



DATE: January 6, 2008
TO: ORAFS EXCOM
FROM: Shaun Clements (Secretary Treasurer)
SUBJECT: Final Minutes ORAFS EXCOM Meeting

**ORAFS EXCOM Meeting
Thursday, January 8, 2009
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

ITEM 1: Review and Approve Agenda
Agenda Approved

Neil, Jeremiah, Rich, Shaun, Kristle, Christy, and Doug in attendance.

ITEM 2: President's Report

Neil, Doug, and Jeremiah met with ORAFS members to discuss ways in which ORAFS can respond to bills that will affect fisheries and associated habitat legislative session. Membership suggested that ORAFS should consider hiring a lobbyist to keep ORAFS abreast of issues and relay ORAFS views to legislators. ORAFS has used a lobbyist in the past, but not since 2002. TWS currently has a lobbyist. The members expressed a belief that it would be beneficial to reinstate this position to foster a better connection with legislators. There will be a handful of issues that would be of interest to ORAFS to respond to during the current session and time is of essence to influence decision making. Neil is now of the opinion that this is a useful measure.

Additional comments:

Doug also supports this measure. We need a mechanism to respond to issues. Neil has contacted folks that served on ExCom during the time when the position was terminated to determine why the lobbyist was dropped to avoid potential problems if we go this route. Neil would like ExCom to consider this position for up to 5K per year.

Rich was involved in ExCom in late 1990s and felt that the position was useful and good value for money. But cautioned the need to be efficient at directing the activities of the lobbyist.

Christy is supportive but would like to hear why we quit using a lobbyist. Rich suggested we might want to consider a discussion amongst the entire membership at the annual meeting-encourage interest from whole chapter.

Jeremiah, suggests we treat this as a trial to investigate how effective we can be-discuss benefits with membership. Neil, Doug, and Jeremiah will continue to work on this and attempt to get a blog going and update ExCom.

ITEM 3:

Secretary-Treasurer

Shaun evaluated a number of local banks, looking at interest rates, fees, branch availability etc. For savings accounts none of the local banks could compete with Etrades APY. For the checking account Umpqua was the best of the local banks and was somewhat competitive on a national scale. A motion was made, and passed, to move our checking account from Wells Fargo to Umpqua and to open a savings account to hold funds in excess of 2 years operating expenses. Shaun will prepare the paperwork and ensure that Neil and Shaun are signatories.

ITEM 4:

President-Elect

Rich received 150 technical presentations and 36 posters. Of interest was a special session on underwater imagery. All technical presentations fit within session topics so there will be no contributed papers. Rich was also able to place students in appropriate session. Moderators are happy with the sequencing.

Workshops: 10 people are signed up for the telemetry workshop, 3 for invasives. 72 people signed for the tech sessions. Plans are progressing for the social etc. Items coming in for raffle/auction. Need for outreach to identify early registration deadline-send out shortly. Rich will send program to Shaun to distribute to NWFCC list.

Jeremiah was interested in space for committee breakout groups- for approx 25 folks. Jeremiah will contact Martyne to arrange space and food-It is possible that this could occur in the exhibit room at the business meeting.

Rich questioned whether there is a need to have assembly of past presidents? The concensus was that this would be useful to brief them on what issues will be addressed, particularly the idea of employing a lobbyist. Possibly meet wed afternoon (4:30-5:30) in advance of meeting.

No vendors signed up yet. Working on strategy for sponsorship.

ITEM 5:

Student Representative

Kristle has submitted a proposal for visiting Diamond Lake/Crater Lake. Three day trip to attend fish and wildlife presentations from ODFW. Estimate costs of ~\$2500 and the club would like \$1000 from ORAFS.

The trip is currently not publicized to other universities. There are some issues with inviting other colleges to join in trips (i.e. distance from OSU) and membership to club that need to be addressed so other folks can join.

Kristle will send an announcement to Neil for the Press
Vote passed to accept this proposal.

ITEM 6:

Internal Director

Annual Meeting Arrangements

Martyne will provide an update regarding the meeting arrangements.

Not present.

Awards and Scholarship Committees

There was considerable interest in the scholarships at all levels (due to value and promotion). Scott has assembled a committee to review proposals. Awards close tomorrow and applications have been sparse. This may be due to the lack of promotion on our website. Neil will investigate whether we need an extension.

ITEM 7:

Vice President Report

Shivonne has recruited a number of volunteers. There is a request for volunteers out at OSU and local universities. The call will also be published in the Piscatorial Press. OSU also has an internship class that will contribute a number of volunteers.

ITEM 8:

External Director Report

Participation in two new groups: ODFW's Fish Conservation group and the Conservation Leaders group (hosted by ODFW).

TWS is organizing a symposium on offshore wave energy (co-sponsored by ODFW). The meeting will take place in Lincoln city on February 10th and will discuss the likely impacts of offshore projects on fauna. TWS has a link on their website regarding the workshop and requested ORAFS post a link to the workshop on the ORAFS website (which we did). They would like sponsorship for the meeting. However, we don't have available funds and have no information regarding the topics that will be covered. We would like to work with them in the future on these kinds of issues (e.g. gas pipelines). Jeremiah will be attending the workshop and a proposal to sponsor his attendance was made and passed.

Jeremiah has recruited Jason Kent from Idaho to fill the education/outreach chair. Jason will be submitting something to Neil for piscatorial press outlining his plans. Rich suggested that Jason attend the education outreach session at the annual meeting and Jeremiah will contact him about this.

Jeremiah will take care of contacts page on website

ITEM 10:

Past-President

Proceedings for the Coastal Cutthroat Symposium have been printed and bound. The proceedings are available from PSMFC for \$20. ORAFS provided a loan to cover partial printing costs. The loan will be repaid by proceeds from the sales.

Doug requires nominations for VP, internal director, and president elect. Doug has proposed splitting the duties of the internal director position to encourage people to

apply. This proposal will be discussed at upcoming meetings. Neil will update statements for returning ExCom for the Piscatorial Press election announcement.