

## 21 April 2014 AFS Management Committee Minutes

Members (*italics = absent*): Bob Hughes, John Boreman, *Donna Parrish*, Ron Essig, Joe Margraf, Doug Austen, Jessica Mistak, *Jim Armstrong*, John Jackson, Vince Travnichek, Hilda Sexauer, *Tom Lang*, Margaret Murphy, Jesse Trushenski, Mike Stone, Jim Bowker, Pam Sponholz, Tom Bigford, Shawn Johnston, Sara Fox, Denise Spencer.

Note: A motion was approved at the 2013 Governing Board meeting to delegate additional authority to the Management Committee to facilitate the Governing Board's ability to focus on issues involving strategic planning, accountability, and the President's plan of work. Even with this delegated authority, the Management Committee is obligated to report to the Governing Board on all decisions. If there is majority approval of the Governing Board, decisions made by the Management Committee can be reopened for discussion and vote by the Governing Board. **Please respond to the President within 2 weeks if you have any questions or concerns with the decisions made by the Management Committee as described in the attached minutes.**

Travnichek moved (Essig seconded) to accept the 17 March minutes as written. Motion approved.

Travnichek moved (Boreman seconded) to approve the bylaws for the Bemidji State University Subunit of the Minnesota Chapter, Colorado Mesa University Subunit of the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter, and California State University Subunit of the Pennsylvania Chapter. Motion approved.

The Executive Director's report covered budget, membership, proposed staff changes, federal activities, and a National Workshop on Large Landscape Condition (NWLLC).

1. Because the monthly financial statements are too detailed for meaningful monthly discussion, future budgetary reviews will focus on quarterly budget statements and specific areas (e.g., publications, membership, meetings) on a monthly basis. A new Society Investment Committee, chaired by Brian Murphy, has been formed, with the charge of reviewing the Society's investment strategy. Major revenue streams (membership, books, annual meeting) are down for the year. New or renewed grants/cooperative agreements are being discussed with the USFWS, USGS, and USFS.

2. The staff has prepared a postcard for mailing to persons whose memberships have lapsed over two years ago as well as to non-Society Chapter members. A newly formed Membership Committee has been formed with one objective being recruiting and retaining young professionals.

3. The Program Committee for the Quebec City annual meeting has scheduled 41 special symposia and received 1714 abstracts from a total of 46 nations (1448 North America; 20 South America & Caribbean; 57 Asia; 20 Australia & Pacific; 5 Africa; 164 Europe). However trade show booths and sponsorships are lower than expected to date.

4. A position is being advertised for a Director of Student & Professional Development, with major responsibilities for the Society's Continuing Education courses and the Hutton mentee program.

5. The Special Committee review of the USFWS *National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) Strategic Hatchery and Workforce Planning Report* has been completed and a draft is receiving final edits by the Committee.

6. Margraf moved (Trushenski seconded) to authorize Doug Austen to develop and sign an MOU with the Chesapeake Conservancy to organize and implement the NWLLC. The NWLLC will be held 23-24 October 2014 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC. The Society shall be responsible for attendee registrations, abstracts, and overall budget coordination and will receive 50% of net revenues or incur 50% of the debt. The risk of a loss has been minimized because no hotel block will be contracted and to date the Executive Committee has received \$150K in sponsorships, with \$60,000-\$100,000 more expected. The Executive Committee and Organizing Partners include representatives from the American Fisheries Society, Chesapeake Conservancy, Chicago Wilderness, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) Network (USFWS acting as lead agency), Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance, Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation, Nature Conservancy, American Ornithologists Union, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Park Service, and US Forest Service. An estimated 400 to 600 participants are expected to attend at \$200 per person (early registration) and \$250 per person (late registration). The NWLLC will also provide additional opportunities for the Society to reach out to other potential collaborators and members. Motion approved.

Trushenski noted that she is sending the HaMR draft to the Management Committee for review, although the Steering Committee still has another GoToMeeting call planned for May to discuss final edits.

Hughes reported that the 2014 Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research were passed by the Governing Board (19 yes; 0 no). Minor technical and text revisions suggested during the review will be incorporated, and a synopsis will be published

in the June or July *Fisheries*.

**Hughes stated that the draft Society Strategic Plan was sent to the Governing Board for comment and subsequent vote by 28 April. He also noted that the Governing Board vote on the 2017 joint AFS/TWS annual meeting in Tampa is due by 28 April.**

Margraf indicated that he plans to send his suggested revisions to the Constitutional Revision Committee in May.

Essig indicated that the Fisheries Education Committee has not yet completed its *Fisheries* draft article but has begun comparing employer course expectations with fisheries school course offerings.

Essig reported that nominations have been received for all Society awards but the Sully; selected nominators are being queried about shifting their nominations to that award.

Hughes reported on his participation in the annual meeting of the Japanese Society of Fisheries Science. The program included 596 platform and 305 poster presentations (24 of which were in English), representing presenters from several different nations. The 2016 WFC meeting will be held 5-10 June in Busan, South Korea. The Society is expected to provide the WFC with a free trade show booth and time for a brief promotional film during our business meetings at our 2014 and 2015 annual meetings. We need to schedule WFC planning meetings at our next two annual meetings, and invite leaders of WFC member societies to attend. Additional tasks for the Society regarding the WFC include seeking North American sponsors, annual advertisements and *Fisheries* columns by the ED (& WFC Secretary General), adding another member to the planning committee, suggestions for plenary speakers, and a Society-sponsored/funded symposium in one of the 5 general theme areas (aquaculture, biological diversity & management, freshwater fisheries, marine fisheries & fish biology, and international collaboration & governance for sustainable fisheries & safe sea foods).

Hughes expects to complete revisions of the Mining Policy in May and then send it to the co-authors for review.

Sexauer reported that the WDAFS meeting in Mazatlan had 441 registrants from 19 nations, including 199 students from 8 nations. There were 8 concurrent sessions daily and 95 posters and 25 booths at the Poster-Trade Show. A critical part of the success of the meeting was the over \$60K in travel funds made available by the Society, WDAFS, other Divisions, Chapters, and the International Fisheries Section.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15PM ET.