

Final Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society (ORAFS)
Eugene, Oregon
25 February 2010

Submitted by Shaun Clements

The meeting was called to order by Rich Grost at 1:30. A quorum of 57 members was present at the beginning of the meeting. Rich introduced Mary Buckman, the parliamentarian for the meeting (supported by Jim Hall).

Rich recognized the members of the Executive Committee (ExCom) for their work throughout the year and, particularly, for organizing another Annual Meeting. Several ExCom members are retiring over the coming year and Rich requested ExCom nominees for 2011. Rich also recognized Dave Marvin for organizing the PIT tag workshop. This was a resounding success, and the most well attended workshop in the history of the chapter. Next, Rich recognized the sponsors for their contributions to the meetings. Despite the economic climate ORAFS received more sponsorships than in the past. Kara Anlauf was recognized for her volunteer efforts maintaining the website and setting up the online abstract service. Rich introduced Allison Evans, the new newsletter editor (Neil is overjoyed). Allison has volunteered to take over responsibility for collecting and organizing content in the Piscatorial Press. Members are encouraged to submit feature stories to Alison to share with the rest of the membership. The Western Division AFS (WDAFS) was represented by Mary Buckman (Secretary/Treasurer). In addition, Bob Hughes (a long time ORAFS member) is campaigning for 2nd VP position of the national AFS organization.

Rich asked for corrections for the 2009 AM business meeting minutes. There were no corrections so the minutes were approved as is. Rich also called the members attention to the financial statement. The chapter currently has significant cash reserves because of the WDAFS meeting. Rich explained that these reserves are important for sustaining the chapter in the interim years between hosting the WDAFS meeting. Any members that would like to participate in an investment committee were encouraged to approach the ExCom.

Presidents report:

Annual meeting: The annual meeting is the biggest event on the OR chapter calendar. Rich questioned whether the members liked the meeting handbook. In general, most were happy with the format and content. One member questioned the need and cost of the glossy paper. Rich highlighted that the printing was sponsored so essentially cost the membership nothing. In addition, the glossy paper improved the readability of the text, given its small size.

Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp): The OR Chapter has followed the BiOp process closely and commented, via public letter to officials, on the Adaptive Management Implementation Plan (AMIP). However, given the issues involve several states, the Chapter decided to pass this to the WDAFS. The WDAFS subsequently conducted an in-depth review of the AMIP and produced a document (white paper) that is available on the WDAFS website. The white paper was timely and well received, and has since been quoted in several news articles.

Education and Outreach: One of the primary goals of ORAFS is the support of education. In 2009, ExCom supported the printing of 1,000 new stream continuum posters. Lin Howell has already distributed ~200 of these to schools throughout Oregon.

Other items sponsored by the chapter:

- Book on modeling salmon runs (Eric Knutson) \$500
- ORAFS support for the Oregon State University graduate-run symposium, Research Advances in Fisheries, Wildlife and Ecology: \$500
- International conference on Beavers in Canyonville, Oregon: \$500
- Western Division AFS meeting: \$750

Piscatorial Press: Rich and Neil Ward have attempted to improve the layout of the newsletter. Rich polled the members regarding the newsletter, website, and list-serve announcements. There was general agreement that all three were functioning adequately.

VP report: Shivonne Nesbit has been working on reformatting the student subunit to include graduate students and increase their visibility in fisheries throughout the state. The members were encouraged to provide input with respect to forming a student subunit. Shivonne also suggested that members engage the student volunteers at the meeting to show their appreciation.

Scholarships/Awards: Scott Heppell thanked the ExCom and membership for the opportunity to serve as chair of the Scholarship committee. Scott highlighted the fact that the awards should reward student's for their work and encourage them to continue along a path in fisheries. Scott also acknowledged the reviewers, David Noakes, Joseph Feldhaus, Charlie Corrarino, and (???) The award winners for 2010 were:

- AA award: Kevin Fox

- B.S. award: Justin Huff
- M.S. award: Ralph Lampman
- PhD award: Brooke Penaluna
- Carl Bond award: Brooke Penaluna

External Director Report: Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey introduced the 6 external committees and thanked them for the work over the past year. Jason Kent, the current Education and Outreach (E&O) Chair, will be moving into the Internal Director position in 2010. Karen Hans (ODFW) will be replacing Jason on the E&O committee. Steve Starceвич is open to letting someone else chair the Freshwater Habitat (FWH) Committee but still interested in serving on the committee. If anyone knows of someone interested in chairing the FWH Committee, please let Jeremiah know.. Jeremiah is also looking for members that are willing to participate on WDAFS and national AFS committees. Last, Jeremiah mentioned that ExCom was considering a late year workshop that may include educational credits for professional members.

Education outreach grants: Jason Kent (E&O Committee Chair) explained that in 2009 ExCom requested the E&O committee award \$20,000 to projects that have a long-term benefit to teach and inform Oregonians about the importance of fish and fish habitats. The committee distributed two Requests For Proposals (RFPs) and considered 39 proposals that were submitted in response to the RFPs. Jason thanked the committee for their time and efforts: Jeff Yanke, Karen Hans, K.C. Briggs, Linda Brown, Wendy Neal, Scott Favrot, Lin Howell, Shivonne Nesbit, and Judith Jensen.

The awards were administered to recipients located throughout the state: the Imnaha, John Day, Wallowa, Hood River, Klamath, Grande Ronde, and Clackamas River watersheds. The three 2009 grant recipients have completed their work and will be presenting the results at this (2010) annual meeting. These include:

- USFWS: Blue Mountains Fisheries/Watershed Project
- Wallowa Resources: Wallowa and Imnaha Rivers Watershed Evaluation Teams (WET) Program
- ODFW: Klamath Basin Fish Field Days for Middle School Students

In Feb 2010, the committee awarded the second round of grants to three recipients. The awards went to:

- Clackamas River Basin Council: Clackamas Basin Watershed Model \$2,537.52
- Indian Creek Stewards: Interpretive Signs for Indian Creek Restoration \$1,500
- North Fork John Day Watershed Council: Rancher's Guide to a Healthy Watershed \$2,162.48

Legislative Liaison update: Jeremiah introduced David Moskowitz of Confluence Consulting NW, the Chapter's legislative liaison. David thanked the Chapter for the opportunity to represent them in the legislature. He also commended the WDAFS for their white paper regarding the FCRPS BiOp. This document was well received among members of the legislature and is a perfect example of how the Chapter can influence decision making. David highlighted that these types of papers are the most effective tool for legislators as the Chapter is not able to respond as quickly to issues during the legislative sessions as they crop up. David also highlighted the 5 areas where he thought ORAFS may have the biggest impact on decisions in the upcoming years:

- Renewable energy: The development of renewable energy has a big effect on general funds and is being closely examined given the economic crunch. There is a rush for renewable energy sites but little review of these facilities and their potential effect on habitat.
- Riparian Management: In many instances, the counties are responsible for policing the management of these areas. There are currently no laws protecting the riparian zones.
- Current measure 66 (appropriation of lottery dollars for watershed funding) must be renewed by 2014. There is an effort to renew this in 2010. David suggested the chapter submit a ballot of support by November.
- Marine Reserves: The Legislature extended a ban on offshore drilling for another 10 yrs. The Chapter could provide input to support the science. Many people, including fishermen are concerned that the science is inadequate so are opposed to the places for reserves.
- Water Resources: The WR Department must develop a plan for an integrated resource management. A review of the plan by ORAFS would be very beneficial.

Western Division AFS Updates: Mary Buckman reiterated the process for producing the recent whitepaper. In addition, WDAFS is working on a review of the pebble mine in Alaska. The mine has the potential to influence fisheries in Bristol Bay. The resolution has gone to the National AFS for consideration. The Western Native Fishes Project has been a focus of the WDAFS and is nearly complete. Mary also recognized Henry Book for his help with investments and asked for any volunteers to help with the investments committee. Mary also mentioned that the WDAFS annual meeting is coming up. The deadline for abstracts is Mar 14. Last, members were encouraged to submit proposals for personal awards and for chapter of the year.

Election Results: Rich introduced the new president elect, Colleen Fagan. Shivonne Nesbit retains the VP position, Michele Weaver moves into the Secretary Treasurer role, Jason Kent will be the new Internal

Director and Jeremiah will remain in the External Director position. Rich and Demian will move into the Past President and President position.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:35