



# American Fisheries Society

## Oregon Chapter

TO: ORAFS Executive Committee

FROM: Katie Pierson, Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes from ORAFS Executive Committee Teleconference, Thursday, February 9, 2017 1500-1700

In attendance: President – Ben Clemens, Past President – Troy Brandt, Vice President – Jeremy Romer, Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe, External Director – Cory Sipher, Secretary – Katie Pierson, Treasurer – Tony Siniscal, Student Subunit Representative – Jacob Peterson, Candidates for Student Representative – Brooke Schlipf, Rachel Lertora, OSU Student Advisor – Scarlett Arbuckle, OSU Fisheries and Wildlife Society Leadership Team – Ceira Edison, Becky Friday and Alvaro Cortes

### **1503 Call to Order/Welcome Additional Agenda Items**

- Ben asked if there were any additional agenda items; Cory would like to discuss the Native Fish Conservationist of the year Award, with that addition, Ben continued with the agenda.

### **Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe**

- The 2017 ExCom spring retreat will be held in Hood River, OR from April 7-9. Expected attendance with existing and new ExCom is 14 people.
- ORAFS meeting venue for 2018 will be the Eugene Hilton in March 13-16th.
- **Action Item: We will discuss the ORAFS meeting venue for 2019 at the Spring Retreat.**
- Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Environmental Impact Statement Update
  - ORAFS will not write a letter due to time constraints and the knowledge that there will be future opportunities for comment. The Natural Production and Habitat Committee could be tasked with following up on this opportunity to provide comments. Cory has sent an email to the Natural Production and Habitat Committee chairs to make sure that they comment on the FCRPS Environmental Impact Statement will be in their work plan.

### **Past-President – Troy Brandt**

- Awards and plaques to be awarded during the 2017 annual meeting are in development at the engraver.
- Legislative Committee briefing
  - ORAFS developed the third in the series of Suction Dredge Mining white papers which was submitted to the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources this Monday. Troy also provided an oral testimonial to the Senate Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources in favor of Senate Bill 3 (Modifies area where moratorium on mining using motorized equipment applies). Senate Bill 3 will have additional amendments, so ExCom will coordinate with our legislative liaison for future needs.
- Native Fish Conservationist of the Year award has lost its sponsorship, so ORAFS paid the immediate bill (\$350). Tony set up a PayPal account so that the Native Fish Committee

membership can self-fund the award (at least for this year). This is a solution for this year, but for next year Jim Capurso will continue to seek sponsorship elsewhere for this award.

- Ryan Battleson is updating the ORAFS brochure.

### **External Director – Cory Sipher**

- Status of Marine Reserves joint position paper with Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society (ORTWS)
  - Cory sent the cleanest version of the position paper with updates to ExCom. Katie made a motion to approve the Marine Reserves joint position paper, Gary seconded; there were no objections; the motion passes unanimously. The joint paper will be sent to ORTWS and ORAFS will upload to our website.
  - Action Item: Cory will coordinate with webmaster Lora Tennant to upload the white paper to the ORAFS website.
- Status of Human Diversity Scholarships (existing and incoming)
  - The Human Diversity committee will set up a sub-committee to review and rank the five applications. This group will seek advice on ranking from Scott Heppell (Scholarship Committee Chair).
  - Timeline: This committee will rank the applicants and make a recommendation to ExCom by the second week in March.
- Status of education scholarships (communication with Ryan Battleson, Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee)
  - We now have extended the deadline for the Education Materials and Education Participation grant (formerly two separate grants) that can be awarded for up to \$2,000 total.
  - The two teacher travel grants have been distributed (\$500 each).

### **Vice President – Jeremy Romer**

- The artwork for the auction/raffle is currently being framed.
- Apparel order will be done and ready for pick-up next week.

### **President – Ben Clemens**

- OSU Fisheries and Wildlife Graduate Student Association has requested sponsorship for the Research Advances in Fisheries, Wildlife and Ecology (RAFWE) conference. Gary made a motion that we sponsor this event by \$500, Katie seconded; there was no discussion; the motion passed unanimously.
- Western Division AFS
  - Ben has submitted the application for Chapter of the Year award to the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society. One area we could bolster for next year's Chapter of the Year award is outreach material.
  - WDAFS is requesting donations for their conference, we will revisit this request on our March 9<sup>th</sup> call.
  - We are advertising the WDAFS conference on our website and will send an email to the ORAFS news listserv after our meeting. We will also advertise on the electronic boards at the Riverhouse during the ORAFS Annual Meeting.
- Ben asked permission from ExCom to attend the Fish Passage Conference with the registration that comes with our sponsorship, and ExCom agreed.

- Freshwater Habitat Chair, Bill Wall will be stepping down after the ORAFS Annual Meeting. He will continue to help with the pesticides and herbicides white paper.
  - Action Item: Cory and Ben will start to recruit for the Freshwater Habitat Committee Chair position.

**Secretary – Katie Pierson**

- Vote to approve December meeting minutes: Jeremy makes a motion to approve the December meeting minutes, Ben seconded; no discussion; motion passed unanimously.
- Vote to approve January meeting minutes: Gary makes a motion to approve January meeting minutes with edited track changes, Jeremy second; no discussion; motion passed unanimously.
- Katie attended the February WDAFS conference call. The take home messages are that AFS will be holding a publication retreat in the next three months. Ben has nominated Mike Meeuwig to be on the newly formed committee.
- AFS will also be working to create outreach programming around the Future of the Nation’s Aquatic Resources document that was prepared for President Trump’s transition team.
- There continue to be membership tracking and reporting issues at all levels of AFS. Membership reporting can be improved and will be brought up at the AFS Governing Board meeting. Western Division AFS would like to work with AFS to make certification of workshops easier and more cost effective.

**Treasurer –Tony Siniscal**

- Treasurers Report

- Accounts Update

- Business Checking

• January	12/31/2016	\$51,429.92
	Credits	\$24,001.15
	Transfers	\$0
	Debits	-\$2,633.28
	Checks	-\$150.00
	01/31/2017	\$72,647.79

- Investments

- WDAFS Endowment Fund – Oregon Chapter fund

Balance	11/30/2016	\$17,324.25
6-Month Gain/Loss		+\$1,028.19 (+6.3%)

- Charles Schwab ORAFS Investment Account

○ January	01/09/2017	\$271,177.26
	Transfers	\$0
	Lifetime Gain/loss	+7,644.99 (3.82%)
	Equities/ETFs/Bonds	\$207,695.73
	Cash & Cash Invested	\$64,852.62
	Balance 02/09/2017	\$272,548.35

- Annual Meeting Registration summary – 387 general admissions, 17 one day admissions, workshops- Science talk-15, Bayesian-28, Genetics-18, banquet– 226, 5 folks for guest pass

- We have 14 vendors, and 18 sponsors in total for sponsorship of \$28,000. There is one more sponsor that has pledged money.
- FOOW have been fully utilized (14).
- Tony made a motion to offer a complimentary registration to Denny Lassuy (Sponsor of the Diversity Scholarship). This registration was donated by Oregon RFID. Jeremy seconded the motion; there was no discussion; motion passed unanimously.
- Action Item: Tony will respond to Heather about who is picking up the programs.
- Action Item: Tony will send meal update to Gary tonight.
- Jim Capurso sent out a link to the PayPal account to the Native Fish committee to help pay for the Native Fish Conservationist award. The PayPal account has received \$150 in donations. The fundraising effort will be closed when it reaches the goal of \$350, which will pay for the Native Fish Conservationist of the Year award.
- Action Item: ORAFS should consider putting a donate button on our website in the future.

#### **Student Representative – Jacob Peterson**

- Brooke Schlipf and Rachel Lertora are interested in being the ORAFS student representative for the 2017-18 year. Both are sophomores at OSU and both students will be at the upcoming Annual Meeting.
- Completed a final draft for the grant proposal for spring break trip to southeast Oregon. The OSU Fish and Wildlife Club will participate in sage grouse surveys, spawning surveys or electrofishing. The goal is to have it be free for students, which means that they still need to raise \$1000. In this grant proposal, the students will also outline how other ORAFS sponsorship money has been spent.
- ExCom would like the students to know that we are here for the club as a resource (in more than just a financial way). ExCom is interested in a partnership and for the students to interact more in AFS, at all levels.
- OSU Fish and Wildlife Club will set up a booth at the annual meeting and will have cash-only clothing for sale.
- The club is very interested in attending any upcoming workshops.

1704 Call for Adjournment

Next conference call: **Thursday, March 9, 2017**