



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Pam Sponholtz, President-elect Hilda Sextauer, Vice-president Jim Bowker, Secretary-Treasurer Travis Neebling, Past-president Tina Swanson

Minutes for Executive Committee Conference Call on Date: **Thursday, October 17, 2013**

Start Time: 8:30 am AK time/ 9:30 am PT / 10:30 am MT

US Toll-Free: 1-866-910-4857

International Toll-Free: 1-719-387-5500

Passcode: 586030

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 am MT.

1. Introductions and welcome
 - a. Attendance: Pam Sponholtz (President), Hilda Sexauer (President Elect), Jim Bowker (Vice President), Travis Neebling (Secretary-Treasurer), Tracy Wendt (Student Representative), Aaron Bunch (AZ-NM), Jim Hobbs (Cal-Neva), Joe DuPont (ID), Felipe Amezcua (Mexico), Robert Al-Chokhachy (MT), Brian Missildine (WA-BC)
2. Determination of quorum
 - a. A quorum was established
3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Travis/Pam)
 - a. Approve August and September minutes
 - i. Jim Bowker moved to approve the minutes as presented, Brian seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no objections.
 - b. Finances Update
 - i. Travis gave a brief update of the finances. There were no major changes since last month. Travis also indicated that he would be working on a new format for the monthly budget update that should make things easier to understand.
 - ii. As the 2013 meeting in Boise was so profitable, Jim Bowker suggested devoting further funds to the Mazatlan meeting.
 - iii. Pam agreed with Jim's comment and also indicated she was looking at further funding professional travel. Pam is currently working on the Division budget for 2013–14 and will present it at the mid-year meeting in Golden, Colorado.
 - iv. Hilda suggesting adding a list of Chapter sponsors to the 2014 meeting website. Jim Bowker agreed with this comment.

4. Update on the 2014 WDAFS/Mexico WDAFS meeting (Felipe and Pam)
 - a. Felipe gave a brief update on the 2014 meeting.
 - i. Eleven symposia have been submitted and are listed on the website.
 - ii. The budget is almost finalized.
 - iii. Room rates have been finalized.
 - iv. The planning committee is still figuring out the details for the downtown social and registration pricing.
 - v. Members of the planning committee will meet in Mazatlan from November 20–23.
 - vi. The call for papers is out. It has been sent out via email and is posted on both the Division website and the 2014 meeting website. The deadline for submissions is November 18th.
 - vii. The sponsorship and tradeshow form is available on the meeting website. Thanks to Eric Knudsen and Patrick Cooney for their work on this.
 - viii. The schedule-at-a-glance is posted on the meeting website.
 - b. Pam asked for Chapter input on how to schedule the Western Division business meeting. In the past, participants have been enticed to attend by offering a free lunch; however, at the 2014 meeting all meals are included in the meeting registration price. Please email Pam with any ideas.

5. Update on 2015 WDAFS/AFS/ORAFS meeting in Portland (Dave and/or Mary)
 - a. No update was given

6. Mid-year meeting: November 8-10, 2013 Golden CO
 - a. Pam gave a brief update on the meeting.
 - i. Pam is trying to make carpool arrangements from the airport, but needs everyone to finalize their travel plans.
 - ii. The Table Mountain Inn and Golden, Colorado will be a great venue
 - iii. There is a lot to talk about including getting Excom input on professional travel awards.

7. Chapter roundtable
 - a. Mexico – Felipe:
 - i. Their 2014 meeting will be held in conjunction with the Western Division meeting in Mazatlan.
 - ii. They are looking for new officers.
 - iii. They have a new student subunit at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.
 - iv. Four students have received Hutton scholarships.
 - b. WA-BC – Brian:
 - i. They will be holding an Excom retreat November 2nd
 - ii. They are working up a contract to upgrade their website.
 - iii. They plan to fund 1 or 2 students to the Mazatlan meeting.
 - iv. Their Chapter meeting will be March 25–27, 2014; the location has not been finalized.
 - c. AZ-NM – Aaron:
 - i. Their Chapter meeting will be joint with the Wildlife Society, February 7–9, 2014 in Pinetop, Arizona.
 - ii. They are trying to fund at least one student to the Mazatlan meeting.

- d. ID – Joe:
 - i. Their Chapter meeting will be February 11–13, 2014 in Idaho Falls, with workshops on the 10th. The first call for papers is out now.
 - ii. Tom Curet is working on a book titled “The unwritten laws of fisheries”, a book on how to succeed in fisheries. Hopefully it will be released before their Chapter meeting.
 - iii. They have developed a mentoring portal on their website including a questionnaire to match mentors with mentees.
 - iv. They have put up an online form to apply for travel assistance to the Mazatlan meeting; they have \$3,000 to disperse.
 - e. MT – Robert:
 - i. Their Chapter meeting will be March 4–7, 2014 in Chico Hot Springs. Space will be limited.
 - f. Cal-Neva – Jim Hobbs:
 - i. Their Chapter meeting will be March 27–29, 2014 in Sacramento.
 - ii. They are looking to update their website.
 - iii. Their new Chapter logo has been finalized.
8. Update from Student Representative (Tracy)
- a. Tracy gave a brief update
 - i. Tracy has set up a new email address to help make the transition smoother between representatives.
 - ii. If your student subunit representatives are not, please have them get in contact with Tracy
 - iii. She is working on developing a student Facebook page
 - iv. There will be a student colloquium at the Mazatlan meeting for students to present to other students (a low pressure setting with good feedback). There will also be a career workshop.
 - v. Tracy is going to resend a request to all the chapters asking them to consider funding one (or more) student(s) to the Mazatlan meeting.
 - b. Pam reminded the chapters that Trent Sutton is working on a master list of fisheries programs at colleges and universities. Please make sure to forward him any information from your schools.
9. New or other business
- a. At the Division mid-year meeting, we will coordinate getting a member of the Division Excom to each Chapter meeting
 - b. Brian asked about the listserv. It was recommended that he contact Dave Lentz (listserv coordinator) directly.
10. Discussion about November teleconference
- a. There will be no teleconference in November as we will meet for the mid-year meeting in Golden, Colorado.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am MT.

Attachments:

- 1. Agenda
- 2. August and September 2013 Minutes

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