



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

President Dan Dauwalter, President-Elect Todd Pearsons, Vice-President Dan Brauch, Secretary-Treasurer Travis Rehm,
Past-President Jackie Watson, Student Representative Emily Chen

Executive Committee December Call: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Start Time: 11:00 am AK time/ 12:00 pm PT / 1:00 pm MT

To join call, dial 1-800-582-3014 and enter passcode: 837490314# Leader passcode 567446688#.

Notes

Participants:

- Dan Dauwalter, WD President
- Jackie Watson, WD Past-President
- Todd Pearsons, WD President-Elect
- Dan Brauch, WD Vice President
- Emily Chen, WD Student Rep
- Travis Rehm, WD Secretary-Treasurer
- Peter Stevens, OR Chapter (Proxy)
- Jason Burckhardt, CO-WY Chapter
- Joel Markis, AK Chapter
- Brett High, ID Chapter
- Brian Missildine
- Tracy Wendt

Roll call

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

A quorum was present

Motion: Approval of Mid-Year Excom Retreat minutes (Attachment B)

- Minutes with edits from Jackie and Dan B.

Moved to approve- Todd

Move to second- Joel

No one opposed. Minutes Approved.

Financial updates (Travis) (Attachment C, D)

- Travis said that the WD checking account funds are getting low ~\$13,000 and with meeting expenses soon to be coming Tracy suggested asking the Society to send the minimum payment from the Reno meeting (\$40,000) prior to closing the meeting books.
- Travis spoke with Dan D. about receiving the Reno funds and currently it sounds like the Society is in agreement to release the minimum agreed payouts of \$40,000 to the Division now (but also Cal-Neva portion) and settle up remaining payouts once the meeting book are fully closed out. However, we are still waiting on final confirmation.
- Jackie requested a document to track her budget and Tracy responded that she is working on a separate document that is independent of the Balances by Month sheet.

Action Item: Tracy plans on having the document tracking Jackie's budget done by the January WD call.

MailChimp

- Since WD started using MailChimp it has doubled our membership communication. It is currently being used to solicit Vancouver meeting announcements and awards. Dan D. noted he was pleased with the service thus far.
- Cost update (Tracy)- originally thought it would cost ~\$20 per/month but actually costing us ~\$50 per/month.
 - Jackie inquired about differential pricing for non-profits. However, Tracy stated that they do not and the \$50 per/month is due to the size of our mailing list.
- Dan D. said that we will work on a budget amendment on a future call to address the unexpected increased expense.

Student Colloquium (Emily)

- Emily gave a description of the 2019 Student Colloquium: 15-20 students attended the Student Colloquium. Students participated in presentations that featured many similar species and research questions throughout the Division. Students also participated in fish trivia and many attended a blue grass concert.
- Emily wrote a more detailed update on the student colloquium that will appear in the Tributary.
- Emily is currently looking for host school for next year.

Action item: Emily will email City of Arcata to inquire on receiving the deposit for Colloquium back.

Outstanding Chapter Award (Brian) (Attachment E)

- Brian described that historically standardized scoring for Chapter awards has been difficult and variable.

- Brian, Tracy, and Jackie updated the scoring application for Chapter awards. Basing the criteria on what was on the application. Dan sent out a final draft of this new application (attachment E).

Proposed Motion: Accept the Outstanding Unit nomination application prepared by Tracy Wendt and Brian Missildine.

- Dan B. noted that the application lists 4 Chapters for the small Chapter award but should be 5 (the draft excluded Mexico).
- Currently the deadline is February 14th unless the Society allows extension. Extending the deadlines were discussed.

Motion: Accept the Outstanding Unit nomination application prepared by Tracy Wendt and Brian Missildine with edit to include Mexico Chapter.

- Outstanding Unit nomination application edit from Dan B.

Moved to approve- Jackie

Move to second- Jason

No one opposed. Motion passes.

Proposed Motion: Allow the Society to use the WD Outstanding Unit nomination application for the Society-level awards.

- Brian mentioned the Society may not use the motion but agrees with the motion so the Society can copy the application.

Motion: Allow the Society to use the WD Outstanding Unit nomination application for the Society-level awards.

Moved to approve- Todd

Move to second- Brett

Abstain - Jackie

No one opposed. Motion passes.

Updates

- Vancouver (Dan D.)
 - As of today all plenary speakers are committed and WA-BC reached out to First Nations, however Dan D. noted he did not expect them to accept plenary speaking but they may chose to do a shorter welcoming address.
 - Symposia is now closed. 25 symposia with very diverse topics.
 - A workshop by Doug Austen is being organized
 - The meeting will also host photo and film festival.
 - Registration will open January 10th and abstracts should open this week and close February 12th
- Membership (Jackie)

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

- There was a comment in Reno that new Society members can't add the WA-BC Chapter or edit other chapters without calling AFS. The Society has made changes that now during renewal you can join multiple chapters online.
 - Jackie said if anyone is having any more issues during renewal joining Chapters to get in contact with her.
- Mexico Chapter (Dan D.)
 - A motion has been drafted to dissolve the Mexico Chapter.
 - Dan D. stated that the Division never made an explicit reach out to the current Mexico officers. Dan reached out to Augustine via email to explain that they were operating outside their bylaws (officers not members of AFS). Currently he has not received a response. If he does not hear back by the January call with an adequate response to rectify the situation, then the motion will be on the agenda for the January call.
- AFS Units Tax Status (Jackie)
 - Several chapters are hitting the greater than \$50,000 mark making taxes much more difficult.
 - Jackie reached out to the Society to see if they could help with tax preparation.
 - The Society will need a list of how many Chapters would need assistance with taxes and how much Chapters are currently paying to have their taxes done. Jackie asks Chapters to look into this and get back to her.
- Meeting registration software (Jackie)
 - Currently registration software is becoming increasingly expensive. Jackie brought up using the Society's software. Their software license fee is \$1,000 however how often that fee is required is currently unclear.
 - Joel mentioned their registration software was 1,000's of dollars and one of the largest expenses of their meetings.
 - **Action Item: Chapters respond to Jackie with information regarding tax preparation and meeting registration**

Chapter updates

WA-BC

- Dan D. said that Brittany emailed him saying that the University of Washington subunit has dissolved.

CO-WY (Jason)

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

- No specific update

OR (Peter)

- Just switched meeting registration software to Cvent, less expensive than 123Signup and can handle abstract management.
- 2021 meeting venue had changed ownership. Luckily the owner agreed to honor the existing contract.
- Active Native Fish Committee- Genetic analysis came out that field id of Dace may be lacking accuracy.

AK (Joel)

- Annual retreat 2 weeks ago, used WD retreat as template.
- Tongass NF roadless comments are due December 17th. The Chapter is working with the Society and other groups. Will send around comments they have been working on ASAP and would like comments.
- **Action Item:** Joel will send around draft Tongass comments for WD comment

ID (Brett)

- Just wrapped up their fall face-to-face meeting.
- Preparing for upcoming meeting in Coeur d'Alene in March, planning on offering daily registrations.
- Struggling with Chapter venue reservations and needing them at least 2 years in advance.
- Working on securing Boise Center for WD annual meeting in 2023, but need to lock it in soon and may need WD assistance with deposit

New or other business

None discussed

Adjourn 1:07 PM

Summary of Action Items

Action item: Emily will email city of Arcata to inquire on receiving the deposit for colloquium back

Action Item: Tracy plans on having the document tracking Jackie's budget done by the January WD call.

Action Item: Chapters respond to Jackie with information regarding tax preparation and meeting registration

Action Item: Joel will send around draft Tongass comments for WD comment