



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 January Call: Wednesday, January 8, 2020
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
- Jason Burckhardt, CO-WY Chapter
- Joel Markis, AK Chapter
- Brett High, ID Chapter
- Steve Dalbey, MT Chapter
- David Stewart, AZ-NM Chapter
- Agustin Hernandez-Herrera, MX Chapter

Roll call

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

A quorum was present

Motion: Approve December call notes (Attachment B)

Moved to approve- Todd
Move to second- Jackie
No one opposed. Notes Approved

Treasurers briefing (Travis) (Attachment C)

- WD secured the minimum agreed payment (\$40,000) from the Reno meeting. Once the meeting is fully closed out the Society will process any remaining payouts.

- Travis received funds for the Salvelinus confluentus Curiosity Society (ScCS) via the Oregon Chapter. He deposited these funds in the WDAFS checking account and will track them in the encumbered section of the Balances by month sheet. Dan D. said he will talk to the ScCS about how often they will need access to those funds to gage the burden on WD Secretary-Treasurer associated with ScCS integration and a determination will be made how to move forward.

Action item: Dan D. will ask ScCS about the how often they will need to access funds in WD account

MailChimp

- The monthly cost of MailChimp was originally thought it to be ~\$20 but actually costing the division ~\$50 per/month. This created an impending future deficit on the MailChimp Budget line.

Motion: Increase Budget line item for MailChimp from \$180 to \$600

Moved to approve- Jackie

Move to second- Dan B.

- Steve asked for a brief overview of benefits of transitioning to MailChimp. Dan D. replied by saying that it is better platform to manage the listserv and that since the switch we are reaching a much larger audience (+3,000). He added that it would be a good question for Tracy regarding the details.

No one opposed. Motion passes

Action Item: Travis will update budget spreadsheet

WDAFS Procedures Manual (Attachment D)- Dan D.

- Dan D. said that the procedures manual has been updated once a year for the last couple years and this year's update is to provide more clarity to division procedures. Big changes:
 - Outline officer participation at Chapter meetings
 - Clarify student representative positions
 - Tributary contribution
- Edits to procedures manual - Dave Lentz is the current contact on listserv -> change to the WD account: WDAFSinfo@gmail.com

Proposed Motion: Accept the Procedures Manual with proposed changes

- Jackie noted that we should spend some time this next year and nail down language regarding the student representative

Motion: Accept the Procedures Manual with proposed changes

Moved to approve- Jackie

Move to second- Emily

No one opposed. Procedures Manual with proposed changes passes.

Action Item: Dan D. will get updated Procedures Manual posted to website but retain a markup copy for future edits that were not fully vetted

Mexico Chapter (Attachment E)- Dan D.

- Dan D. outlined the reasons for the proposal of the dissolution of the Mexico Chapter:
 - Lack of communicating, involvement, and coordination with the Division
 - Officers operating outside of bylaws by not being members of AFS (Agustin Hernandez is one exception)
- Dan D. also stated that the Division had never made an explicit reach out to the current Mexico officers. With this in mind Dan reached out to Agustín, the most recent Mexico Chapter president, via email in December to explain that they were operating outside their bylaws (officers not members of AFS). Dan received a response from Agustin this morning, after a follow-up email was sent, and Agustin stated him and Felipe have been in contact to restart the chapter.
- Dan has also been in contact with Randy Schulz the constitutional consultant.
- If approved the dissolution would go in front of the management committee, if approved there it would then go in front of the governing board.

Motion: The Western Division AFS will propose a motion to the AFS Management Committee and Governing Board that the Mexico Chapter of AFS will be dissolved

Moved to approve- Jackie

Move to second- Todd

Discussion:

- Steve asks if there is an interim option “put them on probation”. Dan reply by saying attempts have been made to reengage and Mexico and have failed with elections being held where elected officers were never AFS members. Dan says a positive of moving forward we would be able to get these issues in front of the management committee and possibly the governing board.
- Dan B. asks if the email this morning changes anything. Dan D. says it was unclear but feels that Felipe and Agustín would work together to reconstitute the chapter if dissolved.
- Jackie stated that she feels that it may be actually cleaner to start from scratch starting a new chapter. Dan D. agreed. Those reconstituting the chapter may propose to constitute the chapter under the WD again, or possibly the International Fisheries Section or some other unit.

- Jason said that he believes it is important that a sort of ultimatum was discussed with previous officers. Dan D. reply saying that his email served as such and sent this email out to the EXCOM during the call.
- Jackie also said that repeated attempts at contact have been ignored till now and Mexico chapter will not cease to exist if dissolved. Jason responded that he felt comfortable that WD officers have done their due diligence in conveying the ultimatum

No one opposed. Motion passes.

Updates

2020 Vancouver (Dauwalter)

- Registration (opens 1/10)
- Abstracts (closes 2/12)
- Todd says there are 25 planned symposia, 50 films

Society (Mgmt Committee / Gov. Board)- Statement from World Societies on Climate Change (Todd)

- Scott Bonar and Society officers were interested putting together a statement on Climate Change to be approved by AFS and submitted to the world aquatic societies.
- WD briefly discussed if AFS should be giving specific recommendations on policy. Some members were uncomfortable with specific recommendation with federal employees possibly being barred from participating due to these recommendations.
- Comments to Scott are due on the 11th of this month. Todd asked if anyone had any strong reservations and stated that those could call or email him with thoughts as well.
- Jackie asks that we state that we are not comfortable having an opinion without seeing the document from the Mgmt Committee / Gov. Board.
- Dan D. said that it may be better to stay in our lane “expertise” fisheries. Steve reiterated this statement.
- In interest of time discussion was agreed to be picked up during the February call after a revised version of the document could be shared with the ExCom.

Chapter Updates

Student Representative (Emily) - no update

AZ-NM (David) - No specific update, gearing up for annual meeting in 2.5 weeks.

CO-WY (Jason) - Also gearing up for annual meeting and putting final touches on financial sustainability plan.

AK (Joel) - Gearing up for March meeting and submitted comments on rule change for Tongass National Forest. Dan D. asked Joel to share those comments.

- **Action Item:** Joel share AK Chapter comments on rule change for Tongass National Forest

MT (Steve) - Gearing up for annual meeting in Kalispell.

ID (Brett) - Preparing for annual meeting in March in Coeur d'Alene and wrapped up edits to Chapter bylaws .

New or other business

- Dan D. and Jackie are working on developing template for integrating the WD representative at chapter meetings.
- Thursday afternoon April 16th is shaping up to be the EXCOM meeting date at WABC Vancouver. Might be a ½ day meeting.
- Niall Clancy stepped down as tributary editor and WD is currently looking for someone to take his place. Dan will check with co-editor Tim D'Amico to see if he's willing to continue alone.

Summary of Action Items

Action item: Dan D. will ask ScCS about the how often they will need to access funds in WD account

Action item: Joel share AK Chapter comments on rule change for Tongass National Forest

Action Item: Travis will update budget spreadsheet

Action Item: Dan D. will get updated Procedures Manual posted to website but retain a markup copy for future edits that were not fully vetted