



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

MONTANA CHAPTER

TO: MCAFS ExCom and Committee Chairs

FROM: Windy Davis, MCAFS Secretary/Treasurer

RE: Minutes from MCAFS ExCom Meeting

DATE/LOCATION: 18 September, 2008 Turner Enterprises, Bozeman, MT

Attendees: David Schmetterling, Leanne Roulson, Carter Kruse, Scott Barndt, and Windy Davis

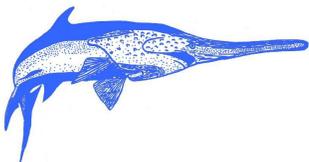
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Opening

1. Introductions
2. Additions/Changes to Agenda

New and Old Business

3. Approval of last EXCOM Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurers Report
5. Old Business
 1. 2008 Annual meeting
 2. Membership
 - i. Resolve issues with database
 3. Meeting to discuss legislature
 4. Recent correspondence
 5. Newsletter
 6. Summer workshop
6. New Business
 1. MCAFS logo
 - i. Vote on 1 of the 5 designs
 2. Website
 - i. Design
 - ii. Content
 - iii. Professional support
 3. Solicit nominees for president, and other offices
 - i. Outlet chair
 - ii. Other chairs
 4. Officer rotation – additional year?
 5. Strategic plan
 6. Updates to procedures manual
 7. Updates to RAF application and schedule
 8. EXCOM meeting schedule
7. RAF requests



1. MSU
2. FFF
8. 2009 Annual meeting
 1. Update
 2. Announcements
 3. Tasks
 4. Theme
9. Officer transition
 1. Cheat Sheets
 2. Duties

Adjourn

Minutes

Opening

- 1) Introductions: The meeting began at 9:26 A.M. No introductions were needed.
- 2) Additions/Changes to Agenda: No changes were made to the agenda.

New and Old Business

- 3) Approval of last EXCOM Meeting Minutes: Excom reviewed the minutes from the 11 February 2008 meeting. David moved to accept the minutes, Carter seconded the motion, no further discussion took place, and the motion was passed unanimously. **AI-Windy will send a copy of the minutes to Adam to be posted on the web page.**
- 4) Treasurers Report: Windy reviewed the 18 September 2008 treasurer's report. David moved to accept the report, Leanne seconded the motion, no further discussion took place, and the motion was passed unanimously. **AI-Windy will send a copy of the treasurer's report to Adam to be posted on the web page.**
- 5) Old Business
 1. 2008 Annual meeting

There was a group debriefing. We made approximately \$6,000 and had 165 registrants for at least part of the conference even though we had planned for 300 people in the past. Carter brought up some of the issues that he had with the hotel including the issue with having other groups in the same area with people eating our food, the fire alarm going off during meeting, and the renovations not being complete. However, people seemed to enjoy a little smaller meeting. Some of the criticisms received from the members were that it would be helpful to meeting attendees to have the agenda earlier and to have more time for questions at the end of the talk. There was discussion about getting a timer or lights for talk lengths. The group feels that the technology will not solve the problem. The moderators need to be more stringent about keeping people on time and it needs to be more institutionalized.

2. Membership
Discussion was related to the membership database- see below.

3. Resolve issues with database

Discussion about the membership database continued from previous issues we have had. Leanne explained that the database is composed of queries versus tables. David had a meeting with Kristi to archive the old database and start over by entering the data again. The general sense is that we only have around 300 entries and we have spent too much time and thought on this project. The group feeling is that the database needs to be simple. The plan was to have this done by August, but we do not know the progress. Discussion was to start over on the database. Make sure that things are in a format compatible with Meetings Etc. **AI- Carter will meet with Kristi Webb and have her get the database ready before the annual meeting registration.**

4. Meeting to discuss legislature

There was group discussion about having an active voice in during the 2008 legislature. Leanne is leaving her job at GANDA due to health issues and is going back to school to become a teacher. She needs to leave her duties with AFS and resign from her duties as the chair of the legislative committee. Carter expressed that he would like to be more involved in the legislature this year. Leanne explained that our lobbyist, Janet Ellis, was good at putting together a list of bills that are important to MTAFS, but she was recognized as the Audubon Society representative. Scott Bosse had suggested putting a table up in Helena during the legislative session to be a liaison with the legislature and explain the science. **AI- Carter will get with Scott Bosse to see if he is interested in helping the legislature 2008.**

5. Recent correspondence

David has been receiving and writing a lot of letters in the past few months. We commented on the Shields Valley TMDL and DEQ was responsive to our comments. We provided positive comments supporting the FWP South Fork Flathead poisoning project and the project is going to happen. We made comments on DNRC Mineral Lease Sale and FWP is having some progress getting the DNRC to adopt better riparian setbacks for mineral development.

AI- We all need to be more responsive to our approval of letters. Send responses to say you do or do not approve of the letter.

Leanne proposed that we should be commenting on a big highway project along the Boulder. MDT needs to consult with a geomorphologist before they plan the construction. Doug McDonald with FWP will be the one who does all the permitting for the project.

6. Newsletter

We need a newsletter chair because Amy Raiff was the chair and she moved away. David has not put out an Outlet for the entire year. He only had 2 submissions for the last newsletter.

Some ideas for content of the Outlet include:

Climate Change

Tag Your It- Robbin Wagner

Meeting Update

Announce new website

Announce new logo

Announce correspondence

2008 Chapter Awards

7. Summer workshop

Carter brought up the fact that there was no summer workshop and there was discussion about how we make this a service to our members. Do we need to rethink the model of our workshop? David suggested that if people have a good idea and a need we should facilitate it.

1) New Business

3. MCAFS logo
i. Vote on 1 of the 5 designs

We voted on the new logo and unanimously choose the borderless design.

AI- Leanne will get a high quality logo from AI and send it to Adam to put on the website. Leanne will put together a word format of the letterhead.

4. Website
i. Design

Adam designed some great templates. We voted on the designs and choose the “Snowmelt” with more fish pictures.

- ii. Content- No discussion
iii. Professional support

Carter asked if we need to pay someone to upkeep our website, but the group decided that right now Adam is in a position to do a great job of keeping it up to date.

5. Solicit nominees for president, and other offices

- i. Outlet chair

Amy Raif moved and we need a new chair. The group decided that we should get an Outlet together before we have a new chair.

AI-ExCom will all try to get an Outlet together and solicit for a new chair in the Outlet.

- ii. Other chairs

Windy commented that we should ask chairs to put together an update for the newsletter

AI-Carter will keep in touch with the chairs and get quarterly updates.

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6. Officer rotation – additional year?

Carter and David led a discussion about having a second president elect or a “vice” president elect to keep more continuity in the ExCom and allow more time for the president elect to prepare for the annual meeting. Second president elect would be able to reserve a venue and start planning for the annual meeting earlier. There was concern about whether adding an additional year to the term length would make people feel overburdened, but it was decided that having an additional person would help spread out the burden. We would need to approve the addition of a vice president at the business meeting and it would require a change in By-laws. We would need to have some people in place for elections. There are several people that may be interested. **AI- Carter will keep this item on the agenda for the 2009 annual meeting.**

7. Strategic plan

Carter led a discussion that the chapter could have a strategic plan to lay out how and why we do things and give the chapter guidance. Scott agreed that as the group and the assets grow we need better guidelines and institutional knowledge. There was no discussion about how to accomplish this.

8. Updates to procedures manual

AI- David will look to see if we need to update anything.

9. Updates to RAF application and schedule

Carter led a discussion about the need to update the RAF application because some of the questions are redundant. David remembered that we recently updated the application, but after looking at the application we agreed that there is some redundancy. Scott wanted to know what our criteria are for approving RAFs and we found our guidelines in the procedures manual. We decided that a more general question about how the request will fit our chapter goals would be appropriate.

AI- Carter will update the RAF Request to include a more general question about how projects will fit our chapter goals.

10. EXCOM meeting schedule

Carter wanted to know if we have a guideline for times of ExCom meetings because the RAF cycle deadlines did not match up with our ExCom meeting this year. We looked it up and July is the target date for a summer meeting. Adhering to this schedule would help with the RAF cycle.

2) RAF requests

11. MSU-Student Colloquium

AI-Windy will find out the amount of the profits from the raffle and get the money from Student Chapter.

Scott moved to support the request, David seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

12. FFF- Lewis and Clark Pamphlet

Scott thinks it is a great tool, but wants clarification on if extra copies would be available to AFS members. We called Leah Elwell and determined that the copies would be free.

Scott motioned to support the request, David seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

AI- Windy will send checks and letters to recipients.

3) 2009 Annual meeting

13. Update

Scott presented a draft of a Joint Conference Proposal with The Wildlife Society.

The proposed theme is "Adapting Fish and Wildlife Management To Human Demographic Change". Proposed venue would be Kalispell during the second week of February. Discussion ensued on thoughts of within agency demographic change and institutional knowledge, including the enforcement people in the conference, and logistics.

14. Announcements

TWS put out first call for papers. We should put out a call for symposia and make sure people can work together between TWS and AFS.

15. Tasks

AI-Scott will get dates, venue, and theme set and send out in e-mail to members with call for symposia and/or papers. This will be included in the Outlet.

Scott is working on a draft agreement on how to split the cost. Both groups have been using Meetings Etc.

4) Officer transition

16. Cheat Sheets

AI- All officers will update the next officer on the cheat sheets ASAP.

17. Duties

AI- Windy will complete all of the minutes and treasures reports and send out to ExCom.

Carter motioned to adjourn, David seconded.

Meeting Adjourned 12:15 PM.