



American Fisheries Society

Oregon Chapter

Conference Call Number: (641)715-0700 Participant Code 942535#
Thursday, September 14, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

TO: ORAFS Executive Committee

FROM: Josie Thompson, Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes from ORAFS Executive Committee Teleconference, Thursday, September 10, 2017: 1500-1700

In attendance: Ben Clemens – Past President, Shivonne Nesbit - President, Kris Homel - President-Elect, Shannon Richardson - Vice President, Katie Pierson – Treasurer, Josie Thompson – Secretary, Kevin Stertz – Internal Director, Dan Bingham – External Director, Brooke Schlipf- OSU Student Subunit Representative

15:03 Call to Order/Welcome Additional Agenda Items/Establish a Quorum

President – Shivonne Nesbit

- ExCom Communications, Asana Project Management, Fisheries Advocacy Journal
 - There were not any topics to discuss regarding inter-ExCom Communications.
 - Shivonne has not had a chance to test-drive the Asana Project Management software.
 - Fisheries Advocacy article – This will be a great topic for discussion during the upcoming retreat.

- Tampa AFS National Meeting Debrief
 - 1600 people were in attendance, and the meeting included a well-rounded variety of talks and networking events.
 - Shivonne co-convoked a diversity session and the conveners will be putting together a special edition based on the session for the Fisheries Journal.
 - Steve McMullen, current National AFS President, said some words at the beginning of the Diversity and Inclusion session and will assist with the special edition.
 - Shivonne attended a lot of policy talks, some of which discussed the appropriate level of advocacy for us to aspire to as a professional society.
 - Shivonne received our Outstanding Chapter award at the meeting.

- WDAFS Call Update
 - Brian Missildine (Current WD President) gave an update at the AFS Governing Board meeting. It is usually Saturday before National meeting, but Shivonne didn't attend because no detailed information was received even after requesting it. The need to invite all Chapter Presidents, etc. to this meeting has been discussed and will be done for future Governing Board Meetings.

- Membership dues are going to be increasing this next year. However, AFS will be working with a different publications service very soon, and this will make it possible to give AFS members complete access to all AFS journals.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Josie will announce this to our members once it becomes official.**
 - The Fiscal Management Committee had an update about finances: WDAFS is currently spending more money than they are bringing in. This has been happening since the National Meeting in Portland, and the committee is looking into ways to stop this trend.
 - The Unit Leaders meeting in Tampa was meant to include all Committee Presidents and Chapter Presidents. It was scheduled at same time at the Diversity and Inclusion session so Shivonne could not attend, but they will hold a similar meeting at the National meeting in Atlantic City next year. It is important to note because it is one of the ways in which they are trying to improve communications between and among the chapters, divisions, and National AFS.
 - The Western Division “Tributaries” newsletter is looking for a new editor.
 - A new WD Student Representative has been elected: Britta Baechler. Shivonne has plans to meet her soon.
- Communications Ad Hoc Team Update
 - Jim Yeo is going to lead this team. Jim has sent an email out to those who have expressed interest in being on the team for the purpose of scheduling the first committee meeting.
 - Piscatorial Press Reminder
 - Content due to Natalie on Sept 15th.
 - Website Security – Update Webmaster
 - Thank you to members who have noticed a message alert saying that the page has been compromised, and reported this to ExCom.
 - Retreat agenda
 - The Fall retreat should be focused on the Annual Meeting (AM) and AM planning. None of the business from monthly ExCom calls will be discussed.
 - Kris and Shivonne are going to work together on the agenda. Shivonne will start by sending a rough draft to Kris, and both will take suggestions about specific topics to add. Ben didn’t have any suggestions for this agenda other than to look at fall retreat agendas from year’s past.

Past-President- Ben Clemens

- ExCom Recruiting for 2018-19
 - Ben is waiting to hear back from just one current ExCom member about whether s/he is interested in running again next year.
 - Ben has heard from ORAFS members who are interested in the following positions: President, External Director.
- Reviews and Edits of Annual Meeting Planning Handbook and the Administration Handbook
 - Over the last couple of years Ben has seen that each new ExCom members who reviews these documents brings a fresh perspective, and provides useful comments.

- Kevin commented he would like to go through the full meeting planning process before doing a review as he believes that he can review it more thoroughly at that point.
- Shivonne suggested that everyone look at the AM Planning Handbook prior to our retreat next week. But it is also good to continually look back over the sections for which one is responsible, and make sure that the content remains relevant and accurate.
- To conclude Ben suggests reviewing them over the next several months.
 - ACTION ITEM: ALL – Look over the Annual Meeting Planning Handbook and the Administration Handbook over the next few months and provide final edits and comments by May.

Treasurer – Katie Pierson

- Treasurers Report

- Accounts Update

- Business Checking

August Balance: 08/01/2017	\$55,442.72
Credits*	\$1,772.80
Transfers	\$0
Debits	-\$0
Checks**	-\$2,500.00
Ending Balance: 08/31/2017	\$54,715.52

*Credits from Bull Trout workshop and money coming in for the Jerry Bouck Scholarship fund.

** Checks for Legislative Liaison Payment and the Tampa Meeting’s Diversity Committee request.

- Investments **Will be updated quarterly

1. WDAFS Endowment Fund – Oregon Chapter fund

Balance 05/31/2017	\$19,087.91
5-Month Gain/Loss	+\$1,079.09 (+5.7%)

2. Charles Schwab ORAFS Investment Account

Balance 07/12/2017	\$328,641.88
Transfers	\$0
Lifetime Gain/loss	+19,639.39 (8.75%)
Equities/ETFs/Bonds	\$244,035.26
Cash & Cash Invested	\$84,606.62

- Jerry Bouck Memorial Scholarship Update

- Katie and Christine Moffitt recently spoke with Jerry’s son about developing an ad-hoc committee to administer the scholarship (and create a roadmap for other families that would like to do this in the future). The family is supportive.
- ORAFS has been receiving a check for the scholarship fund nearly every week and we have received around \$7,000 at this point. The money is coming from donations solicited by the family.
- The Bouck family would like to do more fundraising before awarding the first scholarship in order to make it more like an endowment, and plan to award the first one in 2019.

- The Bouck family would also like it to be something like a travel award for Oregon meetings rather than just a scholarship given out at the annual meeting, and also open eligibility up to a larger community, possibly nationwide.
 - Shivonne thanked Katie and others (Tony Siniscal and Christine Moffitt) for working with the Bouck family to develop this process.
 - Shivonne suggested building a website for the scholarship with photos of Jerry and specific information about Jerry's career, who the scholarship will be awarded to, and how they will be selected. Katie said that there is a description that goes along with the "Contribute" button on our website.
- Marine Habitat Committee Call Update
 - Katie had a conference call with the Marine Habitat Committee last week as both a member of the Committee and ExCom. It is a small group but they have been becoming more active as a Chapter Committee lately, especially since they have received more communication from ExCom, which is a good reminder on the importance of reaching out to our Chapter Committees.
 - Unfortunately, the Chapter was not able to secure a booth at the upcoming (Oregon) State of the Coast Conference in Florence. Katie is still planning on being there and handing out fliers about ORAFS and the 2018 Eugene meeting.
 - The Marine Habitat Committee has committed to convening two integrated sessions at the Eugene AM:
 - Session 1: The newest NOAA climate change assessment for the most climate sensitive species and ecosystems, to be followed by a panel discussion.
 - Session 2: Catch and release mortality studies. This area of research, and barotrauma studies have been ongoing in the Oregon marine world for at least 15 years. It seems possible that freshwater fisheries scientists and managers could apply some of this work to inland fisheries.
- Financial Stability Committee (FSC) Disbursement strategy
 - Our Investment has made a lot of money since its inception, and there are plans to put it towards causes that benefit our members, future fishery professionals, etc..
 - The FSC is responsible for making the decisions on how much we are able to give from this fund, and how often, while also maintaining financial stability for the Chapter well into the future.
 - The next FSC Conference Call during which they will where they will have this discussion will be coming up and will go onto the Google calendar.
 - We have already used \$4,000 for the Hutton Scholarship.
 - Shivonne suggested that in the event that ExCom does receive some funding from the account soon, that we look back to the work plan and review our goals for the year.

Vice President – Shannon Richardson

- Mount Hood Community College (MHCC) – Student Subunit Discussion
 - Shivonne, Katie and Shannon recently met (by phone) with Ryan Couture, Fish Culture Committee Chair; MHCC student Anthony Pedro, who started the MHCC student group; and

faculty member Todd Hanna, presumptive faculty advisor along with Marla Chaney (not on the call) about formalizing into a new subunit.

- The MHCC already has an existing student-run club similar to a subunit and they are ready to go through our administrative process for becoming a formal Chapter Student Subunit.
 - The next step will be for the group to put together a petition, and ExCom is ready to provide any support that we can.
 - The club already has bylaws and an officer structure that follows the AFS model, and so have moved through many of the seven steps for becoming a subunit.
 - If the MHCC group is to become a subunit, it will be the first 2-year college subunit recorded.
- Met with OSU FISH AND WILDLIFE CLUB
 - Shannon reported that it was very rewarding to sit down with their leadership team, and go over their new action plans. She was impressed with their level of organization and detail in terms of planning group activities/field trips/outings for the year, as well as their thoughts about what it means to have another Student Subunit coming aboard in Oregon.
 - At their November 1st meeting, Julia Burco (ODFW) and Shannon will be talking to the Subunit about how to participate in a professional society.
 - Kris asked if the OSU-Cascades campus has expressed any interest in forming a subunit since they have a pretty big fisheries program. Shivonne has some information about that that she will share with Shannon.
 - Inviting Anthony Pedro (Soon-to-Be New MHCC Student Representative) to ExCom's Upcoming Fall Retreat
 - All ExCom members were supportive of this proposal put forward by Shannon and Katie.
 - Shannon will reach out to Anthony and invite him.
 - Bob Danehy (Chapter member) and ORAFS Engagement in the Oregon Forest Practices Act revisions, specifically riparian buffers and pesticide regulations
 - Shannon has not heard back from Bob.
 - It was acknowledged that a new revision process for the Act concluded in the spring.
 - Dan has reached out to past and present Freshwater Committee Chairs about this subject.
 - Career Counseling Discussion with Matt Falcy
 - Shannon is looking into the possibility of building an ESA-style mentor program:
<http://esa.org/seeds/annual-meeting/esa-annual-meeting-seeds-mentor-sign-up/>
 - Shannon has been discussing the potential for our own program with Matt Falcy (ODFW) and is scheduled to meet with Matt again on Tuesday morning, the 19th.

Student Representative – Brooke Schlipf

- Proposed Bylaw Changes
 - Brooke and the Subunit team are finishing up their proposed edits to the Subunit Bylaws. A draft will be sent out to ExCom for editing soon.
- Subunit Activities Update

- Events scheduled for the beginning of school include an ice cream social and setting up a booth at the upcoming Beaver Fair. At the fair they will be recruiting new students to the subunit and its subcommittees. It is important to try and get people involved early on in the school year.
- OSU Subunit Budget Proposal Process
 - Brooke asked if this process will change (i.e. dates, format) as the MHCC Subunit is approved and comes on board.
 - Katie said that we haven't talked about it, but is an important discussion. She hopes to have a better idea of how it will work with two subunits soon.
- WDAFS Colloquium – McCall, ID
 - Brooke isn't 100% sure she can attend until she gets her class schedules, but hopes she can.
 - Brooke asked if there is a form or formal process for her to work through for funding assistance.
 - Shivonne noted that registration, lodging and meals is all free for students. Travel is not.
 - We used to have a line item in our budget to assist with this meeting.
 - The ExCom has already discussed plans to support helping Brooke get there, but there has not yet been a formal vote.
 - Katie said that we can vote on it once Brooke knows what her travel costs will be, and that the money will come out of the scholarship fund.
 - Katie moved that ExCom sponsors Brooke's travel to the WD Student Colloquium.
 - Shannon seconded.
 - There was discussion about putting a limit on the amount we agree to provide, and then it was decided that ExCom could vote on this at the upcoming retreat.
 - Katie retracted her motion.

Internal Director – Kevin Stertz

- Retreat Logistics
 - Kevin made sure that everyone got his email with retreat weekend details, and went over parking, meal-planning, and check-in/check-out procedures.
 - Katie made a note of the amount budgeted for the retreat and how much has been spent to-date (\$2500 and we have spent \$1500 including deposit).
 - Kevin agreed to confirm details about the last inventory that was done on "swag" (i.e. chapter t-shirts etc.). The numbers will be important to have for AM planning discussions at the retreat.

External Director – Dan Bingham

- Legislative Liaison - Next Contract Discussion
 - Shivonne confirmed that sharing the cost of hiring a legislative liaison for the next year with The Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society will not be possible.

- Dan and Shivonne will have a discussion with Erik about his contract renewal before the next monthly ExCom meeting (October) and will update us then.
- Committee Updates
 - Dan thanked Katie for connecting with the Marine Habitat Committee (as summarized above).
 - The Native Fish Committee's annual workshop went very well.
 - ACTION ITEM – Dan will update the affiliations of the new Committee Chairs on the website.
 - Ben asked about whether we were going to continue awarding travel scholarships for K-12 teachers to attend our annual meeting this year, and if Dan had discussed this with the Education Committee.
 - ACTION ITEM – Dan will discuss the K-12 Teacher Travel Scholarships with the Education Committee.

President-Elect – Kris Homel

- Google Calendar for all Chapter-associated meetings
 - Kris confirmed whether everyone has tried to access this calendar.
 - Kevin still hasn't received an invite, but may have provided the wrong email address.
 - ACTION ITEM – Kris will send Kevin another invite.
- First Annual Meeting Planning Team Call – Sept 20th, 3:30-5pm
 - Kris reminded everyone about the call and the call-in number.
 - The meeting planning spreadsheet (Google Drive) has been shared. It is a work-in-progress based off the AM Planning Handbook timelines. Kris will be adding sessions and speakers etc. as these are confirmed. All are welcome to use it and enter comments.

Secretary – Josie Thompson

- Vote to Approve July ExCom Monthly Meeting Minutes
 - Josie motioned to approve the July meeting minutes.
 - Katie seconded to approve July minutes.
 - No discussion.
 - Motion passed unanimously.
- Vote to Approve August ExCom Monthly Meeting Minutes
 - Josie motioned to approve the August meeting minutes.
 - Ben seconded to approve August minutes.
 - No discussion.
 - Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 14:45

Next conference call: October **12, 2017**

