



American Fisheries Society

Oregon Chapter

TO: ORAFS Executive Committee

FROM: Katie Pierson, Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes from ORAFS Executive Committee Teleconference, Thursday December 8, 2016 1500–1700

In attendance: President-elect – Shivonne Nesbit, President – Ben Clemens, Past President – Troy Brandt, Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe, External Director – Cory Sipher, Secretary – Katie Pierson, Treasurer – Tony Siniscal, Student Subunit Representative – Jacob Peterson, ORTWS liaison—Laura Tesler, Piscatorial Press Editor – Natalie Scheibel

1505 Call to Order/Welcome Additional Agenda Items

- Ben asked if there were any additional agenda items; Tony would like to add a discussion about the electronic election for the 2017-2018 Executive Committee, with that addition, Ben continued with the agenda.

Secretary – Katie Pierson

- Fall retreat and November meeting minutes
 - Everyone on ExCom has not had a chance to edit and review the Fall Retreat and November minutes, so we will vote on them via email on December 16th.
 - Using Google Drive was discussed as a way of people keeping track of who has edited the minutes. However, due to formatting issues and limitations on who can access Google drive, ExCom decided against using Google drive for editing meeting minutes.

Student Representative – Jacob Peterson

- Student subunit updates
 - Meetings have been low in attendance, so some October meetings were cancelled. When meetings were held there was good participation. In the past month, the club has had a successful field trip to Morgan Creek, a presentation from Trout Unlimited, and a presentation from Ben and Jeremy about ORAFS.
 - Ben asked Jacob whether there was any feedback from their presentation. Jacob discussed that there was a lot of information presented, and he believes that the group benefited from it. Maybe in the future the information can be spread over a few sessions. In the future, they would like ORAFS ExCom members (whomever presents) to stay after to be able to answer specific student questions. Ben indicated that he and Jeremy did stay after to answer questions, and welcomed and addressed questions during the presentation as well.
 - Club surveyed the OSU fisheries undergrads to gauge interest in attending the ORAFS annual meeting. Five students are planning on going to ORAFS, 12 students are interested in volunteering at the Annual meeting.
- Subunit Membership stats: 32 members (including the 9 leadership team members), 21 are AFS members.

- We are going to schedule a half hour conference call with Subunit leadership team and ExCom, where student leadership prepares questions for ExCom.
 - Action Item: Jacob will send a Doodle poll to subunit leadership and all of ExCom for a half hour ExCom Question and Answer session.

Vice President – Jeremy Romer (not present, Ben led discussion)

- SWAG
 - Jeremy inventoried the apparel stock at Salem ODFW HQ, and determined we need to make an apparel order (\$1,700 in budget).
- Auction/Raffle
 - Secured the Liquor Permit for the Auction/Raffle 2017.
 - Procured several donations and is still working on more Auction/Raffle items.
 - Picked up the prints to be framed from the AFS stockpile in Salem, dropped them off with matting/framing guy.
- Student Volunteers
 - Housing for volunteers is covered by OSU (2 rooms) and an anonymous donor, as well as, by ORAFS (6 rooms).
 - College contacts list has 50 people and is currently on the google drive.
 - Jeremy has spoken to Kyle Norton the CalNeva student subunit president. She is working on getting 5 people to carpool from Humbolt.
- Student outreach
 - Presented to OSU Orientation to Fish and Wildlife Class on Nov 22nd.
 - Presented to OSU F&W club with Ben on Nov 16th.
 - Sent the outstanding student subunit application from North Carolina State (from Katie) to the faculty advisor (Scarlett Arbuckle) for the OSU subunit to give them ideas. This application has also been uploaded to the VP folder on the Google drive.
- Should we initiate a protocol for submitting requests for hardship donations?
 - In the future, how do we deal with hardship donation requests with equality? We receive hardship requests every year, and are currently in a financial position to donate, but might not be in the future. Hardship requests could fall under a discretionary line item in the President's budget (we would need to include this as a line item in the budget next year).
 - We will table this discussion until January. Suggested ways to be objective; have a designated amount of money per donation, or perhaps a set amount that we will donate each year.

New Newsletter Editor – Natalie Scheibel

- Natalie recently joined Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as the Chum Salmon Reintroduction Assistant Project Leader based in Astoria, OR. She has been involved in AFS for a while at SUNY ESF and the Dakota Chapter and is glad to help our Oregon Chapter. She has been helping Shivonne with program planning for the Annual Meeting in 2017. She has a great vision and is excited to take over as Newsletter editor.
- Winter Piscatorial Press will include:
 - Historian report, candidate profiles, schedule at a glance
 - Important dates: Sponsorship deadline (for recognition in the program) is January 27, 2017, room block deadline at the Riverhouse is February 3, 2017 and the room block deadline at the Shilo Inn is February 10, 2017.

- Abstract deadline
 - For 4 concurrent sessions you need about 180 talks.
 - We don't want to extend the deadline for a week, we already know that we have a lot of solicited talks coming in. In the past, there were only about 20 talks that came in once we extended the deadline. Extending the deadline is a tool we can use to round out a program, if need be.
 - Gary has asked Riverhouse about adding another room for an additional concurrent session at the Riverhouse if we have too many abstracts.

Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe

- Federal Columbia River Power System letter status
 - Deadline to provide comments is January 17th. ExCom was interested in moving forward but nobody could dedicate the time required to make it happen. Gary reached out to a contact from ODFW Columbia River Investigations. They could provide information that ExCom could use to update the last letter. Gary will gather information and figure out whether he can update the letter in time.
- The question came up whether the Conservationist of the Year award information (Native Fish Committee) had been added to the legacy document on the Google drive. The answer is yes.

External Director – Cory Sipher

- Marine Reserves joint position paper with the Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society (ORTWS)
 - Marine and Habitat Committee Chair, Michael Harte edited the marine reserve position paper to address the informal comments that were made by the ODFW Marine Reserves team after the Marine Reserves paper was sent to the ORAFS news list serv. ORTWS was unsure whether they would have to vet the new draft through their channels. ExCom wants ORTWS approval prior to posting on orafs.org.
 - There were a lot of formatting issues and some differences in language with the paper once Michael gave us the clean version, and we are investigating why that happened and if other changes were made to the paper beyond addressing comments from the ODFW Marine Reserves Team.
 - Action Item: Cory will send Tony both versions to see if there are differences other than what we knew were being changed.
 - In the meantime, the most recent version has been shared back with the ORTWS representatives.
 - Todd Mabbee (Conservation Affairs Director) is the main ORTWS contact for the Marine Reserves paper so we are awaiting his feedback before moving forward.
- Erik Kancler and Legislative Committee overview
 - They had their second monthly call and discussed the potential for a legislative session at the annual meeting.
 - This session would focus on science and policy intersection (Friday morning). Erik would like to structure it more as an open working session with an overview of legislative process, and how our input can influence the process. Troy and Haley Lutz will talk about position papers that we have completed and how they have impacted the legislature.
 - Erik is curious to see what the level of investment in natural resources is from the governor; compromises will be critical to watch this session.

- Haley came up with a timeline for input turnaround before the legislative session (for all subjects that Erik indicates need information).
- Status of Diversity Scholarships ***(existing and incoming)***
 - Cory is working with Gabe Sheoships of the Human Diversity Committee and used the framework from a Portland State University diversity scholarship. Cory will work with Gabe to get the draft of the criteria to ExCom next week, for a January 1st advertisement.
 - We just received an additional \$2,000 to continue this award in 2018. We can refine the criteria over time and work with what we have right now to make sure people have a chance to register for the early registration deadline.
 - Other possible scholarships to draw criteria from: Hutton scholarships for high school students
 - ORAFS could also revisit the idea at a later date of sponsoring Hutton scholars to attend the meeting.
- Status of education scholarships (communication with Ryan Battleson)
 - Education scholarship information was updated and send out to potential recipients.

President-Elect – Shivonne Nesbit

- Holiday gift, giving to AFS
 - The Alaska chapter had this idea to send an email out to their membership with end-of-the year giving options (amazon smile, gifting a membership, donation, swag). Shivonne will forward to ExCom, to gage interest in doing something similar next year.

Past-President – Troy Brandt

- Suction Dredge Mining White Paper Update
 - This white paper is moving forward, need to update it to include Bull Trout and mollusk information.
- H/W paper update.
 - Troy is working on incorporating two sets of edits.
- Electronic polling
 - E-ballots have been working out great. The number of votes received with the e-ballot method has been much higher than the traditional method of paper voting at the meeting. Participation has been over 100 members.
 - Troy is still working on recruiting for next year’s ExCom but will have candidate’s profiles in the upcoming newsletter.

Treasurer – Tony Siniscal

- Treasurers Report
 - Accounts Update
 - Business Checking
 - November

10/31/2016	\$83,523.15
Credits	\$5,010.99
Transfers	\$24,970.57.00
Debits	-\$3,283.00
11/30/2016	\$110,221.71
 - Money Market

communications forum and a unit leader newsletter. We should be proud that the Oregon Chapter's Financial Sustainability Policy is being used by AFS as a model.

1701 Call for Adjournment

Next conference call: **Thursday, January 12, 2017**