



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Scott Bonar, President-elect Leanne Roulson, Vice-president Lori Martin, Secretary-Treasurer Dave Ward, Past-president Eric Wagner

Minutes for Teleconference 19 March 2009

Present: Scott Bonar, Lori Martin, Eric Wagner, Dave Ward, Neil Ward (Oregon), Mike Slater (Utah), Carter Kruse (Montana), Lourdes Rugge (CA/NV-representing Mexico), Bob Hughes

A Quorum was eventually established.

President's Report

President Scott Bonar summarized the recent Governing Board meeting. Scott submitted the Western Division's report, and noted that attendance is down at most meetings, and is expected to be down at the national meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer's Business

Secretary-Treasurer Dave Ward provided a brief summary of the Division's financial status. Minutes from the February teleconference were approved.

2009 Meeting

Scott Bonar provided a brief update on preparations for the meeting. Fund raising is going well, with about \$25,000 pledged to date. Attendance is expected to be low; therefore, overall financial success of the meeting is uncertain. Carter Kruse indicated that because of this, he may suggest that the Turner Foundation provide support to the Division Meeting rather than to the Montana Chapter this year. The meeting committee is exploring options to decrease meeting costs.

Student Travel Fund

A special ExCom teleconference was scheduled for March 30 to evaluate travel award applications and select recipients. (At this subsequent teleconference, 8 students were selected for awards totaling \$4,948)

Elections

Dave Ward offered to investigate the use of an on-line survey for the elections to improve ballot privacy. The survey will be sent out on the list serve and publicized in the newsletter. The election will be open for about 3 weeks in April.

Education Initiative Goals

A teleconference of the Education Committee was scheduled for April 2 to discuss year-end goals. A report from this teleconference will be provided at the next ExCom teleconference.

Other Business

Bob Hughes provided an overview on the letter drafted by the Environmental Committee regarding removal of the four lower Snake River dams. ExCom approved sending the letter to the judge hearing the case regarding the Biological Opinion for the Columbia Basin hydropower system.

Next Meeting

The next ExCom teleconference will be April 16, 2009 at 10:30 AM PST, 11:30 AM MST.