



American Fisheries Society

Oregon Chapter

Thursday June 9, 2016 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

ExCom Present: President- Ben Clemens, Past President- Troy Brandt, Vice President- Jeremy Romer, Internal Director- Gary Vonderohe, External Director- Cory Sipher, Treasurer- Tony Siniscal, Secretary- Katie Pierson

1503 Call to Order/Welcome Additional Agenda Items

- Ben asked if there were any additional agenda items; hearing no additions, Ben continued with the agenda.

1505 ExCom Updates

Treasurer – Tony Siniscal

- Treasurers Report
 - Accounts Update
 - Business Checking
 - May 04/30/2016 – \$77,276.50
Credits \$29,154.80
Debits \$64.80
05/31/2016 – \$106,366.50
 - Money Market
 - May 04/30/2016 – \$200,658.08
Monthly Interest Accrued - \$3.40
Interest since inception - \$21.26
05/31/2016 – \$200,661.48
 - AFS Portland Revenue – The remaining money (\$24,300) was deposited in the checking account in May and is reflected above. The funds were transferred to the savings account and this will be reflected in the June statement.
 - AFS Chapter Dues and Rebate Checks – The 2015 AFS member rebate check from AFS has been received and deposited (\$1,442.40, June statement). The 2015 Chapter dues check has yet to be received; it should be here soon.
 - The rebate is calculated as 3% of the AFS parent society dues for every Oregon residing AFS member. Tony incorporates the dues and rebate into the previous year's accounts because it was money that was accrued in the previous fiscal year.
 - Action Item: Send edits to Tony and we will vote on these minutes at the next ExCom conference call in July.
- Spring retreat minutes
- Kansas City, AFS

- Been asked for interest in a designee to attend the National AFS meeting in his stead. Tony will be the representative from ORAFS. Representatives should try to attend the Governing Board meeting (on the Saturday before the conference week), and the Business meeting.

Secretary – Katie Pierson

- May meeting minutes
 - Tony made a motion to approve minutes, Cory seconded; there was no discussion; the motion passed unanimously.
- Outstanding action items list
 - **Gary will draft a “legacy document” that outlines when/why/how a scholarship/grant/award was created and how long it is expected to continue and will update the information on the website.**
 - **Troy will draft an announcement for the Piscatorial Press outlining the new financial plan once adopted.**
 - **Troy will work towards finalizing the Hatchery:Wild white paper by the end of the Fiscal Year.**
 - **Gary will work to finalize the Annual Meeting Planning Handbook; ExCom should provide assistance where needed.**
 - **Ben will contact Laura Tesler to see if she is still interested in being our TWS liaison.**
 - **Ben did contact and they will have a conference call tomorrow (June 10, 2016).**
 - **The location for the 2018 Annual Meeting needs to be determined and arrangements made.**
 - **See Internal Director Update below.**
 - **Action Items: Cory, with help from Ben, Troy, Haley, will put together a scope of work for the liaison, RFP, come back to ExCom in 1 to 2 months with the results. Draft will be done before next conference call. Use Sue Marshall’s RFP.**
 - **In progress: See External Director Update below.**
 - **Action Item: Ben needs to identify dates for outline and draft of Pesticides white paper and get that information to Shivonne and Cory.**
 - **Action Item: Jeremy will contact Steve Kucas to see if he is interested in being the mentor list steward**
 - **Action items: Get information to Troy June 7th – plug for annual meeting, workshops**
- Katie will send the list of action items to everyone before the conference calls.
- Amazon Smile
 - ExCom decided unanimously that joining Amazon Smile would not be a worth-while investment. The time investment involved in set-up and processing isn’t worth the \$10-20 a year that we may get.

President – Ben Clemens

- Pesticides white paper blurb with projected dates for outline & draft
 - Ben wants to talk to Shivonne and Cory about a narrower focus for this white paper, as well as, who to assemble to work on the paper and what the deadlines for an outline and final product should be.
- Human Diversity and Education & Outreach committees
 - The new Human Diversity committee will be chaired by Gabe Sheoships. Ben has been working with Gabe on the focus and mission of that committee.

- The Education & Outreach Committee has been tasked with creating a reference document for ethics and use of media (“Ethics of Information, Media, and Intellectual Property Use”). Ben has reached out to Ryan Battleson (new Education & Outreach Committee chair) and set up a conference call.
- Ben reminded the ExCom to limit the volume of emails to the ExCom.
- Ben and Tony have been playing phone tag with our Bank of America Representative, who will be able to help with the transfer of signer authority for the OR AFS bank account from Past President to President.

Past-President – Troy Brandt

- Piscatorial Press (PP) update
 - We are looking for someone to take over the editor position of the Piscatorial Press from Allison Evans. Organization and formatting are done using Publisher.
 - Action Item: Troy will explicitly ask Allison how much of a time commitment preparing the PP is. ExCom brainstormed some people who we could ask to be the editor.
 - Spring PP update
 - The Spring PP should be out this week.
 - Summer PP update
 - Troy will take over pulling together the summer PP, which will follow the format of last season’s newsletter.
- Legislative Liaison discussion
 - Cory dug up the request for proposal (RFP) from when Sue Marshall was the legislative liaison. Troy cautioned that if we are going to pay someone to represent the chapter we need to be ready to respond to the liaison. To be effective, we need to be more involved by having a few people who can respond quickly to the liaison.
 - Troy has an expectation that committee chairs will be involved and keyed into the legislative session. Cory concurred; this level of involvement needs to be recommended to the committee chairs and incorporated into the formal work plans that they are creating right now. Alerting the committee chairs to the timelines of liaison needs is also important. All the committees need to be working with each other; they don’t have to go through ExCom.
 - Since Troy is already acting as a co-chair and has an interest, Ben asked Troy to co-chair the legislative committee with Haley Blake and they will work on rounding out that committee with members.
 - Having a legislative liaison is very important to the Western Division of AFS, with that component being applauded in our application for Outstanding Chapter Award. To avoid the gray area between liaison and lobbyist (which happened last year with Eric, although he did not submit any paperwork for lobbying), we need to have a clear vision of what we want. We want to know what bills are coming down the line so that we can be proactive. We also want to ask for things that we will follow through with.
 - Action Item: Cory has a Draft version of the RFP, which includes a scope of work for the potential liaison. ExCom will review in the coming month.
- Financial Sustainability Plan

- Tony and Troy have been continuing to refine the Financial Sustainability document. ExCom will have a final document before the July conference call and will vote to authorize moving savings into the Charles Schwab account. One option is to put that money into Certificates of Deposit (CDs) and wait for the market to correct before investing.
- AFS – Investment Committee; Membership Committee
 - Investment Committee: Dan Cassidy (AFS Deputy Executive Director), Tony Siniscal, Troy Brandt and Desmond Kahn (AFS member) make up the investment committee. The Investment Committee recently completed a request for proposal process for an investment advisor. After reviewing four firms over a several month period, the Investment Committee selected AXA Advisors, the incumbent firm.
 - Membership Committee: Troy is working with Jim Bowker and Brian Missildine of the Membership Committee to make some changes, specifically on changing the “affiliate” level (which means you are a member of the state chapter but not of the parent society, therefore your chapter does not get a rebate on your membership). At this “affiliate” level, people can pay a small fee to become chapter members but they are not AFS members, the issue being that they incorrectly refer to themselves as AFS members or do not understand that they are not AFS members. ORAFS has no affiliate members and is one of three chapters that does not allow affiliate membership.
- H/W paper
 - Troy and Ben will talk next week about the future of the paper.
- Corvallis-OSU 2018 meeting venue update
 - See Internal Director Update.

President-Elect – Shivonne Nesbit

- No items to report

Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe

- 2018 Annual Meeting venue options
 - Troy asked for another update with more break out costs for Corvallis Conference Center but has not heard back.
 - First question: Do we want to keep the meeting on the normal schedule (February or early March)?
 - Ben suggested that we should adapt to the venues and not worry about staying on the regular calendar dates. We just need to make sure to avoid spring break which is the week of March 19th, 2018.
 - Second question: Where?
 - Ben advocated that Eugene lines up the best, Tony agreed. Salem has a housing issue (1 hotel near the convention center which only has 190 rooms). The Hotel is not associated with the venue in Salem. We benefit greatly when the hotel is associated (such as in Eugene). Ben brought up that Salem has more room for vendors, Eugene has space for 10 vendors. Tony has the invoice from 2014 that lines out all the food items in Eugene. Gary says that all the food prices are really similar. We are going to spend \$30,000 on food, no problem.

- If not concurrent with spring break Tony moves to go back to Eugene for 2018, Katie seconds. Gary will lock in Eugene by next Friday, June 17th.
 - Action Item: Gary will negotiate tapping and corkage fees once the 2018 venue is on contract.
- Annual meeting handbook
 - Gary incorporated business meeting material into an appendix and Shivonne's edits.
 - Action Item: Gary is still waiting to talk to Jason Seals about legacy document and annual meeting handbook. Gary will touch base with Jason next week.

Vice President – Jeremy Romer

- Mentor list/Steve Kucas
 - When Jeremy talked to Steve he reiterated that the “Fisheries facilitators” is not a mentor program (defined as a long term fostering program). Steve wants a quick exchange of information from those who can lend advice to young professionals. Jeremy and Steve came up with a short list of questions that might be asked. Steve agreed that he will be the data steward for this project; we will get him an ORAFS email account.
 - Will want to include recruitment request for “facilitators” in the summer Piscatorial Press. We will want to collect information from the “facilitators” such as, contact, agency, three major focus areas, title, where they are located. We will make a list of options for what each “facilitator’s” specialty is. Ben recommended working with Justin and Jacob to recruit students for “mentorship”.
 - Action Item: Jeremy will write a letter of recruitment for “facilitators”.
 - What should it be called? Action item: Pitch alternate names for this group to Jeremy.
 - Action Item: Contact Lora to get an official ORAFS e-mail address for Steve Kucas regarding this project.
- Jeremy emailed the new OSU student subunit liaison’s (Jacob Peterson) contact info to ExCom.

Student Representative – Jacob Peterson

- Not present.

External Director – Cory Sipher

- Legislative liaison updates and discussion
 - RFP updates are being completed. See discussion under Past President.
 - Action Item: Cory will send out the 3 page RFP to ExCom and incorporate comments.
- Update on meeting with ad-hoc Human Diversity in Fisheries and Education & Outreach committees
 - Ben, Cory, Ryan and Gabe will have a conference call to discuss what the direction and needs of those two committees are.
- Frank Moore Steelhead Sanctuary
 - This is an area in the Steamboat Creek drainage of the North Umpqua River where backcountry hunters and anglers are petitioning to support this new designation.

- Action Item: Cory will provide more information to the ExCom before the next conference call and we can discuss whether it is something we want to have our name attached to or write a letter of support. Cory will include Haley on the updates.

Action Item: Katie will remove watermark from May's notes, save as a PDF, and send to Lora for posting on the website.

Action item: Katie will send action items with additions from the spring retreat to all ExCom prior to the next conference call.

1628 Call for Adjourned by motion and vote.

Next conference call: July 14, 2016