



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President, Pam Sponholtz, President-elect Hilda Sexauer, Vice-president Jim Bower Secretary-Treasurer Travis Neebling, Past-president Tina Swanson

Agenda for Executive Committee Conference Call on Date: **Thursday, July 17, 2014**

Start Time: 8:30 am AK time/ 9:30 am PT / 10:30 am MT

US Toll-Free: 1-866-910-4857

International Toll-Free: 1-719-387-5500

Passcode: 586030

1. Introductions and welcome
 - a. Attendance: Pam Sponholtz (President), Hilda Sexauer (President Elect), Jim Bowker (Vice President), Tina Swanson (Past President), Travis Neebling (Secretary-Treasurer), Bobby Compton (CO-WY), Tom Curet (Idaho), Augustin Hernandez (Mexico), Mike Gauvin (Oregon), and Brian Missildine (WA-BC).
2. Determination of quorum
 - a. A quorum was established
3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Travis)
 - a. Approve June minutes
 - i. Hilda provided revisions to the June minutes. Brian moved to approve the June minutes as revised, Tina seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no objections.
 - b. Finances Update
 - i. Travis gave a brief update on the finances. The Division received the 2013 membership dues rebate from the Society in the amount of \$14,073. The books were balanced on the 2014 meeting in Mazatlan and the Division received \$13,657.05.
 - ii. Pam mentioned that a few more donations from Mexico may still be trickling in.
4. Update on the 2015 AFS/WDAFS/ORAFS meeting in Portland (Hilda/Jim)
 - a. Jim gave an update on the meeting. They are finalizing the budget and considering some last minute items like daycare. The first call for papers is out and will come out in Fisheries soon. Sarah Gilbert Fox is putting the website together with Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey. E-monitors will be used for signs and posters; Shawn Johnston is negotiating the costs. Dave and Neil Ward think we are way out in front for meeting planning, but the workload will ramp up after Quebec.

- b. Hilda asked about having a live raffle. Mike commented that it is difficult with a meeting of this size and that we are better to promote the silent auction. Brian commented that raffles can be considered gambling and have difficult laws. Jim commented that he thought the auction was good in Mazatlan, but that was a much smaller meeting. Pam commented that she thinks live auctions work better at the Chapter level and sees the logic of going with a silent auction.
 - c. Pam asked about the Division meeting the goal of \$20,000 in donations. Hilda thinks it is doable, but not easy. Jim commented that it is just a goal.
5. Update on 2016 WDAFS/CalNeva meeting in Reno (Pat)
 - a. Pam gave a brief update. They are evaluating hotels and conference centers. The cost may be as high as \$30,000 which is prohibitively high. They are going to try to find a spacious hotel so that the meeting can be self-contained without using the conference center. Shawn Johnston is negotiating prices and seems to be having better luck than HelmsBrisco. Pam is really glad that Shawn is helping.
6. Officer/Student rep voting
 - a. The announcement for voting was in The Tributary, as well as on the website and on social media. There is one candidate for Vice President and five candidates for Student Representative.
7. Request for funding for AFS meeting in Quebec
 - a. The Quebec meeting committee has recommended a \$500 donation to the meeting from the Division. Hilda supported a donation of \$500. Jim asked if it was just for Quebec, to which Pam responded yes. Pam commented that we typically donate every year and suggested \$1,500. Travis agreed that this is a good idea especially given the profit from the Mazatlan meeting. Hilda asked if it would go to the general fund to students and travel. Jim commented that it may be too late. Jim moved that \$1,500 be sent to the general fund for the Quebec meeting, Brian seconded the motion, and the motion passed without objection. Travis will send the check. Brian suggested adding a line item in the Division budget for future meetings.
8. Chapter roundtable
 - a. WA-BC – Brian:
 - i. Brian commented that it has been great working with everyone. Chapter officer elections are underway; they currently don't have a student representative candidate.
 - ii. They have seven requests for funding all of which will get a little bit of the \$3,000 pot. Hilda asked what kind of requests they receive. Brian responded everything from electrofishing boat rental to underwater cameras to construction equipment to put in log structures.
 - iii. Pam commented that she enjoyed working with Brian and thanked him for all his hard work especially in Mazatlan.
 - b. Idaho – Tom:
 - i. They recently had their summer face-to-face meeting below Hells Canyon. They addressed things they didn't have time to cover on conference calls. The Chapter has sent \$20,000 for the endowment with the hopes of focusing on the future particularly students.

- c. Mexico – Augustin:
 - i. Augustin became President Elect in Mazatlan; Veronica became President. He is getting more involved in the Chapter, but doesn't have a lot of information yet. They are starting to plan their meeting next year in La Paz, probably in September or October. Hilda asked if anyone from Mexico was going to Quebec, but he didn't know.
 - d. CO-WY – Bobby:
 - i. The Chapter's summer Excom meeting is next week in Gunnison, CO, which includes a two-day officer retreat float trip. Pam asked if the Chapter covers the cost of this trip, to which Bobby responded yes, but the cost is usually less than \$500.
 - e. OR – Mike:
 - i. The Chapter is hosting a hatchery vs wild fish symposium, January 22-23, 2015 with the hope of increasing Chapter profit. They are trying to figure out timing to get officers and budgets back on schedule after the Portland meeting. Mike looks forward to meeting everyone in Quebec, but might have to defer to someone else if he can't get his passport in time. Jim asked about the hatchery vs wild symposium and mentioned the hatcheries and management of aquatic resources group; Mike will ensure they have been contacted.
 - f. Pam thanked all the Chapter president's for submitting to the Governing Board report; it shows what the Division is all about. She also thanked Jim for putting it together. It is brief, but it highlights all the good things we do.
9. Update for the Student Representative (Pam)
- a. There are five candidates for the Student Representative position. Tracy is working on a document to ease the transition and will sit in on the first few conference calls. Utah State University will be hosting the 2015 colloquium, likely in the spring instead of the fall to make it easier to plan.
10. New or other business
- a. The most recent edition of The Tributary is now online. There will be a new editor (Steven Ranney) beginning with the next edition. Misha Hernández Lozano will also be putting together an article on the Mexico Chapter for all future newsletters.
 - b. Jim pointed out that the Division archives are missing a few years of end and mid-year reports. Pam will try to get them from AFS. Jim also pointed out that all the old reports are paragraph style and the new reports are bulleted so that hopefully more people will read them.
 - i. Mike commented that Oregon State University has now compiled and archived all their old reports. Tom asked if there was a few for this; Mike responded that it was free. Bobby commented that the CO-WY documents are archived at the Spearfish National Fish Hatchery. Jim asked Mike to write-up a one page summary on what OSU did for them.
 - c. Mike received an email from Patrick Trotter soliciting for the cutthroat trout genetics symposium. He asked if other Chapters were donating; Brian responded that WA-BC will be discussing it in November when they look at budgets. Pam commented that Patrick went through the Division and that they are doing things right.

11. Next teleconference discussion

- a. The next conference call will be during Quebec. Jim and Hilda will be attending. Everyone agreed that we don't need a call in August, so the next call will be in September. Hilda will set the date and time, as well as details for the mid-year meeting. The call adjourned at 11:45 pm MST.