



Oregon Chapter
of the
American Fisheries Society
OR Chapter AFS: PO Box 8062 Portland, OR 97207-8062

To: ORAFS Executive Committee

From: Katie Woodside, Secretary

Subject: Minutes from the ORAFS Executive Committee Teleconference – Wednesday, May 21, 2025,
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

In attendance: Cory Sipher– President, Michele Weaver– Past President, Kelcee Smith – President Elect
Karah Roof – Vice President, Katie Woodside – Secretary, Gina Maag-Klobas– Internal Director, Jorden
Smith – Treasurer (joining meet late, joined by 3:30)

VOTE

ACTION

Call to Order/Additional Agenda Items/Establish a quorum*– Cory Sipher (3:04)

*7 officers including president

Approval of Meeting Minutes - Katie Woodside – (Sarah Abbott’s minutes) ()

- Katie check- TASK for Katie to send to group for approval next meeting
 - ⊖ February Minutes and March minutes as submitted and edited by Cory. There was no discussion, and the motion passed at Spring Retreat. TASK: Katie follow-up to confirm.
 - ⊖ Annual Business Meeting Minutes - TASK for Katie to send to group for approval next meeting, follow up with Sarah
 - Needs to be sent out to entire group - approve by membership (list serve) for review and then call for vote
 - Last year it was sent out with the election ballot
 - Retreat Meeting Minutes - TASK for Katie to send to group for approval next meeting, follow up with Sarah

Officer Updates:

Main topics of conversation

- See below.

ORTWS Liaison – Derek Broman

- Cory did not hear back, not in attendance.

Past President – Michelle Weaver

- Perpetual plaques
 - where do we display?
 - At meeting, Kelcee - at least bring the more recent ones?
 - TASK: Ask Student Chapter what they would find meaningful (plaque versus paper and website), Solicit input.
 - OSU as option to display
 - Photo with paper award
 - Do schools want to move forward with displaying plaques that we add names to
 - Do we move to only paper plaques?
 - Michelle: we have this on website under history
 - Scholarship awards, at least 10
 - Coy: Is it easy to find?
- Whoova app
 - A lot of notifications and solicitations
 - Michele can screen share an example of how it works from a recent meeting.
 - There are tips and tricks written up for how to navigate
- Moving to google workspace, google non-profit
 - Consolidated email
 - Bigger workspace (add photos)
 - Other Chapters happy
 - Michelle TASK: Will work on that.

President – Cory Sipher

- Western Division meeting wrap up - tasks moving forward
 - great meeting CO/WY
 - Turn out around 270 in person attendees
 - Format and venue went well
 - Sit down with West Div ExCom and CO/WY ExCom
 - Thoughts to move forward
 - Oregon hosting and West Div providing input was original understanding BUT actually combined meeting, shared planning committee - West Div will be on planning committee and coordinating with Kelcee
 - West Div meeting in May
 - Michelle discussed MOU to divide tasks between committee groups
 - Also discuss profit sharing (What is normal?)
 - Do we have template from previous joining meetings?
 - TASK: Phone Gary or look through Google Drive
 - Michelle: we have CO meeting on Drive
 - Program Agenda, multiple chairs
 - Tim president elect - cochairing committee with Kelcee
 - Usually we release meeting info in Oct, but that will likely be moved to Dec / Jan
 - Program and abstract late spring, Jan

- Michelle suggests starting planning earlier especially with Program (will be more work and need to reserve venues, and there will be more people)
- Tim/ Stev? had info on timelines for West Div meeting for Kelcee
- Coffee break talk at one of the vendor tables
 - Vendor payment structure had add on if they wanted to give 5 minute Ted Talk for additional cost (~\$200?)
- Vendors and posters lined hallways between meeting rooms
 - Poster session in morning with coffee
- Workshop ideas from Tim
 - Aquaculture
 - Art
 - Bruce Koike art (fish prints)
 - Underwater photography or videography (Rich Grost)
 - Freshwater Illustrated
- Student hosted off-site event (lead by students) - we should consider this option
 - Game center, bowling alley rented for CO/WY
 - Whats in OR??
 - Michelle: we could bus or uber folks
 - Zoo (Banquet in past)
 - Spirit of 77 boat (in past)
 - Students should provide input
- planning team Assemble! - see above
- venue visit in fall with WD Excom
 - Portland venue walk through in fall, will loop in Kelcee
 - Tim thought it was good layout
- meeting platform
 - West Div via Whoova App
 - Cory believed we are switching from CVENT to Whoova
 - We committed and have user accounts for the app
 - Michelle: we signed the Whoova contract
 - XCD meeting platform that National Chapter uses
 - Kelcee did not have good experience with Spokane meeting app
 - App in HI was okay
- timeframes - see above
- Cory would like to update photos on website
- ExCom Contacts updated on website
- Jorden is locked out of CVENT
 - Can we maintain access?
 - TASK: Ask Sanders for link
- Updates to contacts and website
 - Katie and Cory coordinated with Ashley Sanders
- ESA comment paper (Amy et al.)
 - Submitted through federal register comment period on updating definition of harm

- ORAFS Strategic Plan 2026-2030 [Link](#) (AFS Strategic Plan [Link](#))
 - Needs updating
 - TASK: Sub bullets from Annual Work Plan, we need make sure those align with the Strategic Plan
 - One year from now need final plan (Michelle and Cory)
 - Modeled after National AFS (we matched dates)
 - Does everyone approve? Or who approved?
 - Peter Stephens was president, Michelle thinks we should get membership input, but not membership vote, but ExCom vote
 - Task: Michelle will follow up with past president
 - Task: Cory ask where West Div and Nat Strategic plan is
 - Kelcee: Doesn't see West Div plan posted online
 - TASK: Figure out where National Strategic Plan is
 - Do we delay until they resolve?
 - Michelle would like to not delay
 - Do we follow their template still?
- 2028 venue?
 - Chatted with Derek and Wildlife Committee - they met in Salem
 - Michelle visited venue in Salem
 - Cory likes to mix up venue for OR AFS Chapter meeting
 - Gina: Cheryl compiles list of venue contacts and cost
 - Corvallis. Alumni Center used would attract students, Michelle believes venue is too small for current membership
 - TASK: Gina Reach out to Cheryl at least by Oct/Nov
 - Bend attracts a lot of attendees

President-Elect - Kelcee Smith

- Notes from Cory
- Plenary speaker
 - Want diversity
 - Location
 - Work experience
 - Location (outside Oregon)
 - Photographer Tim recommended
 - Who does West Div want?
 - TASK: Consider new speakers (we have had 1 to 3)
 - Katie: Women in fisheries (Micki Varney?)
- Theme discussion
 - Group likes change and perspective
 - "Power of perspective, perseverance through change"
 - "The power of plasticity"
 - Drives Speakers, Logo etc
 - Examined other meetings
 - Perspective matters (SEAFWA)
 - The power of perspective
 - Examined past themes (grouped by categories)

1. Examining past, present, future not applicable unless big milestone meeting
2. Connecting Communities: just did this
3. Future technologies: forward thinking, not speaking to Kelcee
 1. Cory: Use of AI in fisheries (Kelcee: could be workshop or session) Perspective
4. What applies or is a meaningful idea for current year
 - Make it positive but not political or doomsday
 - 1. Perspective
 - 2. Change
 - Resilience
 - “Thriving through change”
 - Adapting to change
 - What are changes in evolution
 - What are new opportunities that came about through change
 - Thriving through change, what is the role of perspective

Vice President – Karah Roof

- Got links through Kate
- **TASK: Will reach out to student subunits about plaques**

Student Representatives

- Cory didn’t hear back, no one present

Internal Director – Gina Maag-Klobas

- 2025 meeting invoice has been paid
- 2027 contract with Riverhouse is signed!
 - **TASK: Follow-up with Jorden**
- Stephanie passed along the feedback to Riverhouse about food at the poster session and the bar services at the banquet, so hopefully that will be smoother in 2027
- **TASK: Doodle poll for fall retreat dates**
 - So we can get place reserved
 - Late Sept/ early Oct is “normal”
 - Will invite student reps
 - Michelle: Was tied to meeting planning, so we could move to Nov
 - Jorden doesn’t know hunting tag dates yet (mid June?)

External Director – Amy Unthank

- Talking to student on Marine Committee
- DEI webinars with Guillermo, he is asking folks to review on his Committee to finalize
- Legislative front
 - Want to look at funding for this task
 - ODFW Budget will be next topic (TASK: Amy catching up)
- Funding on fish culture groups, TASK: Communicate with Jen on her request
- Wildlife Society had links to letters
- **Task: Upload current letters to website, examine what exists**
- **TASK: Amy think about how our letters and papers are organized**

- Michelle put some on website already
- Siletz motor restrictions
- ESA Listing Harm
 - Amy lead charge, received comments from multiple folks
- Topics submitted to state legislature
 - There are a ton of legislature letters (we need to consider organization given not on current page)
 - Press releases, position papers, letters, white papers, etc tabs
 - Cory suggests defining what these categories are

Secretary – Katie Woodside

- Requested updated membership list from Kelly Kotche
- Updated Sanders with list for website (discrepancy between the last update and this one (417 members -> 324 members)
 - New way to do Chapters could have reduced membership, now you just email and contact directly to add - no more checkbox when sign up for National Membership
 - Gina had to re-register as a new member and there was a box, but wasn't receiving contact back as an old member
 - Could impact fees
 - TASK: Cory bring up at West Div
 - TASK: Bring up to Kelly Kotche, membership
 - Change of officers form to document ExComm, follow-up that this was complete
- Updated Ashley Sanders and Kelly Kotche with new ExComm contact list

Treasurer – Jorden Smith

- Whoova - need to make decisions and needs small group or other admins for decisions with funding
 - Cory set up separate account for Kelcee, Jordan also added her)
 - Do we want to use Square for payments?
 - Small group meeting for fee structure, meeting app
 - Michele
 - Kelcee
 - Cory
 - Katie so is OK with being included: will be involved with sharing info later, setting up website, no notes needed
- CVENT Billing
 - Trying to bill after contract was already paid
 - \$500 to 1,000
- Pending Vendor Payment
 - Sent reminders for payment and haven't received anything
 - TASK: Cory ask for payment (Pacific Corregated Pipe)
- Misc. Reimbursements
 - TASK: Will work with students
- Tax Prep - Submitted in June last year
 - TASK: Will need from returning officers average estimated hours per week. For fiscal year (01 May 2024 to 30 April 2025)

- Michelle: Use Gary's previous hours
- TASK: End of FY Record Keeping - Needs to be secure location
 - Totes of past documents
 - Check copies
 - Can we store somewhere else?, ODFW Warehouse may not lock
 - Archive at OSU?
 - How many years do we need to keep? There should be a financial record schedule (5 to 10 years)
- Treasurer's Report (see below)
- Are expecting bill from CVENT. Haven't received it.
- Tribal registrations never responded to request for payment. Going to call as non-payments and move on.
- Account Balance Strategy

**ORAFS Executive Committee
21 May 2025
Treasurer's Report**

Checking Account Statement

Beginning Balance	\$94,017.28	
(04/01/2025)		
Deposits/Credits	\$44,024.03	Cvent- Registration Fees
Debits	(\$73,209.28)	Spring Retreat Reimbursements, OSU F&W Symposium Sponsorship, AM Venue Bill, DEI Workshop Installment
Checks	(\$27,613.66)	Scholarships, K-12 Grants, Legislative Liaison, Spring Retreat Reimbursements, AFS AM Sponsorship
Transfers	(\$0.00)	
Fees	(\$2.70)	Excess Transaction Fee
Statement Balance	\$37,215.67	
(04/30/2025)		

Available Funds as of 5/21/2025 = \$25,552.82

Other

- Cory: AFS Chapter of the Year Award
- Cory: Also received other awards at West Div. for BLM??
- Next meeting early June. Will send calendar invite and reminder

Adjourned at: 4:59

