



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 18 June 2009

Present: Scott Bonar, Leanne Roulson, Eric Wagner, Dave Ward, Neil Ward (Oregon), Mike Slater (Utah), Toshihide Hamazaki (Alaska), Henry Booke (Investment Committee)

A Quorum was not established.

President's Report

President Scott Bonar provided an overview of the financial situation regarding the annual meeting in Albuquerque. Financial records are not yet complete, which precludes a final assessment. The hotel has been paid 50% of the amount billed, with the remainder pending completion of the records and a meeting with the hotel to discuss payment options.

Financial Report

Secretary-Treasurer Dave Ward provided a brief summary of the Division's overall financial status. The Division will be able to cover losses from the annual meeting.

Specific Funds for Paying Meeting Costs

Secretary-Treasurer Dave Ward provided an assessment of possible ways to pay for the Albuquerque meeting expenses. Dave noted that just under \$20,000 of the amount encumbered for the Western Native Fishes Project could likely be re-directed, which would still leave over \$11,000 encumbered. Dave also noted that \$5,000 remains unspent in grant funding for 2009, and that about \$4,500 could be taken from the Divisions' reserve funds while still leaving the funds at appropriate levels. President Scott Bonar noted that these all seem to be viable options; however, a final decision should be deferred until the financial records for the meeting are complete.

Endowment Fund

Investment Committee member Henry Booke provided an overview of the Grant Endowment fund. Henry stated that the market is changing, and he plans to move a substantial portion of the fund from cash to stock funds (biotechnology, mid to small cap industrials, etc.). He also plans to sell some existing holdings that have consistently under-performed.

Environmental Concerns Committee

Past-President Eric Wagner noted that a permit has not yet been requested for the Pebble Mine near Bristol Bay, Alaska. Eric also noted that the Fish Habitat Bill being considered by congress could mean \$75 million for new projects. The Division should develop a letter of support, and include examples of potential projects that could be funded.

Education Committee

President-Elect Leanne Roulson is compiling the results from the education survey just completed. Leanne will summarize the results and recommend the next step. The Committee should provide information about the most effective teaching methods.

Newsletter

President Scott Bonar noted that the Newsletter editor could use help.

Next Teleconference

The next ExCom teleconference is scheduled for July 16, 2009 at 10:30 AM PST, 11:30 AM MST.