



# 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, May 8, 2019**  
**Start Time: 8:00 am AK time/ 9:00 am PT / 10:00 am MT**

### NOTES

#### Participants

Jackie Watson (WD President)	Becky Flitcroft (OR)
Brian R Missildine (WD Past President)	Brian Ertel (MT)
Britta Baechler (WD Student Rep)	Jason Burckhardt (CO WY)
Dan Dauwalter (WD President Elect)	Gabe Temple (WABC)
Todd Pearsons (WD Vice President)	Ben Brown (UT)
Tracy Wendt (WD Secretary-Treasurer)	Laurie Earley (CalNeva)
	Joel Makris (AK)

Determined a quorum (majority of elected officers, 1/3 Chapters)

Approval of April meeting minutes

- Motion: Dan D
- Second: Laurie E
- No Comments
- All approved

Financial Updates

Monthly Financials

- Jackie clarified the investment account and reminded the group there is a sustainability committee working on a financial sustainability plan.
- Jackie said we do not have an MOU yet for the Reno meeting
  - Jackie has reminded AFS that WD has been operating under the understanding that WD's % would be 20%.
- The fundraising committee for the Reno meeting needs assistance and is looking for more volunteers to help. If you work for an agency, please approach them about sponsorship.
- WD Elections – voting ends May 17. Received 160 votes so far, will be sending updates to remind folks to vote. There is currently a tie for one of the positions, but hopefully that will be broken with more votes.

Awards (Brian M)

- Rec'd 4 nominations all for different awards, no nominations for conservation groups. Brian will share nominations with the Excom Officers to discuss.
- Small project grants are being scored now (Due to Brian May 13). Rec'd about 14 applications. One is not an AFS member, so that makes 13 qualifying applications. Officers

British Columbia • Yukon • Mexico • Alaska • Arizona • California • Colorado • Idaho • Montana • Nevada  
New Mexico • Oregon • Utah • Washington • Wyoming • Western Pacific islands and trust territories

have been sent applications to score, then Brian will review and we will discuss. Chapter awards have been announced and submitted to society. WD awards are: large chapter - Oregon, small chapter - COWY, student subunit - SCMBAS.

- Riparian Challenge scoring is underway, committee scoring is due to Amy today.

#### Membership Committee Updates (Todd)

- Received updated membership list and lapsed membership list from Eva, which will be used to update our list-serve. Total is 3,473 folks, which would double our current list-serve. Todd proposes we use this to update our list-serve to be used for Mailchimp. We need to remember that some people have possibly asked to be removed in the past, so we need to include in our inaugural email a note explaining why they are receiving the email and how to unsubscribe.
- There is still a discrepancy between the AFS member list and chapter member lists. The committee is working on figuring this out.
- There is a proposal to try to increase retention of AFS members by having a membership option for multiple years at decreased cost if you renew for multiple years.
- For the Pebble Mine letter, the committee is interested in stating the number of WDAFS members and number of AK Chapter members. Current membership list is about 2,800 but Todd thinks it's an under-estimate. It's probably more like 3,000 for Western Division.
- The committee is also trying to understand why some people choose to be affiliate members but not AFS members. There are not WD affiliate members; not all chapters allow affiliate memberships.

#### Student Representative Updates (Britta)

- She is organizing a planning call with subunit members later this month. She will notify WD leaders of the time.
- Britta has put out a call to student subunits to host the next colloquium but no one has responded. The colloquium is supposed to be in about 6 months. Britta asks WD leaders to please talk to their student subunits and encourage them to host. Jackie suggested a WABC subunit. AK has thought about it, but fears travel to AK would be cost-prohibitive.
- 2018 Colloquium seed money is in process to be paid back by the next call.
- Britta is teaming up with Claire Ingel in CA to put together a volunteer coordination plan for the Reno meeting.

#### Chapter Updates

WABC: Had AGM during last WD call. Lower registration than they hoped (125); meeting was competing with another large conference. Made about \$5k. Elections are underway for WABC officers. They have nominees in all positions even though they did not offer the membership incentives as they had in the past.

UT: Excom meeting yesterday to start planning 2020 meeting. Will meet again soon to update organizational documents.

COWY: They have been trying to get a scholarship endowed at Colorado Mesa University. CO Mesa had a competitive fundraising drive, \$5k bonus for having with most individual donors and Chapter matched up to a set amount. \$9870 plus match from chapter: \$19,740 will go towards scholarship endowment (need \$25k within 4 or 5 years for the endowment and looks like they will meet that goal within the first year).

AK: Chapter submitted comments for WOTUS; Pebble extended by 30 days, so they are working on that. Going to launch a new website under AFS. Chapter has been talking to Yukon Territories to assess interest in participating with AK AFS. Next meeting is in Fairbanks and they plan to reach out to Yukon Territories to encourage them to participate. The last meeting in Fairbanks had good participation from that group.

MT: 2020 meeting will be in Kalispell, MT the week of Feb 17 or Feb 24 – still finalizing date based on venue availability. First draft of financial sustainability plan is out to MT Excom for review then will go to the chapter membership for comments. Sending monthly updates of chapter activities and announcements, WD and AFS activities to membership and is getting a good response. Brian sent Jackie some MT Chapter annual meeting planning information which is now available on the Google Drive.

CALNEVA: Reno site visit last week with headquarters staff, WD, and TWS. Working on program. Number of abstracts was overwhelming, but they hope to let people know in the next couple days if they were accepted or not. We received 1,500 abstracts and 90 symposia for AFS alone. The 2020 annual meeting will be a joint meeting with IEP (interagency Ecological Program) in the Sacramento area likely sometime during the last two weeks of March. The Chapter is trying to figure out ways to get support for more people to travel out of state to attend the meeting. Chapter is also looking for candidates for officer positions.

OR: This is Becky's first call taking over for Kris. This year OR had a problem with meeting planning due to the federal shut down because they didn't have a way to contact people. They are considering asking people for back up contact information so there is a way to reach them in case of a shut down or other problem. The next Migratory Fish day is in 2020 so the Chapter is thinking about doing something for that. The 2019 Annual Meeting will be March 3 – 6 in Bend, OR.

#### New or other Business

- Brian said if you are booking your room for the Reno meeting, the Atlantis is charging the first night upfront when you make your reservation.
- Remember to vote for AFS Second Vice President.

The next call is June 12.

11:04 Adjourn