



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Jackie Watson, President-Elect Dan Dauwalter, Vice-President Todd Pearsons, Secretary-Treasurer Tracy Wendt, Past-President Brian Missildine, Student Representative Britta Baechler

Executive Committee Conference Call: Wednesday, February 13, 2019
Start Time: 8:00 am AK time/ 9:00 am PT / 10:00 am MT

MEETING NOTES

Participants

- Jackie Watson, WD President
- Dan Dauwalter, WD President-Elect
- Todd Pearsons, WD Vice-President
- Tracy Wendt, WD Secretary-Treasurer
- Britta Baechler, WD Student Representative
- David Steward, AZNM
- Rob Titus, CALNEVA
- Eric Fetherman, COWY
- Dan Schill, ID
- Kris Homel, OR
- Ben Brown, UT
- Gabe Temple, WABC
- Brian Ertel, MT

Determination of quorum (majority of elected officers, 1/3 chapters)

- Established quorum

Approval of January minutes

- Dan D moved to approve; Gabe second, no one opposed

President's Update

- Retiree registration rates – Do we want to consider special meeting registration rates at the WD Annual Meeting in Vancouver?
 - Society level retiree registration rates are often available
 - Remember that it costs the same amount for us to host a regular attendee vs retiree
 - If we offer a reduced rate for retirees, we should make sure the rate at least covers the cost of meals
 - WD offers a reduced registration rate for students, and there are so many students, the reduced rate does not cover meeting costs per person, so we “lose” money on students. Don't want to see the same situation for retirees.
 - A lot of chapters said they do reduced rates and spoke in support of reduced rates, though agreed that the rate should be a balance between providing a good discount but still covers the cost of attendance, meals.
 - Brian E. said that at MT chapter meetings, retirees typically just drop in for a day so the retiree rate they charge covers.

- COWY has good general attendance and very few retirees so they do not charge to retirees, cost of attendance is covered by general meeting proceeds. They do charge for retirees to attend the banquet.
- We will continue this discussion in prep for Vancouver.
- Tracy emailed chapter presidents and requested typical meeting rates, including for retirees. That information is in a table at the end of these minutes.
- Action Item list: Jackie has gone through all meeting minutes from her first call and compiled a document of all action items in those minutes in a separate document.
 - Chapter presidents should please review and update the document as tasks are completed or progress is made on action items.
 - This could be a google doc that each chapter checks and updates to keep a running list of action items and progress.
 - We need some accountability and tracking of action items instead of just listing them and not circling back.
 - WABC uses a similar system on Google drive and so far it's been working really well.
 - **Action item: Jackie to make this a Google Doc and send reminders when emailing for agenda items.**
- AFS Presentation at Chapter mtgs – AFS sent out a membership presentation via email to all leadership.
 - Brian E. said he received it but after the MT Chapter meeting.
 - Some WD leadership said they had not received the presentation
 - During the call, Jackie forwarded the presentation to the group
 - Some Chapters have put the presentation on their website and shared it.
 - The presentation is 8-9 minutes long so some Chapters are making it available in other ways instead of using it at their meetings.
 - Some chapters noted that they are planning to use the presentation in some way at their meetings.
 - It is a pretty good video that promotes AFS membership, reminding people why they should be supporting AFS and be members.
 - Noted that if the presentation is shared at a business lunch, usually business lunch attendees are voting members which means they are already AFS members so it is preaching to the choir. Maybe it is better used in the general meeting where it will reach more prospective members.
 - The video may not make sense as part of the meeting for chapters that don't have affiliate memberships, but could be a membership recruiting tool for affiliate
 - Kris said that about 20% of OR attendees are non-members so they charge a non-member meeting rate that is much higher, the difference is the cost of membership, to encourage people to become members.
 - Brian E. said in MT, affiliates pay more to attend meetings and are not voting members, but the chapter has discussed this and taken a vote to keep affiliate memberships.
 - Jackie asked that chapters that show the video please don't use it in place of WD rep update because the messages are different.

Financial Updates

- Monthly Financials – not much change since last month but a lot is changing in Feb – travel reimbursements coming in, OR leaving endowment.
- Mail Chimp – there will be a cost associated with this. Tracy, Todd and Dave Lentz will work on assembling details and estimate so we can vote on it on the March call.

Membership Committee Updates (Todd) – the WD list-serve is much smaller than the membership list. This may be due to the member list we get from AFS.

- Remember that the member list is a snapshot in time and is dependent on when people renew. Todd is hoping that if we use a 2-year membership list we may get a more accurate list.
- Todd is working on re-engaging the membership committee and learning that there is a disparity between some chapters' membership lists and the monthly list received from Eva so the committee is working to learn why.
- AZNM isn't represented yet on the membership committee but Todd is working to bring them in.
- **How do Chapters build their membership list? Action item: Todd to find out before the next call – maybe this will explain why their lists are different from AFS'**

150th History Projects (Dan D.) – all chapters and division except AK, MX, and MT have told Dan they want to participate. These chapters should check back in with Dan and confirm if they plan to participate.

- Jim Reynolds is heading up this effort. Dan will be sharing updates from Jim such as what kind of display the chapters plan to do to help generate ideas.
- WD plans to do a display, but has not talked about what it would look like or what media. **Action item: Dan D. will reach out to Eric Wagner and others to find someone to spearhead this effort for WD.** Excom officers likely don't have time to lead this effort.
- Brian E. said MT has some people interested in participating and want to know if there will be travel assistance for those that participate. **Action item: Dan D. will try to find out.** WD to discuss whether to make it a WD budget item for next year to help people from chapters who are participating in the 150th to get to the meeting in Columbus.

Chapter Updates: Though the committee has been working on it, the criteria is not likely to be revised for the Outstanding Chapter Award in time for this year. Chapters planning to apply and wanting to get started on their applications should use last year's call as their guideline. WD will make an announcement about this soon. The AFS award nominees are due April 1 so the WD awards are likely to be due around March 15;

- OR: OR Excom has candidates for all but the chapter president-elect position. They have tried several approaches but are not getting response. Are other chapters having this issue and how are they overcoming this?
 - WABC was offering free lifetime AFS membership upon completing a 4-year track in the President role, but when membership prices went up they weren't able to continue it beyond those currently in office.

- Jackie said this is probably a wide-spread problem. **Action item: Jackie will make this topic an agenda item for discussion on a future call so we can have a broader discussion about it.**
 - The chapter recently submitted a letter to the Oregon legislature regarding the carbon cap & trade bill.
- UT: preparing for annual meeting
- WABC:
 - WABC has a few times run into issues using the WDAFS conference call number, where they have reserved the number at a specific time and date, then when they called in another group was on the line already. Everyone needs to know that there is a google doc that needs to be used to sign up to use the WDAFS conf call line. Jackie forwarded the document to the group immediately following this call.
 - Gabe has been working on a strategy to encourage WABC members to keep their membership current. He compares Eva's monthly membership list to the WABC previous year and plans to send personalized messages to people who have not renewed, reminding them of the benefits of being a member. This last step of sending emails hasn't been implemented yet, but he plans to do so soon.
- ID:
 - meeting registration is down due to funding issues with one of their traditional supporters.
 - The Chapter is working on a revision to their bylaws
- MT:
 - annual meeting was a couple weeks ago. Attendance was down, likely because the meeting was the first week after the shutdown ended.
 - MT EXCOM has been discussing restructuring their committees and possibly doing away with the outreach committee since it has been active for a very long time. However, once this announcement was made to the membership several people came forward with ideas for keeping the committee active and possibly refocusing it on social media. MT would like to know more about how other chapters use social media. Kris said that OR is developing a social media policy to help guide that type of outreach and communication. She also said that OR has an outreach and education committee in addition to a social media committee.
- COWY: annual meeting is in two weeks and registration is up quite a bit from last year. The Aquaculture committee has worked hard to encourage aquaculture professionals to attend and this is likely contributing to the bump in registration.
- CALNEVA: foregoing annual chapter meeting due to AFS-TWS meeting in Reno this fall. Working on planning for that meeting. They are finding that planning with TWS is difficult as they do many things differently from AFS, but they are finding compromises and making progress.
- New or other business –Britta will give student rep update next month
- 11:10 Adjourn

<u>MONTANA</u>	Non-member rate:	\$300
	Member, professional (early):	\$225

	Member, professional (late):	\$300
	Member, professional (1-day):	\$125
	Member, Student/Retiree (early):	\$60
	Member, Student/Retiree (late):	\$85
	Other (guest, volunteer, etc.):	\$0
	Banquet only:	\$40
CO/WY	Non-member, professional (early):	\$200
	Non-member, professional (late):	\$215
	Non-member, ECP or student (early)	\$85
	Non-member, ECP or student (late):	\$100
	Member, professional, (early):	\$175
	Member, professional, (late):	\$190
	Member, ECP (early):	\$70
	Member, ECP (late):	\$85
	Member, Student (early):	\$10
	Member, Student (late):	\$30
	Retiree:	\$0
	Banquet only:	\$35
	One day (early):	\$120 (member or non-member)
	One day (late):	\$130
CALNEVA	Member (early):	\$250
	Member (late):	\$300
	Retiree (early):	\$175
	Retiree (late):	\$200
UT	Member (early):	\$85
	Includes registration, 2 nights motel, all food and drink during meeting	
OR	Non-member, professional:	\$325
	Non-member, student:	\$80
	Non-member, retiree:	\$175
	Member, professional:	\$275
	Member, student:	\$55
	Member, retiree:	\$120
	Banquet only:	\$42
	Late registrations add \$50 for professionals, \$25 for students	
	Chapter offers daily rates in all categories that vary, depending on day	
	Chapter offers workshops with separate rates	
AK	Non-member, professional (early):	\$500
	Non-member, professional (late):	\$600
	Non-member, parent discount (early)	\$425
	Non-member, parent discount (late):	\$510
	Non-member, student (early):	\$170
	Non-member, student (late):	\$215
	Non-member, ECP (early):	\$230
	Non-member, ECP (late):	\$290

	Member, professional (early):	\$345
	Member, professional (late):	\$415
	Member, parent discount (early):	\$293
	Member, parent discount (late):	\$353
	Member, student (early):	\$110
	Member, student (late):	\$145
	Member, ECP (early):	\$150
	Member, ECP (late):	\$195
	Member, Retired (early):	\$110
	Member, Retired (late):	\$145
	Daily guest:	\$175
WABC	Non-member (early):	\$325
	Non-member (late):	\$375
	Member, retired:	\$50
	Member (early):	\$275
	Member (late):	\$325
ID	Non-member, professional (early):	\$375
	Non-member, professional (late):	\$425
	Non-member, professional (door):	\$475
	Member, professional (early):	\$275
	Member, professional (late):	\$325
	Member, professional (door):	\$375
	Student (early):	\$20
	Student (late):	\$50
	Student (door):	\$100
	ECP (early):	\$40
	ECP (late):	\$50
	ECP (door):	\$200
	Retiree (early):	\$40
	Retiree (late):	\$50
	Retiree (door):	\$100