



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

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

Agenda for Executive Committee Conference Call on Date: **Thursday, August 18, 2016**

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

1. Introductions and welcome
 - a. Jim Bowker (President), Cleve Steward (President-Elect), Brian Missildine (Vice President), Travis Neebling (Secretary-Treasurer), Mary Beth Loewen (AK), Jay Hesse (ID), Ben Clemens (OR), and Ben Brown (UT).
2. Determination of quorum
 - a. A quorum was established.
3. Secretary-Treasurer report (Travis)
 - a. Approve July minutes (Travis)
 - i. No revisions to the meeting minutes were provided. Jay moved to approve the Excom minutes as revised, Cleve seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no objections.
 - b. Finances Update (Travis)
 - i. Travis provided a brief update on the finances. We are doing well right now and should be doing better once the income from the Reno Meeting is received; Travis requested that Jim Hobbs forward the Division proceeds to him to be deposited. Last month the endowment grew by 5.8%; as there were no deposits made during that period, this growth is from an increase in the value of our investments.
4. Chapter roundtable
 - a. ID – Jay – The Chapter did not have a conference call last month. The Native Fishes Committee is planning two field trips to refresh college collections. Plenary speakers have been selected for the joint meeting TWS in Boise next year; the theme will be climate change where land and water meet.
 - b. AK – Mary Beth – A venue and caterer have been selected for the 2017 meeting which will be joint with the Alaska Water Resource Association. The Chapter just found out that TWS will be holding their meeting at the same time. They have begun reaching out to hotels in Anchorage for the 2018 Western Division Meeting, but the hotels are not ready to make arrangements. The Chapter has seen some nice returns on their finances and they are revamping their undergraduate scholarship to be statewide.
 - c. OR – Ben C. – The Chapter has a new legislative liaison on board; they did not have one last year, but have had one most years before that. They are exploring a new committee on external communication and engagement. They have a new ad hoc committee on human diversity (e.g., women and minorities in fisheries). They have developed a

reference document on the ethical use of data (Jim asked that they share it with the rest of Excom when it is ready).

- d. UT – Ben B. – The Chapter will have an officers meeting next month to reassign duties. Otherwise nothing to report. Jim commented that this is the case for most chapters and is the primarily reason he is pushing to only have one Governing Board report a year, instead of two.
5. Update 2017 WDAFS/MT meeting in Missoula (Cleve Steward/others)
 - a. Cleve gave a brief update. Everything is going really well. The meeting logo has been finalized and it looks great. They are now ready to send out sponsorship requests as the entitlement letter has been completed. Nineteen symposia have already been discussed; however, the call will not go out until late November. They are writing letters of request to the plenary speakers.
6. Update – July Management Committee meetings (Cleve)
 - a. July 18th was the last call. A document on strengthening policy will be discussed by the Governing Board. Ben C. commented that the OR Chapter has developed a logic tree to address policy on data.
7. Officer/Student rep update(Jane Sullivan)
 - a. No update. Jane will be the Student Representative for six more days, then Zach takes over.
8. WDAFS and Chapter annual meeting MOU (Jim Bowker)
 - a. The MOU was approved by the Excom. It will be included in the Procedures Manual.
9. Action Items from past meetings
 - a. Chapter officers - annual meeting dates to Cleve
 - i. Cleve has received most of these.
 - b. Travis - 2015-16 expenses to Cleve for developing 2016-17 budget
 - i. Travis is still tracking expenses. The fiscal year ends on September 30th. Travis will also write up a short article on the budget for inclusion in The Tributary after the end of the fiscal year.
10. WDAFS and chapter meeting metrics – Sent out
 - a. Report will be incomplete this year. Jim is still waiting on four chapters.
11. New or other business
 - a. Jim and the rest of Excom thanked outgoing Past President, Hilda Sexauer, for all her hard work.
 - b. Jim and Cleve will evaluate the Executive Director’s performance during the Governing Board Meeting. They really like the direction he is taking, but think there needs to be more focus on communication. The Cal-Neva Chapter is still working with AFS to try to get their website transferred over to the new system, but are becoming frustrated with the lack of response and follow-through. Sitting down in Reno with Ron Essig and Dan Cassidy was good and this should be continued in the future.
 - c. The online Governing Board Report submission tool should be rolling out soon.
 - d. Western Division Excom voted to approve up to \$500 in travel reimbursement to get Felipe Amezuca to the Kansas City meeting. Hopefully this will help increase participation from the Mexico Chapter.
 - e. Cleve is scheduling the Mid-year Excom Meeting. He has three options. He is hoping to hold it Smith-Root’s headquarters as that will be the cheapest and most convenient option.

12. Next Meeting – September 14, 2016 (Cleve will email out details). Meeting adjourned at 11:07 MT.

Action Items:

Idaho Chapter – please share your reference document on the ethical use of data with the rest of Excom when it is ready.