



AFS Bioengineering Section Monthly ExCom Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021. 12-1 pm ET (9-10 am PT)

Meeting: Monthly BES ExCom Meeting

Location: Microsoft Teams

Subject: Meeting Notes

1. Attendance

- Current BES Officers
 - Dan Giza– President (present)
 - Dana Postlewait – Past President (present)
 - Patrick O'Rouke – President Elect (present)
 - Jessica Pica – Secretary/Treasurer (present)
- BES Committee Representatives
 - Randy Beckwith – BES Technology and Education Committee Chair (present)
 - Patrick O'Rouke – BES Resource Policy Committee Liaison (present)
 - Gordon Clark – BES Digital Media Chair (present)
 - Jenna Rackovan – Ned Taft Award Chair (present)
 - Kevin Mulligan – AFS/BES - ASCE/EWRI Joint Committee Chair (present)

2. Call meeting to order:

- Quorum
- Dan motioned to approve 2/11/21 meeting notes, Dana second

3. Revisions to Agenda

- Governing Board meeting update

- Pamunkey Tribe Natural Resources Director job announcement – Jessica to send to BES membership

4. Announcements

5. Treasurer's Report

- **Account Balances**
 - All funds in general checking right now during banking transition
 - General Business Checking: \$20,450.46 (as of 3/6/21)
 - Ned Taft Award Fund: \$1,625.09 (as of 3/6/21)
- **Income**
 - No income over the last month.
- **Expenses**
 - No expenses over the last month.
- **Banks**
 - *COMPLETED ACTION*: Jessica/Jon Black were able to close the BoA Ned Taft account (savings).
 - *ACTION*: Jessica still working towards opening AXOS bank account. Then will close BoA checking account.

6. BES Business

- **Ned Taft Award**
 - Jenna and Gordon investigated PayPal and GiveButter platforms. They have the same processing fees. People are more familiar with PayPal.
 - *ACTION*: Jenna to create a PayPal account (once our new bank account is set up) and Gordon to create a link on the BES webpage.
- **Digital Media**
 - *Web page*
 - *Communication Platform*
 - *COMPLETED ACTION*: Gordon and/or Rachael set up 3/11/21 meeting to discuss this effort.
 - BES and JC committee representatives are meeting to discuss this effort (general effort, funding, account management, identify email platforms, perform trial, etc.). Updates to follow.

- **Nature-like Fishway Guidance**

- *ACTION:* Dana/Randy to provide draft scope and budget for April funding deadline
 - 4/9 funding deadline
 - Send to Steve for review by 3/29. He has a company meeting on 3/30.
 - Send to Laura/Brent/Jessica for review before 3/29.

- **Committee Updates**

- *Technology Committee (Chair – Randy Beckwith)*
 - Should we find someone else to lead this committee? Still need to figure out what this committee is. Is it a review of different technologies? Providing guidance to emerging technology companies of approvals processes?
 - *ACTION:* Dan to look into it and circle back. Might reach out to a few folks who might be interested in leading this effort. People include John Burnet (screening company – formerly EPRI), Andy Peters, Vincent Autier.
- *Education Committee (Chair – Randy Beckwith)*
 - No updates
- *AFS-BES/ASCE-EWRI Joint Committee on Fisheries Engineering and Science (Chair – Kevin Mulligan)*
 - Dan, Patrick, Jessica, and Kevin met with Herman Wanningen on 2/18/21 to discuss the FPC2021 and what BES could offer financially.
 - BES ExCom voted to sponsor FPC2021 at € 900 (~\$1,089) and provided Herman with other potential sponsors. Jessica will coordinate the funds once the new bank account is set up.
 - *ACTION:* If anyone has FPC2021 keynote speaker ideas pass them along to Kevin
 - Next webinar is in May, Gwen MacDonald with Save the Sound
 - MOU – cannot get EWRI to respond, have contacted multiple people. Ask Denis Ruttenburg to help? He created a support group and had issues with this and Kathy too.
 - EWRI hoping to create national inventory of low head dams
- *Resource Policy Committee (Liaison – Patrick O'Rouke)*
 - No updates

- **Bylaws**

- *ACTION*: Dana to draft bylaws then pass to ExCom and Randy Shultz for review two weeks before next Governing Board Meeting (probably November)
- *ACTION*: Dana will share BES bylaws with JC

- **Administrative, Reporting**
 - *ACTION*: Dana/Dan coordinate update/calendar. Pull in Mike if needed.

- **Governing Board Meeting**
 - Virtually Meeting last Wed and Thursday afternoon 3/3-4/21
 - Notable items
 - Extended Executive Director Doug Austen's contract for year. AFS will need to fill this role after that when Doug plans to retire.
 - Establish a Cooperative Research with Stakeholders Section (CRSS) of the American Fisheries Society. The purpose of the new section is to advance the Society's promotion of scientific research and sustainable management of fisheries resources by encouraging and facilitating research partnerships among scientists, stakeholders, and resource users, especially commercial fishermen/harvesters and recreational anglers. Motion passed to bring vote to membership.
 - Baltimore meeting update
 - Hybrid meeting design
 - Concerns with low state and fed in-person attendance.
 - AFS still determining registration fee (in-person vs virtual)
 - Various Updates
 - Diversity, equity, & inclusion
 - AFS rebranding
 - President-Elect Plan of Work
 - Resource Policy Committee "where we've been where we're at"
 - Membership services – continuing education, grey literature database (<https://graylitreports.fisheries.org/>), and job board updates
 - Emerging Leaders Mentorship Award

7. Conferences/Training Opportunities

- **AFS 2021 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. November 6-10, 2021**
 - 150th unit exhibit
 - Boyd Kynard sent a video of fish ascending the BK fishway. Jessica uploaded to google drive.
 - *ACTION*: All investigate existing video that could be used.

- *COMPLETE ACTION*: Dana contacted science communication section president Sean Landsman asking if their section could help or have resources they could offer.
- *COMPLETED ACTION*: Dana contacted Brad Johnson who reached out to professor that might be interested in helping with this effort, still waiting to hear back
- Dana has a story board example to help us lay out our video.
- We need someone to lead this effort. Wait until we hear back from outside help.
- *ACTION*: All start brainstorming video details like length of video, what text we want, etc.

8. Next Meeting

- April 8, 2021. 3-4 pm ET (12-1 pm PT)

9. Adjourn

Action Items

1. **Bills, bills, bills (Treasurer)**
 - Jessica still working towards opening AXOS bank account. Then will close BoA checking account.
2. **Ned Taft Award**
 - Jenna to create a PayPal account (once our new bank account is set up) and Gordon to create a link on the BES webpage.
3. **Digital Media**
4. **Nature-like Fishway Guidelines**
 - Dana/Randy to provide draft scope and budget for April funding deadline
5. **Technology Committee**
 - Dan to look into it and circle back. Might reach out to a few folks who might be interested in leading this effort. People include John Burnet (screening company – formerly EPRI), Andy Peters, Vincent Autier.
6. **Education Committee**
7. **ASCE-EWRI Joint Committee Fisheries Engineering and Science**
 - Jessica will coordinate the funds once the new bank account is set up.
 - If anyone has FPC2021 keynote speaker ideas pass them along to Kevin
8. **Resource Policy Committee**
9. **Bylaws**
 - Dana to draft bylaws then pass to ExCom and Randy Shultz for review two weeks before next Governing Board Meeting (probably November)
 - Dana to share BES bylaws with JC
10. **Administrative, Reporting**
 - Dana/Dan coordinate update/calendar. Pull in Mike if needed.
11. **AFS 2021**
 - All investigate existing video that could be used
 - All start brainstorming video details like length of video, what text we want, etc.

Completed Action Items (this period)

1. Jessica/Jon Black were able to close the BoA Ned Taft account (savings).
2. Gordon and/or Rachael set up 3/11/21 meeting to discuss this effort.
3. BES ExCom voted to sponsor FPC2021 at € 900 (~\$1,089) and provided Herman with other potential sponsors.

4. Dana contacted science communication section president Sean Landsman asking if their section could help or have resources they could offer.
5. Dana contacted Brad Johnson who reached out to professor that might be interested in helping with this effort, still waiting to hear back