



# California-Nevada Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Business Meeting

Sequoia Conference Center  
Eureka, California  
Thursday, April 6, 2017 (11:30 am – 1:00 pm)

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Introduction:

- Parliamentarian appointed – Jim Bowker (WDAFS Past President)
- Verification of quorum (20 members in good standing) – more than 25 members present
- Call to Order: 11:35 pm

### 2. Cal-Neva President Address and Chapter Update – Joe Merz

- Chapter Update
  - Approximately 395 current members
  - 300 attendees at the 2017 conference
- 2017 Cal-Neva Strategic Plan – Ramona Swenson (Past President)
  - Developed Strategic Plan around 6 key goals for the society
  - Developed a report card on our performance for 2016. Key achievements include new website revamp and great meeting in collaboration with the Western Division
  - Strategic Plan updated for 2017
    - Working on ways to grow our membership and improve student support
    - Strategic Plan shows what we are doing, and also expectations regarding what Chapter supports financially
    - Post on Facebook and website to get recommendations on how to improve
- Finance comments from Jim Bowker (WDAFS Past President) – when sitting on a lot of money, need to decide what to do with this money, but at the same time, need to protect the Chapter if expenses are higher and profits lower than projected
  - Keep enough money in the accounts to protect from any big financial hits. Investment account doing well so far, and move profits into checking and savings accounts to continue to provide member support
  - Need to determine the 'safe' financial level – perhaps going through the insurance plan with the Parent society
  - National meetings – great time to invest in students, including travel

### 3. Student Subunit Updates

- Sacramento-Davis – Brittany Davis

- Approximately 30 students and young professional (YP) members, only 10-15 are most active. Looking at how to increase member activity in the subunit
  - 10 students and YPs presenting at the 2017 annual meeting, 11 attending
  - Hold at least 1 subunit meeting per quarter
  - Attended the Salmon Festival in Winter, CA, promoting restoration and conservation
  - Carpe Carpio event at UC Davis arboretum, Teaching students and community members how to cast nets and use hook-and-line techniques
  - Outreach at River City High School, introducing students to fisheries sciences
  - Upcoming showing of DamNation, and discussions on the ecological effects of dams
  - April 22 – UC Davis annual open house “picnic day” will display 104 fish and educate on native and invasive species in the Bay-Delta system
  - Humboldt State University – Kyle Norton
    - Roughly 20 members, mostly undergraduate students
    - Hosted the Student Social for the 2017 meeting
    - Worked hard at generating more money for next year’s fund
    - Student received travel grant to attend OR Chapter AFS meeting
    - Majority of the current membership is graduating this year
  - Santa Cruz – Monterey Bay Area – Katie Kobayashi
    - 15 students at the 2017 annual meeting
    - Only second year for this subunit
      - Roughly 70 members
        - Coauthored 30 papers and 300 hours of outreach
    - Outreach chair – Haley, teaching high school students how to use DNA techniques
    - April 28 – FishTails event
    - June 3 – fishing derby
4. Treasurer Report – Jim Hobbs
- Finance update – See Treasurer’s report (attachment)
    - Treasurer is the owner of the non-profit chapter
    - Need continuity for this position
    - Review of past couple of years show periods of high income, as well as high expenses
      - Summary of profits and losses
      - Income: Annual meeting provides the largest income. Some income from donations, as well as from membership dues from parent society and investments
      - Expenditures: Annual meeting is the largest expense. Chapter also provides annual allotments to student subunits. Other expenses from Chapter business outside of the annual meetings, including monthly Executive Committee meetings.
      - Sponsorships

- Provide support to travel to western division and national meetings for Officers \$2,000 with an additional \$2,000 still to go to the Cabrillo Science Center for the updated Miller and Lea
- Placer Nature Bowl
- Current financial status
  - \$88,562 - checking
  - \$38,154 savings
  - \$93,725 Merrill Lynch
  - \$221,040 net worth
- 2017 & 2018 Budget for approval
  - Sean Luis working on getting all documents in digital form, including budgets, improve transfer of information between officers during transitions
  - New budget includes budget for travel support, student support, sponsorships, annual meeting forecast
  - Budget on a 2-year cycle
    - What do we do with our annual profits
      - Built-in contingencies to take rollovers of profits into the next year to cover things not projected in the annual budget
      - Started a small grants program for small projects (\$600 went to Santa Cruz-Monterey subunit recently). Current budget has this at \$1,000
      - Discretionary for Executive Committee Merchandise fund
  - Motion to approve budget – Jim
    - Second – Ramona Swenson
    - **Motion Approved**

## 5. Secretary Report – Stephanie Theis

- Motion to approve meeting minutes for March – Stephanie Theis
  - Second – Laurie Earley
  - **Motion Approved**
- Officers election for 2017
  - Candidate for President-Elect: Steve Brumbaugh
  - Candidates for Treasurer: Jim Hobbs and Brian Mahardja
  - NOTE: Announcement of winners provided at banquet
    - President-Elect: Steve Brumbaugh
    - Treasurer: Jim Hobbs

## 6. Awards and Grants

- Chapter Awards – Pat Coulston
  - Listed out all the categories. Awards are all approved by the Executive Committee

- 10 awards in 4 of the 5 categories to be presented at the banquet
  - Nominations, which can be sent at any time during the year, should be sent to Pat
  - List of award recipients will be presented on the website
  - Travel Grants – Shawn Acuna
    - First half of the year: travel awards for just the Chapter annual meeting
    - Last half of the year: travel support for national meeting or other meetings/training
    - Supports students and young professionals
7. 2016 Western Division/Chapter AFS Joint Meeting, Reno, NV Recap – Laurie Earley
- Over 500 attendees from 22 states, several countries
  - 4 continuing education courses
  - 5 field tours
  - Very successful meeting
- 8. Time and Place – Laurie Earley**
- 2018 – San Luis Obispo, February 28 to March 2, 2018
  - 2019 – 149<sup>th</sup> Annual AFS Meeting, Reno, NV, October 2018.
    - Jesse Trushenski, AFS First Vice President)
      - This meeting will be a joint national meeting with The Wildlife Society (TWS). TWS holds meetings in a different format than AFS. Signed an MOU for an integrated meeting
      - Parent society to help take the big expenses off of the Chapter, Will provide an increase in local input
      - Jesse will be presiding as AFS President for that meeting.
  - 2020 – still to be determined. Will likely be in the Sacramento area
9. New or Other Business
- Jim Bowker working to keep close coordination between the Western Division and the Chapter
  - Western Division is looking for new officers, but it is a struggle
    - Great opportunity to elevate issues to a Society level (Examples for our Chapter: Website development, Certification)
    - Membership leadership program now emergent to build the AFS leadership
    - Revamped the Unit leadership guide – how to run your unit and address concerns that keep affecting the chapters, how to recruit, how to deal with annual meetings, insurance, etc. – found online on the national website
10. Next meeting – May 25, 2017 (later changed to May 31), 6 pm to 7:30 pm, West Sacramento
11. Motion to Adjourn: Joe Merz
- Second: Laurie Earley
  - Motion Approved and Meeting Adjourned: 1:08 pm

## **Attachments**

- Strategic Plan materials (2016, 2016 Report Card, and 2017)
- Committee Chair Updates
- Treasurers Report
- 2-year Budget