20 December 2013

Phone conference call meeting

**1. Introductions –** No introductions required.

**2. Additions necessary? N/A**

**3. Review and approval of last ExCom Meeting Minutes –**

Travis motioned to approve the old meeting notes. Robert seconded that motion. Vote was unanimous.

**4. Treasurer’s Report –**

Bruce quickly summarized outgoing bills since our last ExCom meeting. No formal treasurer’s report was presented to the ExCom.

**A.I. Bruce needs to obtain on-line banking to view immediate PayPal transactions.**

**5. Old Business**

**I. Clarification of issues on website (e.g., active vs. affiliate) –**

This issue was clarified before this meeting. The web-site will include the five categories so people can pay Montana Chapter dues differently: Active (Pay thru National), Active (Pay On-line along w/ Meeting Registration), Active (Pay by Cash/Check at Annual Meeting), Affiliate (Pay On-line w/ Meeting Registration) and Affiliate (Pay by Cash/Check at Annual Meeting).

Immediately after this meeting, Rebecca Krogman (website developer) will give the ExCom a brief overview of our new web-site and meeting registration tools.

**A.I. Give Mark Terrazas (membership chair) and Adam Peterson (web-master) admin access to our new web-site so they can assist with the maintenance and upkeep.**

**A.I. Need to update the various procedures manual with everyone’s new duties in respect to managing our new web-site.**

**II. 2014 meeting planning update.**

**General information and needs –**

The meeting is scheduled for March 4-7, 2014 at Chico Hot Springs. A $1,575 deposit was paid to Chico Hot Springs last spring. The meeting topic has been established – “Reflecting on the Past and Anticipating the Future.” Pat Saffel has reserved five plenary speakers: Dr. Tara Teel (Colorado State University), Dr. Wayne Hubert (Retired – U. of Wyoming), Bruce Farling (National Trout Unlimited), Chris Clancy (MFWP) and Scott Spaulding (USFS). Pat is looking for a plenary session moderator.

The first day will be the annual continuing education workshop hosted by Leslie Nyce. We will do what we can to use agency/university computers and accessories to save money. There is also a need for several session moderators. Pat Byorth is coordinating a water flow symposia. Ladd Knotek looked into the possibility of a second symposia dealing with lake trout management, but gave up.

Folks wanting to use the fine-dining room at Chico Hot Springs must make nightly reservation at the time of motel booking or at check-in. Reservations are not required to eat in the bar or pool-side grill. There’s a pizza parlor down the road three miles from Chico Hot Springs at Pray, MT. All meals (lunches and dinners) will be provided, with the exception of Tuesday’s dinner and breakfasts. Chico Hot Spring does have a no-host breakfast buffet each morning in the main lobby.

Scott Opitz has agreed to be the volunteer coordinator for the entire meeting. Colorful t-shirts with MTAFS logo will be included with the price of the meeting. Extra tokens from past years will also available for distribution to the general membership. We all agreed that a cut-off number is not needed as part of the web-site meeting registration.

**A.I. Robert will check on the availability of USGS laptops and high resolution projectors.**

**A.I. Pat and Bruce will meet with Chico Hot Spring administration in January to check meeting room, eating, and motel room accommodations.**

**A.I. Bruce will change the early-bird cut-off date on the web-page from February 5, 2014 to February 19, 2014.**

**A.I. Bruce will contact the National AFS with meeting dates and location**.

**A.I. Bruce will test our new web-site and PayPal for annual meeting registration.**

**A.I. Travis is responsible for signing up vendors.**

**A.I. Someone needs to send out an e-mail to the general membership about how to access our new web-site and instructions on how to register for the upcoming annual meeting.**

**Continuing education –**

Leslie Nyce gave a quick summary of this year’s continuing education program. The title has not been chosen but it will be a basic 101 short-course in fisheries management statistics. She has contacted several possible instructors including Megan Higgs, Andrea Litt, Kathy Irvin and Steve Cherry. She will firm up plans after the holidays. It was mentioned that a couple PhD students such as John S. and Paul ? could possibly assist. The price to this class has been set at $50 which includes lunch.

**Update for newsletter (e.g., booking a room) –**

**6. New Business**

**I. Discussion on content for January newsletter –**

Please send newsletter items to Robert ASAP. Adam S. (new Awards Chair-person) needs to include a blurb in the January newsletter regarding nominations for the annual MTAFS awards which will be passed out at our annual meeting in Chico Hot Springs.

**II. President’s office recruitment update –**

Travis has contacted Steve Dalby about the possibility of being the next president elect. No confirmation has been made by Steve.

**A.I. Travis will continue asking others.**

**III. Awards –**

Adam S. needs to send out an e-mail calling for nominations for this year’s MTAFS annual awards soon after the holidays.

**7. Open Floor/Discussion –** Nothing new.

**8. Adjourn.** Vote to adjourn was unanimous. Adjourned at 1415.

The ExCom will soon join webinar with Rebecca Krogman (web-site developer).

**9. Post-December 20, 2013 ExCom Meeting –**

During the Holiday season, it became apparent that we have to synchronize our non-profit organization name with the Montana’s Secretary of State Office, Duns and Bradstreet, CCR, SAMS and IRS. Our name has to be the same at all five locations before we can receive Federal agency donations. Montana’s Secretary of State Office has us as registered as Montana Chapter, American Fisheries Society and the IRS has us as American Fisheries Society, dba Montana Chapter. Based on further investigation, Bruce feels it would be easier to change our name with the Secretary of State’s Office. This name change will work its way towards the IRS through Duns and Bradstreet, CCR and SAMS. To change our name with the Montana Secretary of State’s Office, the ExCom must first approve it. Bruce will fill out two required forms and submit a $35 check for filing fees. As per as an e-mail vote, Pat, Robert and Travis unanimously approved this action.