

Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society
Business Retreat, 4-5 May 2006, Willamette Hatchery, Oakridge, Oregon
Approved by ExCom on 20 July 2006

4 May

Present were: President Barry McPherson, President-Elect Mike Reed, Past President Doug Olson, Secretary-Treasurer Ian Reid, Internal Director Neil Ward, Vice President Laura Tesler, External Director Karen Wegner, incoming President-Elect Doug Young, incoming Vice President Tom Friesen, and Legislative Chair Hiram Li.

Minutes—All

15 February, 13 April, and 2006 Annual Business Meeting draft minutes were approved by ExCom. Ian will convert to pdf and send to Karen. Final 2006 Annual Business Meeting minutes will be approved at the Annual Business Meeting in Eugene in 2007.

Treasurer's report—Ian

Current Balances (as of 3 May 2006):

Checking:	\$41,862.92
Coastal Cutthroat:	\$14,266.95
Savings:	\$50.16
Money Market (as of 3/31/2006)	\$65,189.19

Total Finances

As of 3 May 2006: \$121,369.22 (+ \$14,691.22 from the beginning of fiscal year 2006)

NOTE The Coastal Cutthroat Account is not available to ORAFS; the actual finances available to ORAFS are: **\$107,102.27**

Total Finances

As of 1 May 2005

(includes coastal cutthroat account) \$106,678.00

The Columbia Money Market Account made approximately \$2,034.00 in FY06.

Doug Young: No AFS money is needed for the monitoring and evaluation workshop. \$5000 scholarship for cutthroat conference will hopefully be announced at the WDAFS AM. About \$9500 will then be left in the account, which will be used to send out proceedings to all attendees. The remaining money could go into another scholarship fund or be used elsewhere. Also there is \$5000 from 1995 sitting in the Umpqua Flycasters fund that they are interested in donating.

Investment strategy updates—All

Ian found some different CD rates, but none higher than 0.5 % higher than the current Money Market rates Barry will know more after the WDAFS mtg about investing through the Western Division. The ad hoc ORAFS investment committee will meet after the Western Division.

Northwest fish culture conference account—Doug

This conference has been occurring for over 50 years with rotating sponsors. This year it is going to be held in Portland 4-6 December. Doug would like check writing authority for himself (and debit card) and about 3 other people in the office for a new Wells Fargo account under the ORAFS umbrella. The account would have to go through mid-2007 to pay bills. Discussion occurred about ORAFS having to pick up the bill if this account defaulted. It was decided the conference has the support of many agencies and the risk to ORAFS to have to recover lost monies would be low. NWFCC 2006 was suggested as a name for the account. Motion moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to open a separate acct under ORAFS for NWFCC 2006. Ian will follow up with getting the contact information to the bank. Doug will get 123Signup to handle electronic registration for the conference and this money should get directly deposited to the account. Hiram suggested ORAFS giving some scholarships to pay for people to attend the conference.

Administrative Assistant Contract—All

Laura reviewed 2 different contracts submitted by Loretta, one from 1 May to 30 September full-time and another from 1 October on an as-needed basis. Loretta will probably be teaching full time in the fall. We have discretion to hire who we want as her replacement, and do not have to fully recruit because we are a non-profit organization. There are some parties potentially interested in the position.

Doug Young proposed critically examining the Administrative Assistant contract and determining what is really needed to make ORAFS a successful organization. Hiram suggested subletting some of the tasks out to students such as OSU F & W club at a reduced cost.

We need to look at last year's contract and see item by item if there is something we can get rid of. We are in a period of transition to evaluate what the next Administrative Assistant should be doing for the membership.

Neil proposes that we look at billings from this time period last year and factor in new administrative assistant training and use those as a template for this year's estimated costs.

A motion was made and seconded that we retain Loretta as contract Administrative Assistant for May through September 2006 and we develop a budget based on what was

paid during this time period over the past three years and factor in the time to train a new Administrative Assistant. ExCom should agree on this contract by the 1 June conference call. Motion passed unanimously.

ExCom should send Laura ideas about the contract, and suggested forming an ad hoc committee with ideas about the new contract for the administrative assistant. It was discussed that a volunteer newsletter writer/editor could be secured, and this task might not be included in the new Administrative Assistant contract. Laura, Doug Young, and Neil agreed to be on the ad hoc committee and to meet and have a proposal to ExCom by the July conference call.

External Committee and Information Sharing Network (ISN) reports—Karen

Letter of support for the Copper-Salmon Wilderness was approved by ExCom via email and sent to the Oregon Congressional delegation 19 April 2006.

Legislative Committee—Hiram

What do you want from the Legislative Committee (LC) chair? What are the objectives? There were past debates about advocacy vs. professional science. There needs to be checks and balances for the LC and ExCom. We should examine the role of a lobbyist and what they do. If a lobbyist is important to the members they need to be informed about it. There is a need to get younger people on the ISNs and committees. ORAFS needs to decide how much we want to influence the outcome of events or if we just want to provide testimony after the decisions have in essence already been made. Mike raised a question about 501c(3) status and not being able to fund a lobbyist and delineating the difference between a legislative liaison and a lobbyist. ORAFS needs to define what it wants out of a legislative liaison.

Barry: the idea of a legislative liaison fits with our strategic plan (Goal 2). The questions are: how do we do it, how much do we do, how much do we spend?
Barry had a question about how would we fund a legislative liaison and someone brought up the idea of having a joint liaison/administrative assistant. There are other ways to make money such as grant writing and hosting workshops to fund a legislative liaison.
Question: is the state level the best level to be involved with?

Hiram will prepare a proposal for ExCom before the 1 June meeting to consider regarding the roles of the Legislative Committee and/or a legislative liaison.

General discussion occurred about ISNs: There is the need to have safe websites for open discussion. ISN sites could post information, especially gray literature that is not easily accessed. Also, ISN leaders could host a technical workshop at the Annual Meeting. We could have ISNs serve as a clearinghouse for journal referees. Currently ISNs are not working as they were intended.

Barry, Ian, Doug Olson and Doug Young watched the DVD, "*Rising from the shadows: the return of the cutthroat trout*", produced by WDAFS and other sponsors. It will hopefully be shown on PBS stations around the west and Barry distributed several copies to ExCom members.

5 May

Present were: President Barry McPherson, President-Elect Mike Reed, Past President Doug Olson, Secretary-Treasurer Ian Reid, Internal Director Neil Ward, Vice President Laura Tesler, External Director Karen Wegner, incoming President-Elect Doug Young, incoming Vice President Tom Friesen, Student Representative Aaron Chappell, and Administrative Assistant Loretta Brenner.

External Committee Report—Karen

Karen has not been hearing from committee chairs and it has been frustrating. Committee chairs need to get Karen an annual report update by 15 June for the summer newsletter. She will send out a reminder to the committee chairs.

Karen is working on developing a salmon habitat poster with James Ray, a new ODFW STEP biologist. She needs to see if ExCom would support the creation of this and possibly help fund printing of the posters. Laura said this might be something to put in for a Restoration and Enhancement grant application. The deadline is 12 June. If ORAFS gives some money for this it would serve as seed money and increase odds of getting the R & E grant.

Mike Colvin from EPA is the new webmaster. Karen needs to ask Mike how to count visits to the website and also different parts of the website and possibly track who is visiting.

There was discussion on the natural production committee looking at the dam removal issue on the Klamath system.

There was concern from one of the committee chairs who didn't want to have his name on letters because his agency did not support this. The Chapter President will sign all letters.

There is the need to look at getting some new committee chairs for inactive committees. Martyne Reesman is going to become the new Education and Outreach chair on 1 September 2006.

Karen is going to ask ISN leaders if they are still willing to be leads and if not, if they can recommend someone. If not, Karen can send email out to ORAFS membership or specific ISNs to see if they are interested in becoming a leader. Karen will send out a message to all ORAFS members reminding them of the ORAFS listserv and asking for their support in helping out with committees and ISNs. She is going to ask each ISN

leader to assemble 10 key papers relevant to their ISN to post on the ORAFS website. Doug suggested also putting in a reminder about signing up for the listserv in the newsletters.

2006 Annual Meeting (AM) Review—Mike

High marks were received for location, food quality, meeting rooms, lodging quality, technical sessions, poker fundraiser,

Low marks for were received for karaoke, student-mentor session (41% poor or fair), food prices, raffle/auction, and plenary marks were lower than past years. Some criticisms came of Mike Carrier, the student-mentor session with too many biologists, too much beer at the socials. Also the business meeting took too long, which was related to food coming out late.

We discussed if we should make the student-mentor session more professional by removing food and beverage. We also need to keep a list at the door so people (biologists) don't crash for free beer. We felt having some food and beverage were necessary to attract people who had been in sessions all day and needed some refreshment.

Part of the problem with the raffle/auction was it started too late because of the dinner. We might go with a dedicated raffle to have people only put tickets in for certain items, and only do an oral auction for about 10 high profile items. We could not announce silent auction winners and just post them (occurred this year). We could also have the option for people to just outright buy silent auction items they were interested in. The idea of a "golden ticket" where you could get any item in the raffle was introduced. There is a way to include auction numbers in electronic registration.

We need to try and aim for 20 minute breaks for next year, instead of 15 minute.

The awards committee is under internal director. There was an idea to change some things with the awards committee. There were suggestions to give awards at the plenary session, and have nominators give the awards. There was also the idea to give the awards at the Thursday morning plenary session.

There was an idea for a business lunch separate from a lunch potentially sponsored by the vendors with vendor displays. Doug suggested having an awards meeting lunch on Thursday (with the exception of the best student paper and poster session, and Broken Oar Award) and the business meeting (potential continental breakfast) on Thursday a.m. in lieu of the plenary session.

Mike will work on making some changes to the evaluation form for next year.

Student award checks have been written and will be sent to recipients by Loretta. Mike and Loretta will work on putting together a Fisheries magazine recap of the AM. Loretta will send Fisheries the award winners.

Reviewed Chapter of the Year (COY) award—Doug Olson

This is due to Barry by 12 May, and Barry will pass it on to President of Western Division. WDAFS will forward the best WD application to Parent Society by 2 June.

Doug Young will send Doug Olson updated information on collaboration with students by 10 May.

Loretta will try to get information about Award of Merit winners from Peter Lofy to Doug Olson. Doug Olson will send out a copy of the COY application to Doug Young.

Also edits to the COY application need to be to Doug Olson by c.o.b. 10 May.

Student Subunit Report—Aaron

Applying for Student Chapter of the Year Award, but it has to be submitted by 12 May. It appears to be the same form as the Parent Chapter of the Year. Loretta suggested being specific in the application, rather than general.

There is an election coming up for Fish and Wildlife Club officers on 23 May. There will be a new ORAFS liaison, but Aaron will stay through the June conference call. Students had a good trip to the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest looking at stream restoration projects. They are also going to a Columbia River dams field trip and could be assisting with a project on barotrauma release devices. Aaron will forward on this info to Barry. The new liaison will write the annual report in September.

2007 Annual Meeting planning—Doug Young

He reviewed the past 5 AM themes and reviewed plenary sessions and workshops. Doug had two ideas for a “supertheme”: “emerging science and literature in application and land management, especially related to forest management.”

Some discussion occurred that a theme totally related to forest and land management might exclude some components of ORAFS.

Could possibly have 2 themes within this supertheme, one marine and one inland (forestry based).

Another of Doug’s “superthemes” was examining Oregon’s natural resource controversies (“fishues”), eg. Measure 37, population growth, fire salvage, hatcheries.

On 1 June there is an ORAFS conference call where we will talk about themes, and a theme and first call for papers article needs to be ready for the newsletter by 15 June. The date for the 2007 AM is 28 February through 2 March (the pre-meeting workshops are the 27).

Administrative Assistant report—Loretta

Loretta will send a pdf file of the newsletter to Karen by 9 May. She worked on the Administrative Handbook revisions. Loretta will get Doug Young a copy of the Administrative Handbook. We need to tell the membership in the spring newsletter that Loretta is leaving and if they are interested in the position to contact Laura. The new person should be in place by 15 August, and ExCom will discuss on the 1 June conference call.

Ian and Neil need to send Barry electronically the financial breakdown from the 2006 Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian S. Reid
Secretary-Treasurer