

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society
EXCOM Teleconference Minutes
Date: January 20, 2004

Participants: Tom McMahon, Lynn Starnes, Joe Margraf, Don MacDonald, Monica Hiner, Vaughn Paragamian, Eric Wagner, Mary Whalen, Dave Zafft, Dana McCanne, Doug Olsen, Jim Joyce, Steve Leathe, Casey Harthorn, Cindy Williams, Jim Tilmant, Bruce May

Quorum Established

Secretary/Treasurer Report (Monica)

- Current Balances: Savings \$17,640; Checking \$8,760; 6-month CD \$13,492. Grants Funding Endowment Balance \$66,792 (total invested \$55K)
- November 18th, 2003 conference call notes approved (Joe motioned, Jim Tilmant seconded, unanimously approved)

2004 Annual Meeting (Lynn, Dave, and Eric)

- Lynn has failed to get responses from the potential plenary speakers, other speakers lined up are Gus Rassam and Ira Newbreast, and head of FFF. She has a couple of potentials from Arizona (Paul Marsh and Bruce Tobert) and will talk to Tom about that after the call.
- Lynn has ordered meeting shirts for volunteers and award certificates for all committee chairs.
- Dave's Report after the final call for papers deadline: 18 sessions (range from ½ day to 2 ½ days long), 310 papers, and 50 posters. 8 concurrent papers during most of the meeting. Anticipate at least 400 people attending. Program should be in place in the next week or so.
- Local Arrangements: Eric has reserved the student rooms (currently only 8-9 scheduled to work), and rooms for Gus and Ira. These will need to be paid for out of the meeting budget.
- We need more students to assist at the meeting. The incentive is 1-day free registration for 2 hours, full registration paid for 8 hours of work. Joe has approximately 6-8 students that he will encourage to volunteer.
- The raffle is going well. A list of donations has been compiled.
- Student representative for Palouse Unit (Idaho) has volunteered \$300-400 towards student social to be held Monday evening.
- Film festival coming together nicely.
- Eric has arranged for second bus from hotel to UnionDepot for the banquet.
- We may anticipate 400+ at our WDAFS luncheon, so we will need to modify our arrangements.
- We also have discounted skiing tickets available – 50% off if we sell 20 tickets.
- Lynn needs estimates for shirt sizes and numbers for the meeting shirts. Lynn changed vendors and is now going with a local vendor. The shirts will look like denim shirts (long sleeved) with our logo on the right side.

Standing Committees

- Audit (Casey)—Still working on numbers from 2003 annual meeting

- Grants Funding and Investment—to be discussed when Bill is on the call next month
 - Nominating (Don)—Vice President nominees: Mark Brouder and Bob Hughes. Nominating Representative: Eric Knudsen and Pete Bisson.
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Ad Hoc Committees

Cutthroat Trout Conservation Documentary (Bruce)

- There are some concerns about the pace of the development of this documentary. The State of Montana (a major contributor) is very concerned whether or not KUSM TV will be able to meet the scheduled deadline for production. We had a conference call on January 14 th with the WDAFS Excomm, Ken McDonald, and Bruce May. Eric Knudsen was assigned to contact KUSM TV, which he did, regarding the issue. Ken and Bruce drafted a letter on behalf of the Western Division, which has been sent to Tom for review. Tom will try and send it out today to KUSM. Bruce has also been in contact with the production director (Steven), who is now aware of the urgency of the completion of this project. The contract between the Division and KUSM is outdated and needs amended. KUSM has formalized the amendment in the form of a contract extension and have supposedly sent it to Tom. KUSM has also been informed that we may want to review actual film footage and get an independent review of the progress that has been made on the project.

Western Native Fishes (Lynn and Jim)

- Moving ahead on Native Fish Symposium at upcoming meeting. 40 papers have been submitted for the symposium. Proceedings will be published, and volunteers are already established for peer-reviewing papers. Eric added that they will also need editors to assist with formatting prior to submittal to AFS.
- Working on developing a contract for compilation of data regarding western native fishes. Five proposals were received, and hopefully a contractor will be selected before the annual meeting. Jim asked the group if anyone was available to assist with ranking proposals.
- The committee is working on a funding proposal that is due to the Parent Society by the 15 th of February, and has several other grants that they are going to apply for in March.

Newsletter and Electronic Communications (Mary)

- Mary has received proof for newsletter and will send it back to Oregon Lithoprint, so it should go out to the members in approximately 2 days.
- Mary expressed a need for someone to take over the Tributary. She needs help!!! Don suggested that we send out a message to the list server.
- Mary only has 3 days before she is leaving to Mexico for vacation for 2 weeks. So, if she doesn't get the website updates for the annual meeting soon, they will not get done until February!

Hutton Committee (Casey and Cindy)

- Mentors seem to be the limiting factor, so they are looking for mentors for the program.

Riparian & Watersheds (Dave)

- They have received approximately 25 applications for the Riparian Challenge Award, and will give out 3 awards in Salt Lake City.

Klamath River Committee (Dana)

- Dana is in charge of the terms of reference, and certain individuals working with Dana would like Dana to wait to write the terms of reference until after the Humboldt/Cal-Neva annual meeting in April. Dana would like to move forward, along with Jim Steele and Monica Hiner and get a draft finished. The draft will be forwarded to the rest of the committee, and then onto the Executive Committee.

Student Subunits (Joe)

- Joe has been in contact with the Parent Society and they have packets available with information about forming a student subunit.
- To change the name from "subunit", it will have to be amended in the Parent Society's constitution. If we are to pursue this, it will have to be addressed at the governing board meeting. Joe and others agreed that Tom should pursue this topic with the Parent Society.

Amendment of the WDAFS Bylaws (Joe)

- Joe has worked extensively on revising the bylaws and Dirk is finished reviewing them. The next step is to review them in person at the upcoming annual meeting. Joe will send them to Tom for distribution to the Executive Committee. The changes will have to be published 30 days in advance of the membership voting on them, so the actual vote will be put off until next year's annual business meeting.

Mexico Chapter Formation (Eric)

- Eric will be traveling to Mexico in February and will meet with Mauricio (committee co-chair) and talk about a Mexican Fisheries meeting to be held in 2005. Hopefully, a chapter will officially be formed at that meeting. A draft committee charge is being developed.

New Business (Tom)

- AFS's Outstanding Chapter Award—deadline for Parent Society is May 7 th .
- AFS's Distinguished Service Award—Barb Knuth is chair for this committee. If there is someone out there that deserves this award, please contact Tom.
- AFS's Resolution's Committee—Jeff Barrett has stepped forward from the Division for this committee.
- Honorary Membership for Stan Moberly—we will need to get some signatures at our annual meeting for this.

Next Teleconference: Tuesday, February 24th at 12:30 MST (11:30 PST)