



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

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

Western Division American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Conference Call February 21, 2013

Attendance: Tina Swanson (President), Mary Buckman (Secretary-Treasurer), Hilda Sexauer (Vice-President), Dave Ward (Past president), Dmitri Vidergar (Idaho), Ryan Fitzpatrick (Colo-Wyo), Yvette Paroz (AZ/NM, joined later in the meeting), Brian Missildine (WA-BC), Dave Lentz (List serve Manager), Pam Sponholtz

A quorum was not present as the meeting began, but was present later in the meeting. President Swanson called the meeting to order.

Minutes: Minutes of the January 2013 ExCom meeting were approved later in the meeting, after correcting the year to 2013. Pam Sponholtz abstained.

Financial report: Treasurer Buckman referred the group to the spreadsheet with the balances in the cash accounts, the CDs and the Grants Endowment Fund. We will draw the balance down considerably in the next few months as we spend for travel to chapter meetings and the Boise meeting. Part of the balance is a \$2500 donation for the meeting from the BLM. The GEF is still progressing in a positive direction going so our travel funds are improved over the initial investment.

Management Committee Meeting Report: Tina reported on the actions from the management committee regarding actions that will go to Governing Board. In early March Pam and Tina are on the Governing Board. The Snake River resolution has been pulled and will not be put to a vote but it stands as a Western Division Resolution. The Bristol Bay Res has gotten messier. The EPA said they were already doing the independent review called for in the resolution and the Society looks foolish saying this should happen. It speaks to the problem of the long process for resolutions making it through Society processes. Dave Lentz questioned whether the independent assessment was their normal permitting assessment and/or a separate review that is more independent.

A preferred candidate has been selected for the new Executive Director. That person will be introduced at the Governing Board meeting on March 1-2, 2013.

There was difficulty in the location of the 2016 meeting being held in Anchorage directly following the 2015 meeting in Portland. Missouri will host the 2016 meeting in Kansas City. Dave Lentz pointed out the rotation for the Division meetings are AK or Montana in 2016. Since

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AK will likely host the 2017 National meeting, it would work well for Montana to host the 2016 Division meeting.

Boise Meeting 2013: They have far more papers than anticipated. The hotel rooms are spread out among three hotels because they are getting full. Based on current papers and posters, attendance could be over 800 people. The wild card is the Federal budget may require people to back out. The organizing team is looking into other hotels and shuttles and an additional conference room for concurrent sessions. Dave Ward suggested they should comp the room with the increased attendance. This space will be held until March 15. The deadline for early registration is March 15. Fundraising appears to be behind compared to 2012 (\$6000 and \$19,000 respectively). Tina has not had much luck with Federal agencies. Brian noted Federal agencies may need to sponsor a specific event. Dmitri will work up numbers for sponsoring "events". Tina asked for advice and suggestions. Ryan Fitzpatrick noted that Colo/Wyo is doing well at fundraising, getting more money from private companies. Incentives for donating include adding a logo to slides shoes, printing in the program, a banner, on the web site, and maybe items in the registrations packet. The group discussed way to expand the fundraising while ensuring we do not double-dip agencies or companies. The Western Division lunch is scheduled for Tuesday for 1 hour and 20 minutes. The ExCom meeting is Monday, 8-12 AM. Dmitri will send master list of donors to WD officers. Pam noted there are currently scheduled 8 concurrent sessions, 25 symposia, 334 speakers, 76 general talks and 71 posters.

Mexico Meeting 2014: Pam updated that we asked Helmes-Briscoe to negotiate directly with the El Cid Hotel. They have done that and provided a revised contract that looks similar to the original. Pam will send it around.

List-Serve Policies: Dave Lentz has been the moderator since its inception around 2001 or so. The policy has been informal, but he has been operating under the policy of being conservative in what he sends. Information sent needs to pertain specifically to the Division and this policy has resulted in less than a dozen or so items per year. He has been getting requests to send out job announcements. He also noted that we do not have a policy regarding an alternate moderator if Dave is gone and he suggested this should be an officer or possibly another person on the communication team such as the web editor. The group agreed this was a reasonable policy. Dave will write this up for inclusion in the Procedures Manual after discussion at the ExCom meeting in Boise. Brian Missildine inquired about setting up and operating the list and Dave noted it was set up through the Patent Society.

Endowment and Fund Raising: This topic will be the agenda for Boise with some preliminary information sent out to start the discussion.

Applications for Grants and Awards: The deadline for student travel grants is tomorrow. President Swanson will compile the applicants, organize a call and make decisions with officers. Small Grant applications are due later, with decisions to be made at the Boise ExCom meeting. Outstanding Chapter entries are sent to Past president Dave Ward.

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Chapter Roundtable: Dmitri noted the Idaho Chapter is mostly working on meeting. Ryan Fitzpatrick stated the Colo/Wyo Chapter is working on their meeting, being held Monday – Wednesday of next week. They have 128 registrants (large for them) and it is in Ft Collins. Fundraising is going well. Brian Missildine noted the WA/BC Chapter is planning their meeting being held last week in March at Lake Chelan. Registration is slow now but they plan to get to 100-120 people. They are working on an endowment to provide scholarships. Yvette Paroz joined the call from AZ, noting they will contribute to the Boise meeting.

New Business: There was none.

The next call March 21 at 8:30 AM AK, 9:30 PDT, 10:30 MDT. There will be no ExCom phone call in April.

Submitted by Mary Buckman, Secretary-Treasurer