWF may prepare a complete list of pending fish farms works vis-a vis the amount provided to PWD for holding a meeting and time bound completion programme with the Principal Secretary(PWD) at his level at Shimla.

Similarly he also desired that completion status on Angler Lodges vis-à-vis the funds provided by Tourism/Fisheries Department PWD be prepared by DWF and put up to him for a joint meeting.

c) Disposal of accumulated trout stock from Patlikuhl farm:

The Member Secretary raised the issue of accumulated trout stock at Patlikuhl Trout Farm emphasizing the space problem for the growing seed bred during the current year. Reacting on it the Chairman stressed that all out efforts require to be made including advertisement, contact with the hoteliers and incentives to the parties for lifting stock from the farm. On a

suggestion put up by Advisor(Fisheries) to sell the stock enmass at reduced rates, the Chairman said it should be the stock last recourse and should be considered at a later stage.

7. Payment of price of feed to the Society by the departmental fish farms:

After brief discussion on this issue, the Governing Council decided that the present practice of supplying feed to departmental fish farm without payment be continued for the current year.

8. Sanction of expenditure incurred on printing of Society's registers/folders/envelops etc.

The Governing Council approved the expenditure as per details with the rider that all codal formalities be observed while making the expenditure given below:

1. Receipt books	100 Nos	Rs. 2,650/-
2. Cash Memo Books	100 Nos	Rs. 2650/-
3. Letter Head Pad	50 Nos.	Rs. 1,475/-
4. File Folders	100Nos.	Rs. 200/-
5. Envelops		
Size: 14x9 cm	1000Nos	Rs.200/-
Size: 22.5x10 cm	1000Nos	Rs.230/-
Size: 22.5x16 cm	1000Nos	Rs.245/-
Total:		Rs. 7,650/-

9. Initiation of Incentives and disincentives scheme in the society:

It was decided that the draft incentives and disincentives scheme be sent to all the members for their views and put up again for discussion in the forthcoming meeting

10. Miscellaneous issues:

i) Transfer of files pertaining hydel-projects.

The Governing Council decided that all the pertaining files of hydel/NORAD assisted projects be transferred to the Society.

ii) Providing staff to Society:

The Advisor(Fisheries) stated that since Chairman has already instructed DWF for issuance of instruction to all the departmental field officers for providing full support and cooperation in the functioning of the society as such he needs only a bare-minimum staff in the Society. Stressing on shortage of staff in the department, DWF expressed his difficulty in sparing any ministerial staff for want of shortage of staff in the department.

However after discussion it was decided that besides Sh. Ramesh Chand, Senior Stenographer, Sh. Raajesh Junior Assistant would also work for the society. For computer services and when desired. The Chairman however, made it amply clear that this present arrangement of providing two ministerial staff members to the society is provisional and additional staff would be provided by the department in due course of time depending upon the need such as maintaining accounts and records etc of the Society and the situation would be reviewed after three months.

It was also decided that Society may hire a helper on contract basis to be used a peon/messenger/filed worker etc.

iii) Purchase of Furniture in the Society:

The items was approved on the condition of observance of codal formalities in the purchase. It may preferably be purchased from Government undertaking or rate contract firms.

However, for the typewriter it was decided that the Electronic type Machine available in the department be transferred to the Society.

Sanction for Rs. 40,000/- was accorded for purchase of following furniture.

1. Steel Almirah(Big)	=	one
2. Steel Almirah (Small)	=	two
3. Book Shelf	=	two
4. Wooden rack	=	one
5. Chairs	=	four
6. Stools	=	two
7. Steel rack	=	two
8. Executive Chair	=	one
9. Executive Table	=	one

iv) Sanction of imprest amount of Rs. 2,000/-:

An amount or Rs. 2000/- was approved as imprest amount in the Society to meet the expense of urgent nature such as stamps, telephone bills and other sundry expenditure etc.

v) Sanction for telephone connections:

The Member Secretary informed that presently there are three telephone connections installed in the Directorate of Fisheries, Bilaspur and one out of them namely of the FFDA could be transferred to the Society. The Governing Council approved the proposal. Another telephone connection for the residence of Advisor (Fisheries) was also approved.

vi) Enhancement of rates for hiring taxi for undertaking long distance tours:

The item was approved empowering the Advisor(Fisheries) to claim the taxi rates as indicated in the Financial Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Transport) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh Notification No. 6-58/81-Part-V dated 7th April,2000.

11) Delegation of Powers:

It was decided that the powers delegated to the DWF in the 1st meeting such as power to take all minor decisions pertaining to function of the Society are delegated to the Advisor-cum-Chief Executive Officer. However, for major decision he would either give to take prior permission from the Governing Council or get the same vetted later.

The Governing Council also approved the financial power of expenditure upto Rs. 2000/- per item at a time to the Advisor-cum-CEO.

The Advisor-cum-CEO and Assistant Director of Fisheries, Bilaspur were authorized to operate the Society's account in place of DWF & Section Officer(SAS),H.P. Fisheries Deptt. Vide letter No. Fish. Aquaculture Society-B(A)1-2002 dated 12/07/2002. Governing Council of the Society approved the above change.

Further permission/approval accorded vide letter No. Fish-F(8)1/197 dated 15/07/2002 for a contingent advance of Rs. 10,000/- to meet the expenditure for undertaking trials on Mahseer breeding programme was confirmed.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.