



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Dave Ward, President-elect Tina Swanson, Vice-president Pam Sponholtz, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Buckman, Past-president Lori Martin

Western Division American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Conference Call

Approved Minutes

April 19, 2012

Attendance: Dave Ward (President), Tina Swanson (President-elect), Mary Buckman (Secretary-Treasurer), Demian Ebert (Oregon), Craig Barfoot (Montana), Ryan Fitzpatrick (Colo-Wyo), Dmitri Vidergar (ID), Mark Celedonia (WA-BC), Felipe Amezcua (Mexico), Mariah Mayfield (Student representative)

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM PDT.

Minutes: For the March 25 meeting it was noted that Mary B and Bill Fisher were at the meeting, title for VP and President-elect were switched, Robert Al-Chokhachy was elected to the Montana chapter, and for \$2091, add "available". The minutes were approved with corrections. Add Bill Fisher. It was noted that Dmitri is spelled wrong and Mary is going to try to add a little verbiage from Lori to enhance the awards section. Minutes from Business meeting were moved, seconded and approved for recommendation to the membership at the meeting in Idaho. Members were reminded to send corrections to the minutes if they see any at a later date.

Financial Report: Treasurer Buckman reviewed gave the financial report sent with the agenda. She requested that all eligible for travel reimbursement for spring meetings to submit expense claims. We have a lot of cash on hand, partly from donations for the Jackson meeting and from good earnings from Seattle. The Grants Endowment Fund continues to gain, but the upward path is irregular. Bill Bradshaw and others are investigating options for giving out more money in grants while still maintaining the growth potential for the fund. He, Tina and Mary will be investigating some "what-if" scenarios based on past data to identify good strategies for the future. They will report in June.

Jackson Meeting: Ryan Fitzpatrick reported on the Western Division meeting in Jackson. It looks like the meeting will show somewhat over \$20K profit, split between WD and Colo-Wyo. This is right on target and in line with normal Chapter annual meeting profit. Attendance was about 175 people, with about 5 one-day registrations. Dmitri asked about one-day registrations, as the ID chapter typically does not have one day registrations. It was noted it is typically about 2/3 cost of the whole deal, enough to discourage people from just buying two one day registrations. It was noted the Jackson meeting had a lot of student attendees from a variety of places and that was rewarding.

Recap on disposition of funds: Dave Ward reviewed decisions approved by ExCom at the Jackson meeting: move \$7K into the Grand Endowment Fund; move \$10K back into the laddered CD that was cashed last fall in anticipation of low cash flow to get our Rainy Day Fund back up to \$40K and skim the earnings from these CDs (\$10,000 originally invested, one per quarter) back onto operating funds; set aside \$8,983 for travel to the Mexico meeting and \$13,475 for student travel. We will look into options for safe yet interest-earning ways to invest the Mexico and student travel funds. Mary will report at the

next meeting. These allocations leave us with approximately 2 years of operating expenses, which is what we target.

Procedures Manual: The draft was approved in Jackson. We discussed how to approve updates. For minor cleanups to the document that was approved in Jackson, Dave wants edits by the end of the month. He will add them, then the Past President will be responsible for annual updates as needed.

President Reports: President Ward noted we gave away \$3070 from the GEF at the ExCom meeting and both winners have been contacted. This was about \$1000 more than budgeted, but we feel that is manageable with the current financial status. We are still looking to fully staff the Environmental Concerns Committee and President Ward still has some folks he may contact. He updated the Klamath River letter with the suggestions from our last meeting and sent it to Secretary of Interior Salazar.

Chapter Roundtable: Felipe Amezcua reported on Mexico Chapter. They are moving along with planning for the 2014 meeting in Mazatlan. It will be in April or May. The International Fisheries section is going to help support the meeting. WA-BC is less than one month away from their AGM in Victoria. Demian Ebert noted that the Oregon ExCom retreat is in early May in Hood River. He noted they used "Datagel" rather than Survey Monkey for evaluation of their annual meeting and it gave them additional feedback. It is free. The Oregon Chapter had proposal to form Oregon Native Fish committee and did so. Dmitri Vidergar reported the Idaho Chapter ExCom meets next week. Their primary focus will be planning the 2013 Annual Meeting. He queried who from WD should be included and it was noted to target the Secretary-Treasurer, and incoming Presidents Tina Swanson and Pam Sponholtz. Joe DuPont has lion's share of planning and is planning to contact each of chapter to get them involved with different parts of the meeting. The theme has not been decided, but will involve the 50 year birthday of the Idaho Chapter. Craig Barfoot from Montana noted they are dealing with local chapter business and are working to get the website updated by this fall. He is in contact with Travis Neebling. Ryan Fitzpatrick reported the President-elect is beginning work on the venue for the Colo-Wyo Chapter meeting scheduled for Feb 25-27 in Fort Collins in 2013. Mariah Mayfield had no new news on student activities and is requesting nominations for her replacement. She has had no contact from those planning the 2012 Student Colloquium and will try to do some outreach.

WD elections: Dave Ward reported for Lori Martin that there is one candidate for President and another possibility, but this person had to check with his/her employer.

The **next conference call** is scheduled for Thu May 17, 8:30AM AK time, 9:30AM PDT, 10:30AM MDT, 9:30AM MST. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50AM PDT.

Submitted by Mary Buckman, Secretary-Treasurer