



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, September 10, 2025, from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

VOTE

ACTION

Additional Agenda Items/Establish a quorum*– Cory Sipher (3:03)

*8 officers including president

In attendance: Cory Sipher, Katie Woodside, Jorden Smith, Karah Roof, Gina Maag-Klobas, Kelcee Smith, Michele Weaver, Amy Unthank.

Not present: Derek Broman, Student Representatives

NOTES: NO AUGUST 2025 NOTES AS THERE WAS NO MEETING

GENERAL QUESTION: Is there Fall ExCom meeting during month of retreat?

- We should have one as needed. Look for calendar invites.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - Katie Woodside

- No pressing need for Annual Business Notes.
- Motion to approve Spring Retreat Notes. Voted and approved.
- Motion to approve July Notes. Voted and approved. TASK: Katie clean up final comments prior to submitting for webpage.
- TASK: Annual Business Notes need to be edited by Michele and Jorden prior to sending out to members.
 - Jorden and Michele: Should notes reflect actual meeting and actual presentation? Notes were more bullet points than detailed. Treasurer's summary is in program. Documentation of actual meeting. "Highlights of work plan were explained by Michele Weaver." "See pdf program for Treasurer's summary"
 - Michele: We can take yes/no vote on email for Annual Business Notes. Gary created poll draft for Michele. We should leave space for comments.

Officer updates

Past President -Michele Weaver

- Michele listened in on Western Division meeting.
- MOU – See Cory’s notes.
- Transition to google for non-profits. Multistep process.
 - Google needed to confirm that we are non-profit. Since email address is forwarded to a Gmail account two accounts were set up.
 - Google site needs to bounce off our website. Michele has been working with Ashley Sanders (manages OR AFS website).
 - Google for non-profit account and dashboard is up. We need to figure out access issues.
 - Link sent to Cory and Kelcee. The link needs to be accessed within 48 hours.
 - Michele will check in before sending any links.
 - Michele had difficulties resending link to Cory, so process needs to be revisited.
 - Kelcee didn’t click on link so Michele will see if she can resend.
 - We can have several email addresses as administrators so committees could also have future access.
 - Michele can send email from google dashboard but can’t get returned emails.

President –Cory Sipher

- ORAFS Strategic Plan 2026-2030 [Link](#) (AFS Strategic Plan 25-29 [Link](#))
- Fall retreat 2025
 - Started to fill out agenda
 - Mostly annual meeting planning
 - Strategic plan
- Strategic Plan
 - 8 major bullet points to line up with operating plan
 - **TASK: Have ExCom and others review prior to fall retreat.**
 - Send out with 30-day review to members with comments?
 - Michele mentioned that it was not sent to members in past but that it would be a good idea. It was previously created within ExCom.
 - No one engaged after piscatorial press.
 - Cory will send to members and ask folks to reach out if they have interest in commenting.
- Western Division annual joint meeting
 - Western Division Chris Penne will co-chair the budget committee with Jorden.
 - MOU with Western Division is developed and will need to be signed by both WDAFS and ORAFS.
 - **TASK: Document to sign**
- National meeting attendance
 - Shifted attendance expectations down.
 - Had good turnout 1,100 turnouts.
 - All 50 states represented.
 - Rooms were small. Perhaps only 20 people. No way to adjust them with temporary walls. We should plan well when assigning rooms for expected large talks.
 - Received large Chapter of the year (>100 members is large, <100 is small)
 - HI best student chapter
 - GA best small chapter
 - OR best large chapter
 - **TASK: Will bring award to upcoming annual meeting and present to Michele**
 - Business meeting
 - Approved strategic plan

ORTWS Liaison - Derek Broman

- Not present. (On way to Commissioner meeting.)
- Had good input on Salem Convention Center for potential ORAFS Chapter meeting location.
- Michele will check in with him to discuss continued involvement as liaison.

President-Elect – Kelcee Smith

- Meeting with Tim Copeland Western Division ExCom
- **MOU**
 - Nov 8 through 10, Western Division will walk thru site and have ExCom meeting. Kelcee will meet everyone and talk through plans and layout. Kelcee can draw on map.
 - We still need to figure out registration location. Put it in main hallway outside main ballroom.
 - Map of layout is in contract.
 - **TASK: Kelcee will be reaching out to speakers, looking for plenary speaker ideas**
 - Gina idea: Tim Akimoff – Beaver State Podcast, he could compile different perspectives
 - Cory idea: choose a well-known angler who does interviews or volunteers. Chris Johnson (Living Waters Fly Fishing) was a speaker in Texas at annual meeting – speaker doesn't need to be scientist.
 - Soul River Inc.: Non-profit is a veterans and inner-city youth program with an outdoor curriculum, takes folks out to fish, hike, camp etc.**Task: Kelcee will follow-up.**
 - **Planning committees**
 - [Planning Committees](#)
 - FIRST TAB
 - **TASK: Fill in name if interested in being chair or cochair**
 - **TASK: Check to see if your name is already included as chair**
 - Gina responsible for event management
 - Meetings with Western Division (Tim and committee chairs) will begin in October
 - **TASK: Kelcee will put notes in Pisca Press etc. on upcoming meeting planning deadlines**
 - Elizabeth Wilson of Mt Hood Community college is the individual who did last year's logo. She may be interested in submitting the logo for this year's meeting. **TASK: Kelcee will reach out and email her. Cory will provide contact info**
 - 2ND TAB: Timeline, what and when
 - Dates can be changed
 - Based on guideline of what has been done before
 - THIRD TAB:
 - Plan to call for Symposium early November, closes mid Dec, extension in early Jan, final by end of Jan
 - Plan to call for abstracts by early Jan and notify of acceptance by end Feb
 - EXTENSIONS are challenging to handle
 - 90% abstracts came in on last day
 - Extend on due date if extending
 - If there were errors during submission, folks can accept abstracts via email
 - Outlined who is responsible for what in meeting planning

- Figured out theme
 - Theme: [Power of Perspective](#)

Vice President – Karah Roof

- Karah found possible art donor for meeting
- Kelcee also found artist of a salmon painting for a potential art donor
- Shaylan Pack (spelling?) asked about deadlines for meeting, Kelcee can answer program questions
- Talked to Natalie Donato (Marine Committee Chair)
 - TASK: Amy Unthank can reach out to club faculty advisor Shaylan Pack
 - TASK: Amy Unthank can reach out to Natalie about professional societies
 - Answered marine professional involvement in meeting questions
 - We should reach out to Natalie for more marine input and involvement in conference
 - Wanted professional development workshop at meeting if possible
 - Historically, ExCom has put effort into marine sessions
 - Groundfish meeting overlaps sometimes during February.
 - Molly Shannon will connect with Natalie on student involvement
- We need to remind student chapter to submit budget.
 - TASK: Karah will ask for annual request of financial support
 - Ask for clarifications of when they are ready to receive money, so check doesn't end up lost
- New student rep for OSU: Molly Shannon.
 - TASK: Karah supply everyone with contact information
 - TASK: She needs to be added to email list. Cory will do
 - TASK: Cory will add her to invite list
 - TASK: Katie can update with Ashley for website and with National AFS Kelly Kotche
 - TASK: Gina will add her to fall retreat

Student Representatives

- Not present.
- **New OSU rep. is Molly Shannon.**
- Bianca will resume after resuming school.

Internal Director – Gina Maag-Klobas

- Mike Gauvin will continue to be historian
- TASK: Gina plans on developing AV sub-committee, reach out to her with leads
- Dylan OKeefe may be interested in getting involved
- Looking for new Awards Chair and Scholarship Chairs
 - Guillermo thought it would be too much to take on while also chairing the DEI committee
 - Helena may be able to help pitch Scholarship Chair
 - Could consider co-chairs
 - Shivonne may be interested in chairing or co-chairing Awards Committee
 - Tyler Hoyt could be interested in scholarship chair or co Awards, is interested in getting involved
 - TASK: Supply Gina with additional interested individuals
- Sunriver Oct 24-26 ExCom fall retreat planning
 - TASK: Gina will set up and email out a google sheet with carpooling and food preference info
- Explored options for 2028 annual meeting

- Eugene and Seaside not options; Seaside doesn't have large enough accommodations
- Salishan is currently our only option for the coast
- Sent floor plans Salishan and Salem for committee review
- Our choices are 1) Riverhouse for consistency and central access, 2) Salishan for a slightly smaller more remote conference, or 3) Salem Convention Center for a state capitol conference that would have less people staying overnight (since many folks couldn't get approved for overnight travel).
- Salishan favorite choice by group
 - **TASK: Gina will start working on contract with Cheryl**

Site	Food/bev minimum	Service Fee Charge	Rooms available	Total Guestroom Cost
Riverhouse	\$32,000	24%	415	54,375 USD
Salishan	\$16,000	20%	415	52,200 USD
Salem Con. Center	\$14,000	18%	110	77,107 USD

External Director – Amy Unthank

- Kara Anlauf-Dunn needs to resign from climate change role, we need leader for that group
 - **TASK: Amy will talk with Jason Dunham**
- Donald Sampson may be interested (Umatilla, Native American tribal climate related concerns)
- **TASK: Amy will follow up with Guillermo on online DEI trainings**
- Karen Hans retired, she may be willing to help – maybe she has ideas, Brian Bangs sent her Karen's contact info
- **TASK: Amy will follow up with Brian Bangs on Native Fish field trip**
- Amy has committee leaders who will want to be involved in WD meeting sessions/plans so will focus on that to bring to Fall Retreat.
- **Task: Will follow up with Karen Hans to see if she has accepted transition to the Legislative Committee lead.**

Secretary – Katie Woodside

- Notes updates mentioned above
- Updated team on potential needs for additional secretary role help for May annual meeting. May not be available for Secretary role in 2026.

Treasurer – Jorden Smith

- Receiving emails about registration site (3 to 4 questions)
- We will push something out when ready
- Kate will check mail
- We sent CT12 for taxes and then it hasn't been cashed
- Treasurer's report

**ORAFS Executive Committee
10 September 2025
Treasurer's Report**

Checking Account Statement

Beginning Balance (08/01/2025)	\$26,221.45	
Deposits/Credits	\$0.00	
Debits	(\$0.00)	
Checks	(\$3,837.11)	Fall Retreat Lodging, AFS Meeting Reimb.
Transfers	(\$0.00)	
Fees	(\$0.00)	
Statement Balance (08/31/2025)	\$22,384.34	

Current Balance (9/10/2025) = \$22,384.34

Pending Balance = \$22,083.34

Adjourned 4:37 PM