



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

Location: Zoom Meeting
Date: June 17th, 2021
Time: 6:00 – 6:59
Call-in: See Zoom Invitation

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Verification of Quorum (Nicole Kwan) – 6:14
 - 3 elected officers and 3 standing committee chairs
 - Elected officers: Matt Young, Jose Setka, Nicole Kwan
 - Standing committee chairs: Wayne Lifton, Esther Tracy, Zach Bess
 - Student sub-units: Taylor Zenobia, Kat Dale
 - Future officer: Eva Bush
3. Agenda Review (Dave and ExComm)
4. Focused Discussion/New and On-Going Business
 - N/A
5. Officer Updates
 - Secretary (Nicole Kwan)
 - Recent membership update as of 6/10: 341 members; up from 339 in May
 - Nicole will give some more time for review of the May meeting minutes since she just sent them around earlier this week
 - Treasurer (Jose Setka)
 - Account balances:
 - Bank of America Checking Balance as of 6/17/2021: \$112,118.44
 - Bank of America Savings Balance as of 6/17/2021: \$38,782.51

- Merrill Lynch Balance as of 6/17/2021: \$137,058.30
 - Total: \$287,959.25
 - Largest expenditure was placing \$9,500 deposit on LNI
 - Included information on Merrill Lynch account in recent email and offered to discuss the account with anyone who may have concerns/questions
 - ~\$6,800 coming to the Chapter soon from the Idaho Chapter from the annual meeting
- President (Dave Lentz) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Western Division updates:
 - Annual meeting had 421 registrants with revenue about \$36K of which the Division share was approximately \$15K
 - 2022 meeting will be combined with the National meeting in Spokane
 - Western Division officer change will happen in August
 - Chapter officer transitions:
 - Chapter bylaws call for the officer change to happen when the National conference occurs but since it is occurring late (in November) this year the Chapter is thinking of aligning with the Division and changing over officers in August instead
 - Strategic Plan: Dave is reviewing Society and Chapter plans during July and August and is seeking other volunteer reviewers. Dave is checking-in with committee chairs, to learn status of their committees.
- Past President (Rob Titus) – not present
- President-Elect (Matt Young)
 - 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting funds have been resolved and are being transferred to the Chapter from the Idaho Chapter

6. Committee Updates

- Time and Place (Kelly Souza) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Kelly and Dave have signed a contract with Lake Natoma Inn for Feb 14-17, 2022
 - \$9,500 deposit has been placed with LNI

- Kelly met with IEP and updated the Scope of Work language to add flexibility with future working relationships with IEP.
- Continuing Education (Stephanie Durkacz) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Stephanie is working on getting a mid-year continuing education course
 - Would be a half day workshop over Zoom probably relating to fish passage
- Conservation (Gary Sprague) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Dave, Gary, and Drue Winters sent sponsorship request letters to CA and NV representatives expressing support of the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA) and seeking more congressional co-sponsors. This effort is one of the Society’s key legislative goals.
- Communications (Lisa Thompson) – not present
 - Lisa has resigned but is willing to help with some updates in the immediate future
 - Currently no one in charge of her past duties
 - ExComm discussed potential folks who could take over the role
 - Esther suggested sending a request out to membership
 - Lisa had suggestions for roles of committee chairs but Matt will save the larger discussion for when more committee chairs are present but one main thought:
 - It might be helpful to set timelines for committee chairs with larger year-round responsibilities
- Bylaws and Nominations (Ramona Swenson) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Ramona is working on Strategic Plan
- Grants (Shawn Acuña) – not present (Matt gave update)
 - Shawn proposing to adjust the travel grant back to original format of 2 awards at \$750/each instead of the small grants established during 2020 due to virtual conferences during the pandemic
 - The ExComm voted to approve this change
- Merchandise (Chris Parker) – not present

- Fundraising (Andrew Hampton) – not present
- Finance (Wayne Lifton)
 - Wayne will be taking a look at the Merrill Lynch report that Jose sent
 - Jose offered to discuss and loop in the Chapter’s account representative if desired
- Policy and Resolutions (Sheena Holley) – not present
- Chapter Historian (Jim Hobbs) – not present
- Awards (Zach Bess) – no update
- Outreach and Diversity (Esther Tracy)
 - Western Division meeting included a proposal to develop a DEI or anti-racist ambassador program that would start as a grassroots program
 - Emily Chen recently developed a survey to see how Chapters reach out and recruit new leaders and folks are thinking about how to recruit more diverse leadership
 - This survey will be sent to Ramona
 - Taylor asked if it could be sent to student sub-unit presidents as well
 - **Action:** Esther will arrange to have the survey sent to sub-unit presidents
 - Western Division will be adding a sentence to newsletters to let folks know about their mentorship program and opportunities to join as a mentee or mentor; focused on helping early career members
 - Esther wanted to come up with membership mixer and was wondering if the Chapter would be comfortable with an in-person event and suggested having opportunities both in northern and southern CA
 - Matt thinks that given the lack of in-person events with the Chapter since 2019 it would be nice and suggested an outdoor venue; likes the idea of reaching out to different locations
 - Esther mentioned that the Division is starting to use social media (Instagram, TikTok) more to engage with younger audiences

- Matt mentioned creation of content would be good but also very time consuming
 - Taylor mentioned that there are business accounts in which multiple people could post and edit
 - Nicole mentioned that we would need to find a way to make sure everyone agrees with the public facing image of the Chapter
 - **Action:** Esther will develop this idea more and discuss with the larger ExComm at a future meeting
- Native Fishes (Damon Goodman) – not present

7. Student Sub-Unit Updates

- Santa Cruz Monterey Bay Area (Kat Dale)
 - Sub-Unit is working on a “student angle” for Fisheries magazine focusing on things they have learned from their Diverse Voices in Fisheries Science outreach program
 - Recently hosted a social event
 - Have plans to conduct member surveys this summer and continue posting on social media
 - Sub-Unit participating in the Sheeps Head Shuffle being organized by the Florida sub-unit to raise money and then the SCMBAS sub-unit will match the amount and give the full sum as a donation to the Santa Cruz Boys and Girls Club
 - **Action:** Kat will share these details with the ExComm over listserv so others can participate if desired
 - Officer transition happens in October/November
- UC Davis/Sacramento (Kim Luke and John Liu) – not present
- Humboldt (Taylor Zenobia)
 - Sub-unit taking a break from activities for the summer
 - Officer transitions will take place with the new school year

8. Next meeting: July 15th, 2021

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