



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Hilda Sexauer, President-elect Jim Bowker, Vice-president Cleve Steward, Secretary-Treasurer Travis Neehling, Past-president Pam Sponholtz

Agenda for Executive Committee Conference Call on Date: **Thursday, September 25, 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

Attendance: Calvin Black (Utah), Pam Sponholtz (Past President), Hilda Sexauer (President), Pat Saffel (Montana), Matt Klungle (WBC), Jane Sullivan (Student Rep), Phil Loring (Alaska), Cleve Seward (Vice-President), Dan Brauch (COWY).

2. Determination of quorum: Quorum was established.

3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Hilda for Travis)

a. Approve July minutes

No edits provided to the July minutes. Pam moved to approve the July minutes. Cleve second and the minutes were approved.

b. Finances Update (Hilda for Travis)

Hilda reviewed the August finances for Travis. Mexico meeting is now settled; still waiting on small grant receipts from Claire.

\$100 for Fred Allendorf fund donated by Utah Chapter;

\$500 for cutthroat trout workshop funds donated by the Alaska Chapter;

WD is holding these funds for these entities until they need the funds.

4. Update on 2015 AFS/WDAFS/ORAFS meeting in Portland (Hilda/Jim/Mike): Oregon Chapter was not able to attend the call. Hilda provided updated on the 2015 AFS meeting. The Oregon Chapter did a great job with promoting the AFS 2015 meeting at the Quebec Meeting.

Meeting budget is close to being finalized. Potential profits are based on attendance and could vary between 2000-4000 people attending with profit for WD ranging around \$21k to \$50k. This includes fundraising efforts.

WDAFS is targeted to bring in \$20k for the meeting. Cleve was contacted by Bob Hughes to assist with fund raising and he agreed to help the Committee. Each entity (Chapter, Division, AFS) has an independent fundraising goal. Hilda will initiate a call with Bob Hughes, AFS Past-President, to discuss funding raising and strategies. Cleve and Hilda have a donor list that could be used as a starting point.

MOU between AFS/WDAFS/ORAFS signed in Quebec.

5. **2016 WDAFS/CalNeva:** Call on September 29th to discuss meeting and who is doing what for the meeting. Cleve asked what his job will be as Vice President...he will be responsible for generating the Program.
6. **2019 WDAFS/AFS:** Joint meeting with TWS; WDAFS turn to host. Doug wants to keep location open as he is not set on having it in the West. The city will have to be large and handle. Potential cities in the West that were discussed with Doug include Denver, Portland, Seattle, Phoenix. Bids will be required and we should expect to have the request for bids out by AFS by early 2015.
7. **Midyear Retreat: December 5-7, 2014:** Either Snow King or Snake River Lodge; costs are about the same for either place for meeting space. Costs for the rooms were \$115 plus tax range. Pam has been to both lodges and recommends having it at Snow King since you will be near town. Cleve second that idea.

Hilda will pick up folks from the airport or both hotels have free shuttles.

Meeting will be all day on December 6th and travel days will be December 5th and 7th.

Attendance confirmed by; Cleve (WD VP), Pam (WD Past President), Robert (MT Chapter), Calvin (UT Chapter), Dan (CO/WY), Matt (WABC Chapter), and Jane (Student Rep). Phil (AK Chapter) can't make it but will try to find a replacement.

8. **Chapter meetings:** Hilda confirmed dates with Chapters that were on the phone. EXCOM will decide who goes where in the coming weeks.
9. **WDAFS small grant applications:** Have always had deadline in March with vote at Bus meeting at meeting but the next business meeting is not until August. Hilda is proposing shifting deadline to December in conjunction with mid-year meeting with awards going out in Spring. Applicants will have 60 days to submit if the announcement goes out next week (September 29th) with a deadline of November 30th. This will be a tight review timeline for EXCOM members. Will check with bylaws to ensure it is OK to change the deadline for small grants. No dissention about this. Hilda will add to mid-year meeting agenda.
10. **USFS Groundwater letter:** Tina's letter from NRDC requested that WD AFS sign on to their letter commenting on USFS groundwater directive. The questions discussed during the call include will WDAFS would like to sign letter, generate a new letter, or do nothing? Advocacy letters from the Division should be well researched and be applicable to the Division as a whole. Need to be aware of any potential conflict of interest. If WD was to write a letter on this directive Hilda will have issues as a state employee and probably can't sign it as WDAFS president. It was suggested that we discuss this directive with USFS AFS members before moving forward but the timeline is very tight (deadline for comments for Federal Register is October 2nd). Pam motioned to drop this issue due to a tight timeline, motion was seconded and passed. Hilda will follow up with Tina and let her know that we just didn't have enough time to review/research document within Division.
11. **Student update from Jane Sullivan:** Jane provided some personal background. The Student colloquium will be in Utah. Steven Klobucar is lead for this. Revisit Portland 2015 travel

scholarships with request going out around April. But this will depend on Portland meeting and early registration deadline. Jane will develop a workplan for travel.

12. **Chapter updates:**

CO/WY: Dan Brauch: current COWY EXCOM makeup includes 2 student chapters and 4 officers. Just added an additional student chapters..should they add to EXCOMM? In Montana student chapters don't vote. WBC has a single EXCOM student rep. Just had their EXCOM meeting in Gunnison; areas of focus on annual meeting is providing good continuing education and support fish culture members. The Chapter wants to encourage them to attend the annual meeting. Cont Ed will be on fish culture topics in 2015. Looking forward to spring meeting in Fort Collins at Marriot. DC Booth and archives: Some discussion on supporting/maintaining DC Booth in light of its possible closure? This will be included as a topic for future discussion.

Montana: Pat Saffel: Request for funds for Cutthroat trout? Hilda will forward proposal to Chapter's so they can decide if there is relevance for their Chapter. Legislative session coming up..any advice? Oregon chapter has a lot of experience with this, suggest talking with them.

Western Division meeting: Hilda will contact Dave Lentz about sending out guidance to Chapters on bidding process for WD AFS meetings.

Utah: Calvin Black: First call for papers will come out in two weeks, session topics lined out and will try and figure out 2016 meeting location during next EXCOMM meeting in November.

Alaska: Phil Loring: Fall annual meeting in Juneau...anticipated to be a large meeting due to other entities participating with three full days of concurrent sessions. Excited to have Jane as a student rep!

Washington/BC: Matt Klungle: Annual meeting is in Canada. This could be problematic for travel for state employees and may struggle for attendance. Matt asked if the rest of the Division adopt AFS list serve? Feedback has been mixed thus far...discussion about fee for list serve, part of the larger discussion of Chapter dues and being AFS members. Membership will be a topic of discussion for the mid-year meeting in Jackson.

13. **New or other business?** None!

14. **Next call will be October 16th at 10:30mtn time**