



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

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

Agenda for Executive Committee Conference Call on Date: **Thursday, June 18, 2015**
Start Time: 8:30 am AK time/ 9:30 am PT / 10:30 am MT

1. Introductions and welcome
 - a. Hilda Sexauer (President), Jim Bowker (President Elect), Pam Sponholtz (Past-President), Travis Neebling (Secretary-Treasurer), Jane Sullivan (Student Representative), James Dominguez (AZ-NM), Joseph Merz and Jim Hobbs (Cal-Neva), Dan Brauch (CO-WY), Calvin Black (UT), Matt Klungle (WA-BC), and Tracy Wendt (past Student Representative and Riparian Challenge committee chair). Cleve Steward (Vice President) joined late.
2. Determination of quorum
 - a. A quorum was established.
3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Travis)
 - a. Approve April and May minutes (Travis)
 - i. Minor revisions were submitted for the April and May meeting minutes. Jim B. moved to approve the April minutes as revised, Dan seconded the motion, and the April minutes were approved with no objections. Pam moved to approve the May minutes as revised, Jim B. seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no objections.
 - b. Finances Update (Travis)
 - i. Travis gave an update on the finances. We are sitting well financially. The endowment is still doing well, making almost 2% last month.
 - ii. Jim B. asked if we cashed out one of the CDs to cover operating expenses. Travis responded that we didn't. Finances will probably be tight with expenses relating to the Portland meeting, but we should be ok.
4. Update on 2016 WDAFS/CalNeva meeting in Reno (Jim/Cleve/Norm)
 - a. Jim B. gave an update. There will be an on-site visit next month. Laurie is setting up a tour of the Grand Sierra Hotel, Discovery Center, and the facility at the University of Nevada. The meeting theme (developed by Joseph Merz) was emailed out and well received. They are working to fill their committee chairs with both a Chapter and Division representative. There will be a booth in Portland showcasing the Reno meeting. Sarah Gilbert Fox is working on the website.
 - b. Joe Merz gave an update. He is working with Zeb Hogan at the Discovery Center to set up 'River Monster' tours. He is working to get the students and the

University more involved with the meeting. Volunteers are starting to step up and fill different roles.

5. Update 2017 WDAFS/MT meeting – Montana Chapter (Cleve, Pat)
 - a. Cleve gave an update. He has been working with Pat and will be having a meeting with the Montana Excom on the 25th. They have a preliminary budget in place. They have contacted four hotels and are working on terms of sales contracts. Pat has been in contact with the University of Montana to get a price list for their facilities.
 - b. Hilda noted that they should start working on filling committee chairs, but otherwise they are well ahead of the curve.
6. Update on 2016 WDAFS/CalNeva meeting in Reno (Jim/Cleve/Norm)
 - a. The topic switched back to Reno. Jane asked when the next planning meeting would be; Jim B. responded the site visit in July.
 - b. Jim B. noted that there is the possibility of having the Division mid-year Excom meeting at the Grand Sierra Hotel. He is working on estimating travel costs to Reno vs Bozeman.
7. Update on 2015 AFS/WDAFS/ORAFS meeting in Portland (Jim/Troy/Hilda)
 - a. Jim B. gave an update. He has been focused on getting the program in place. He is now working with IT to get it all into an app.
 - b. Hilda gave an update. Fundraising is going well, with ~\$180K raised. They are doing well on monetary donations, but are lacking silent auction items. Most WD Chapters have sponsored the meeting, but we are lacking silent auction items (trips) from Chapters. Jim B. offered up a Montana float trip for a silent auction item as a donation from the Montana Chapter.
8. Chapter roundtable
 - a. Dan – CO-WY:
 - i. They are revising their Bylaws. Their Chapter voted to approve the revisions at their annual meeting; however, this doesn't fit with Society policy. The revisions need to be reviewed by the Constitutional Consultant (Jessica Mistak) before going to a vote. Their revisions included clarifying voting requirements; students who are not Society members are not eligible to vote on Chapter business. They also reduced the number of student representatives on the Excom from one per institution to one total. Lastly, they clarified that online voting ends prior to the start of the annual meeting.
 - b. Calvin – Utah:
 - i. Their Excom met right after their annual meeting in March. They have selected a location and date for their 2016 meeting. It will be March 24–26 at the Falcon's Ledge Fishing Lodge in north-east Utah, which is an Orvis guide lodge.
 - c. Joe – Cal-Neva:
 - i. They are mostly focused on planning for the Reno meeting. They will contribute \$500 to the Portland meeting.
 - d. Matt – WA-BC:

- i. They are wrapping up their elections; they had multiple candidates for each position. Matt will not be able to make it to Portland, but Brian Missildine will attend in his place. Their 2016 Chapter meeting will be in Chelan, WA in mid-March.

9. Officer/Student rep update(Jane Sullivan)

- a. Jane gave an update. Things are pretty quite during the summer. She is working on candidates for the Student Representative position. Jane is eligible to serve for one more year, but must be reelected. She proposes a timeline that fills the position just before the Portland meeting.
- b. Tracy commented that no one ran against her for her second term and that those who want to run, already know this and don't need such a long process.
- c. Hilda suggested shortening the timeline so that the position is filled by mid-July. This works for Jane. Travis will assist with compiling candidate biographies and the election.
- d. Jim B. suggested that Tracy and Jane collaborate on an article for Fisheries.
- e. It was recommended that Jane start soliciting potential student representatives for the 2016–17 term at the Portland meeting.

10. Update Professional Travel Chapter Challenge (Travis)

- a. Travis gave an update. A total of 28 applications were received, representing all chapters except for Utah and Montana. Travis and Hilda worked with a representative from each Chapter to select awardees. Most awardees received a \$1,000 travel award (\$500 from WD and \$500 match from the Chapter); however, two chapters opted to split the award between two awardees. Travis feels that this was successful and hopes that they can do it again next year.
- b. James Dominguez asked what will happen if an awardee cannot attend. Travis responded that the award letter asked them to notify him ASAP if they cannot attend so that the award can be reassigned to someone who can attend.

11. Awards Update (Pam Sponholtz, Tracy Wendt)

- a. Tracy gave an update. There were 10 applications, four from the other category, four from the Forest Service, and two from the BLM. Award letters have been sent out as well as notification of the availability of travel awards.
- b. Pam gave an update. Division Excom scored the applications for the Outstanding Chapter and Student Subunit awards. The winners were the Idaho Chapter and the University of Alaska – Fairbanks Student Subunit. Pam also reminded everyone that the elections for Division officers are open until June 30.

12. New or other business

- a. Hilda informed everyone that the next edition of the newsletter should be out next week.
- b. Hilda looked into an award for Henry Booke. He has received the Division's Award of Special Recognition twice, so she is working with Troy and Mary to identify a gift certificate for him.

13. Next Meeting – July 16, 2015 - The meeting adjourned at 11:41 MT.