



California-Nevada Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Meeting

Location: Zoom Call
Date: March 3, 2021
Time: 12:00 – 1:00pm
Call-in: Zoom invitation via CVENT meeting website

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions – 12:05
2. Verification of Quorum (Matt Young - Parliamentarian) – 12:32
 - Need 20 members in good standing
 - Elected officers: Matt Young, Dave Lentz, Jose Setka, Rob Titus, Nicole Kwan
 - Standing committee chairs: Gary Sprague, Chris Parker, James Hobbs, Shawn Acuna, Stephanie Durkacz, Lisa Thompson, Ramona Swenson
 - Members at large: Mark Gard, Naoaki Ikemiyagi, Thomas Keegan, Emily Chen, Branden DeMattei, Tyler Pilger, Eva Bush
 - Student sub-units: Kat Dale
3. Update on activities (Rob Titus)
 - Reno meeting recap
 - i. 2,141 AFS attendees
 - ii. Great joint social with TWS western section; would like to do something similar with Sacramento TWS Chapter in the future
 - iii. Made some profit for the Chapter, in excess of \$50,000
 - President's work plan included:
 - i. Building membership and recapture fishery management community
 - ii. Expand outreach and conservation activities
 - iii. Continue work of past presidents

- 54th Cal-Neva annual meeting scheduled in 2020 in Folsom had to be cancelled due to COVID-19
 - i. However, the chapter was able to host a portion of the AFS Virtual Spring Conference in May 2020, providing opportunities to present for some who would have at the Folsom meeting
- Western Division duties
 - i. Rob interfaced with the division through a mid-year retreat in Boise, ID
 - ii. 2020 Western Division meeting in Vancouver, BC had to be cancelled due to COVID-19
 - iii. Cal-Neva was awarded Outstanding Large Chapter in WDAFS
- Committee updates
 - i. Membership committee dissolved and membership tracking was moved to the duties of the Secretary
 - ii. Jim Hobbs became Chapter Historian (previously vacant)
 - iii. The Chapter Procedure Manual was updated (major contributions by Past Presidents R Swenson and S Brumbaugh)
 - iv. Monthly ExComm meetings were held first in-person and then over the phone and virtually during the pandemic
- AFS National recognized the Cal-Neva Chapter with its Outstanding Large Chapter Award!

4. Update on activities (Dave Lentz)

- President's work plan (Oct 2020 – Sep 2021) included:
 - i. Assist the Chapter in executing a successful virtual annual meeting
 - ii. Maintain a healthy budget
 - iii. Review Society's updated Strategic Plan to inform revision of Chapter's Plan
 - iv. Review standing committees
 - v. Support Chapter efforts to enhance diversity and inclusion initiatives
 - vi. Continue work of past presidents

- vii. Adaptive management based upon changing circumstances during the pandemic

5. Officer updates

- Secretary report (Kathleen Berridge/Nicole Kwan)
 - i. Meeting minutes are posted to the Chapter website
 - ii. Membership peaked just before the Reno meeting at 511 (largest Chapter in AFS) and has dropped a bit since, currently at 276
 - 1. Encourage folks to renew membership and recruit new membership
 - 2. Have had good representation(27 of 276) of student members in the Chapter
- Treasurer report (Jose Setka)
 - i. Budget objective is to maintain two annual meetings worth of funds in a stable checking/saving account while also maintaining a Merrill Lynch account with an objective of growth
 - ii. Current Chapter total: \$296,7000
- Committee Chair updates
 - i. Continuing education: Stephanie Durkacz organized the 2021 virtual meeting continuing education courses and is looking to organize similar opportunities between meetings
 - ii. Conservation: Gary Sprague working with Tracking Recovering America's Wildlife Act in Congress, tracking Salmon Focused Investments in Sustainable Habitats Act, reviewed the 2019 Biological Opinion for the CVP and SWP, participated in 2020 Spring-run Chinook Salmon Workshop, and worked with National AFS to develop comments on the ESA regulatory definition of 'habitat'
 - iii. Communications: Lisa Thompson sent 19 e-newsletters and e-newsblasts, provided regular updates to Cal-Neva Chapter website, coordinated Chapter officer elections, did a complete re-build of the Chapter website following HQ server replacement, developed Communications Committee ReadMe files for

all communication software, and updated the Chapter's Constant Contact template

- iv. Bylaws & Nominations: Ramona Swenson found candidates for the 2020 and 2021 elections and helped with revisions and updates to the Procedure Manual
- v. Merchandise: Chris Parker sold merchandise at Reno meeting and is maintaining a stock of several items for future events
- vi. Policy and Resolutions: Sheena Holley prepared the Chapter's comment Letters on the 2019 Biological Opinions for the Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project and submitted this to USFWS(Delta Smelt) and NMFS (Salmonid and Sturgeon); the letters are archived on the Chapter website
- vii. Diversity and Outreach: Esther Tracy planned activities for 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19), drafted a Solidarity Statement, and has been reaching out to new groups to engage with, including Sacramento State's Field Biology Group.
- viii. Awards: Zach Bess produced Chapter Awards for Distinguished Professional Achievements(Nann Fanguie, Damon Goodman, Stewart Reid), Moyle-Deacon Native Fishes Award (Steve Parmenter), and Special Contributions (Kelly Souza, Jim Hobbs, Brian Mahardja) in 2020 and will prepare awards for 2022 when we can present awards in-person again
- ix. Grants: Shawn Acuna organized grants for chapter members, which includes student travel grants and small project grants, and awarded small project grants for 2020
- x. Time and Place: Kelly Souza has set up arrangements for the 2022 Annual Meeting tentatively planned to take place at Tenaya Lodge in Yosemite and is planning a venue for 2023 in Southern California
- xi. Student sub-units:

1. Sac-Davis: Involving students through Zoom meetings, socials, and the student-run National Colloquium. Currently planning for a Picnic Day Video, Carp Fishing Derby, more Zoom panels, and continuing participation in the student colloquium
2. Santa Cruz-Monterey Bay: In 2020 they fundraised, hosted journal clubs, and hosted fish-themed game nights. In 2021 they plan to host a diverse voices in fisheries science seminar series, beach cleanup, journal clubs, “science adjacent” book club, and Trout in the Classroom with 3 classrooms. SCMBA has been awarded Western Division and National Society outstanding student sub-unit multiple times
 - a. At this meeting, Emily Chen (representing Western Division) awarded this unit the Western Division Outstanding Student Sub-Unit award for the 4th year in a row!

6. 2019 Business Meeting Minutes were approved

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