



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, July 16, 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), Cleve Steward (Vice President), Pam Sponholtz (Past-President), Travis Neebling (Secretary-Treasurer), Jane Sullivan (Student Representative), James Dominguez (AZ-NM), Bobby Compton (CO-WY), Pat Saffel (MT), Mike Gauvin (OR), Matt Klungle (WA-BC), and Dave Lentz (list-serv coordinator and Time and Place committee Chair).
2. Determination of quorum
 - a. A quorum was established.
3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Travis)
 - a. Approve June minutes (Travis)
 - i. Minor revisions were submitted for the June meeting minutes. Jim moved to approve the minutes as revised, Cleve 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; we might be cutting it a little close after Portland depending on how everything plays out.
4. Update 2016 WDAFS/CalNeva meeting in Reno (Jim/Cleve/Norm)
 - a. Jim gave a brief update. We have an ambitious agenda for the planning meeting starting later today including a site visit, working on committees, agenda, and budget. We need to firm up the meeting them. Currently there are two logos and we need to decide how to use each of them. We will be meeting with ASIH to see how GSR is working for them.
 - b. Cleve reminded everyone to look at his email about committee chairs. It is a good opportunity to prepare for hosting your own meeting. Pam asked about the list of chairs because it looks to be full. Travis commented that it is all the same people that we have leaned hard on for the past few years; we should try to get some new people involved.
 - c. Travis added that we need to work on a letter to agencies encouraging them to allow their employees to attend. It should focus on the benefits of attendance,

including continuing education opportunities. Hilda recommended that this letter be distributed broadly.

5. Update 2015 AFS/WDAFS/ORAFS meeting in Portland (Jim/Troy/Hilda)
 - a. Jim said there was a programming call this morning. Instructions have been sent out to all presenters. There are ~2,000 oral presentations and 400 posters. There is some concern that DoubleDutch (the phone app) may not work. Federal employees have not received approval yet and are starting to discuss pulling presentations and symposia; Jim is discouraging this. July 21 is the final date for changes before printing the program.
 - b. Mike mentioned that fundraising is well above pace. There was a \$150K goal and they have raised over \$225K. There have been some communication and ego issues, particularly with Bethesda and the local Chapter. The Chapter had lots of freedom in the beginning and is now getting push-back. Hilda mentioned that this needs to be discussed during the end-of-meeting wrap-up.
 - c. Hilda reminded everyone that the Excom meeting will be on at 10am on the 16th in the Hilton; there will be a buffet lunch but no afternoon snack. The business lunch will be on Tuesday at noon in the Convention Center; a brown bag lunch will be provided.

6. Update 2017 WDAFS/MT meeting – Montana Chapter (Cleve, Pat)
 - a. Pat gave an update. They just had a planning call. It is too early to start filling committees, but Chapter members are starting to volunteer. There was lots of discussion about hotels and they are starting to flesh out a budget. They are estimating 400 attendees. They are looking at renting out a park for the off-site social; it is important to do it now because it books two years in advance.
 - b. Hilda reminded them to use Shawn Johnston as a resource for hotel negotiations and contracts.

7. Officer/Student rep update(Jane Sullivan)
 - a. There was some discussion about 14 vs 30 day voting period. Jane is excited about the student social in Portland. The University of Wyoming has agreed to host the 2016 student colloquium. Jane is starting a student photo contest; details will be out soon.

8. Henry Booke gift (Hilda)
 - a. Henry has requested that we do not give him a gift for his service in managing the endowment fund. Pam suggested we respect his wishes. Cleve suggested a plaque. Travis suggested naming the small grants after him, as it was his hard work on the endowment that allows us to fund the grants. Mike likes this idea but wanted to ensure that something is on the website about who Henry is. There are too many awards named after people that few know anything about. Travis agreed and suggested we do this for all our names awards.

9. Chapter roundtable
 - a. Mike – OR:
 - i. Engrossed in Portland meeting planning. They are starting to plan for their 2016 meeting and have tried to insulate those committee chairs from the 2015 meeting workload. They have developed a fee waiver policy to

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outline business going forward. They received the Society's Chapter of the Year award.

- b. Bobby – CO-WY:
 - i. They will switch officers at the end of the month. Things are slow during the summer field season. Their 2016 Chapter meeting will be in Laramie, Wyoming, March 1–3 and will be their 50th anniversary. They funded two travel grants to Portland; one student and one professional.
- c. Matt – WA-BC:
 - i. Brian Missildine will be the incoming WD vice president. They are sending three students and three Excom members to Portland. Officers will transition in Portland. Their 2016 Chapter meeting will be in Chelan, Washington.
- d. Pat – MT:
 - i. Focused on the 2017 WD meeting and an amicus brief on the Yellowstone River. The Division and Chapter both submitted letters on this topic. The Chapter voted to serve in a supporting role to the law suit; providing information, media coverage, and the amicus brief. An attorney has been hired to get an injunction on construction. Their emphasis is on the recovery of pallid sturgeon in the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers.
- e. James – AZ-NM:
 - i. They will be having a meeting in two weeks to discuss small grant funding. They are offering a mid-year continuing education opportunity. They will have a fall retreat on the Navajo River; hopefully with 7–10 state agency attendees, plus some Federal attendees.
- f. Norm – Cal-Neva:
 - i. He is traveling to Reno for the planning meeting. Everything else was discussed earlier in the meeting.

10. New or other business

- a. Hilda reminded everyone that the deadline for annual reports is July 24th.

11. Next Meeting – August 16, 2015 – Portland Oregon – The meeting adjourned at 11:52 MT.