



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

MONTANA CHAPTER



TO: MCAFS ExCom and Committee Chairs
FROM: Windy Davis, MCAFS Secretary/Treasurer
RE: Minutes from MCAFS ExCom Meeting

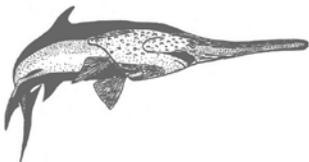
DATE/LOCATION: 09 February, 2009 Kalispell, Montana

Attendees: David Schmetterling, Carter Kruse, Scott Barndt, Windy Davis

-----AGENDA-----

**AGENDA - Executive Committee
February 9, 2009**

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Additions/Changes to Agenda**
- 3. Approval of January 7th, 2009 EXCOM minutes
Approval of September 18th, 2008 EXCOM minutes**
- 4. Treasurers report**
- 5. Old business**
 - Newsletter
 - Chair
 - Updates to Procedures Manual
 - Updates to Officers Duties/Cheat Sheets
 - Membership Database
 - Chair
 - Membership Information from National
 - Insurance Policy
 - Officer Rotation Bylaw Change – last minute comments
- 6. New Business**
 - i. Officer Nominations**
 - ii. Annual Meeting**
 - Registration
 - Banquet Agenda
 - Memorialization of TWS/AFS Pros and Cons
 - iii. WDAFS Contribution Request**



- iv. Scholarship Selection – WSCTU, McClure
- v. Donation/Tradeshow Contact List
- vi. Website

- vii. Legislature/Communication
 - Walleye SB15
 - Big Sky Rivers LC1032
 - Blackfoot TMDL
 - Glacier-Waterton IPP

- viii. Summer Workshop

- ix. Business Meeting Agenda

Adjourn

Minutes

Opening

- 1) Introductions: The meeting began at 1:20 pm. No introductions were needed.
- 2) Additions/Changes to Agenda: A few minor changes were made to the agenda to accommodate schedules.

New and Old Business

- 3) Approval of last EXCOM Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Approval of January 7th, 2009 EXCOM minutes- David motioned to approve, Carter seconded
 - b. Approval of September 18th, 2008 EXCOM minutes-Carter motioned, David seconded
- 4) Treasurers report- Windy reviewed the 09 February treasurer's report. Carter moved to accept the report, David 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
 - i. Newsletter- Outlet was produced in January. We all agreed that we need to keep producing the Outlet at least twice a year.
 - ii. Updates to Procedures Manual- **AI-David will update procedures manual and will and have it done before the summer ExCom meeting.**
 - iii. Updates to Officers Duties/Cheat Sheets- **AI-Updates will be completed by everyone for summer ExCom meeting. Scott should include the thoughts from the annual meeting.**
 - iv. Membership Database
 - Chair- There has been no interest from the membership to be the keeper of the database. Carter was thinking that possibly we could contract this and pay a person to manage the database. Leah Elwell or Darin Watchske could be potential candidates.

v. Membership Information from National-Carter contacted the Parent Society and we got the database.

vi. Insurance Policy-We are on the national policy but we need to let them know about the meeting location. **AI- Carter will add this to the Cheat Sheet.**

vii. Officer Rotation Bylaw Change – We received a few last minute comments from the membership.

6. New Business

i. Officer Nominations- Carter started asking the potential presidential candidates and many of them dropped out. Eileen Ryce would like to consider being the first Vice president. Craig Barfoot may be interested as well. **AI- Everyone will ask around and get people to commit.** Leo Rosenthal submitted a bio and will be interested in the Secretary Treasurer position. Potential future candidates- Carol Endicott, Matt Jaeger, Trevor Selch, Wade Fredenberg, Lisa Eby, Leah Elwell, Steve Dalby, Dave Stagliano, Jim Olsen.

ii. Annual Meeting

Registration- **AI-We need to work on the refund process so that things are automated through Meetings Etc. AI- Windy will add to the secretary-treasurer cheat sheet.** Late registration fees should be considered for single day registration so that we do not get the trickle effect.

Banquet Agenda- Entertainment, awards, and raffle need to be coordinated for the banquet. The ExCom and awards chair people are going to orchestrate things with the entertainer. We need to keep the raffle coordinators in the loop. Travis needs to be able to still read off letters of support for the awards.

Memorialization of TWS/AFS Pros and Cons- Scott- Gave a brief re-cap. Joe Weigand at TWS was good to work with. The differences in philosophies about registration fees, students, late registration fees, schedules have been a little difficult to deal with. However, the cross pollination of the groups has brought new ideas to the table for both groups. The challenge has been putting the program together to fit the theme and force people to attend talks from outside their society. We have been able to hire more speakers since we have a critical mass of funds to work from. We could put the potential for joint meetings into the strategic plan. **AI- Scott will put a recap together of these thoughts after the meeting.** Income from sponsorships and tradeshows will be split between the groups. TWS does not split out the continuing ed, tradeshow, sponsorships, etc. and now they are thinking about splitting out more duties for the future.

iii. WDAFS Contribution Request- We received a letter requesting funds from WDAFS for contributions for the annual meeting. We have been concerned that WDAFS keeps asking us for money because they knew that we had money. There is usually an agreement with the hosting chapter that proceeds will be split. Discussion ensued about why the WDAFS or the parent society needs support from the chapters for these efforts. Maybe we should contribute to the meeting by supporting chapter members attendance at the meetings. We could offer a MCAFS scholarship to the membership to support presenters at the WDAFS. David made a motion to support up to \$1,000 of travel to the WDAFS meeting by MCAFS membership. Scott seconded the motion. Discussion- We should start with a cap at \$1,000 and re-evaluate after the first year. We would want to set some sideboards on the application process including a priority criteria of presenting. Vote- motion passed. **AI- Carter will announce at the business meeting and will communicate to WDAFS.**

David started a discussion about the long term deleterious effects of the WDAFS meeting that we hosted. Membership attendance was not good that year and we may have cut our ties with some people.

Our membership attendance has been down since then. Maybe we need to poll the membership about what they want from the meetings, what are the pros/cons of joint meetings, travel, costs, etc. These were thoughts for future discussions.

iv. Scholarship Selection –

WSCTU- Six applicants applied for the scholarship. They unanimously supported the recipient and TU will write the check to Ben Corsi. The award will be given at the banquet. David made a motion to approve, and Carter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

McClure- Scott said there was only one application for each the undergrad (David Garfield) and grad student (Ben Cox) application. The group decided that each candidate met the minimum qualifications and is making a recommendation to ExCom to approve these applicants. Scott made a motion to approve, and Carter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about why there are fewer applicants. Excom is making a recommendation to the Wally McClure Committee to poll the students why there are fewer applicants and how the application process could be streamlined to encourage participation.

v. Donation/Tradeshaw Contact List

In the future we need to get in touch with the vendors earlier. **AI- The new vice president needs to set the next two years of venues so we can get the vendors lined out earlier.**

vi. Legislature/Communication

Carter has been drafting letters and tracking the progress of different bills. Scott Bosse does not plan on attending the legislature much this year.

Walleye SB15- Scott Bosse gave testimony at this and it was tabled in committee.

Big Sky Rivers LC1032- HB455- Mandatory streamside setback on the major waterways in SW MT. This does not have a hearing date yet.

Blackfoot TMDL- Natural Resource Committee put together a comment letter.

Glacier-Waterton IPP- Request from some people in the Flathead to write a letter in response to energy development. Clint Mulfeld put most of the letter together.

vii. Summer Workshop

During the business meeting we will ask the membership for ideas. It is the president elects duty to try to organize the workshop, but we are proposing to move the duties to the membership that recommends a topic.

viii. Business Meeting Agenda

No additions beyond what was discussed today.

ix. Wally McClure Creek- Scott gave an update about the naming of Wally McClure Creek. The required amount of time has passed since Wally's death for the nomination of the creek name and we will write a letter of support.

x. Website- Bryce has been working on the database and will have everything set up so that things can be exported directly into our Access database.

xi. Strategic Planning- Carter discussed that he felt like he would like to have a strategic plan that he or future presidents would have as a guideline or vision for their term. One of the questions that he posed was how can we be of better service to the membership? How can we add services for the membership to get involved and get new membership? One of the ideas for the web based membership would be the ability for people to use the website as a communication tool. We could do our own registration and accept donations, etc. with credit cards. Membership could sort through the membership to find experts within a certain field, topic, etc. David brought up the thought that the parent society already has similar infrastructure that we should be able to tie into. We all agree that we are ready to have a strategic plan and we need direction to spend funds, etc.

Strategic plan components:

How do these things meet our groups goals now and into the future?

Funding

Technology

Communities of Practice

We would want our plan to tie towards the parent society plan. The plan should be straight forward and simple and give us a way to move things in the future. The first step is to get our own web based registration and database set up. There would be up front planning and costs to get the system set up and streamlined. We all agree that this is a way to proceed. **AI- Carter will champion getting the membership and registration onto our website and will work with the parent society to make our databases compatible.**

There was discussion about getting some of the past presidents involved in this process. Further discussion ensued about capturing the history of fisheries in Montana, the archives, putting some of the archives on the web/server, potential projects contract/grad students, etc.

Brief recap of meeting needs-

Motion to adjourn-

David motioned to adjourn, Scott seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM.