



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

Location: Zoom Meeting  
Date: May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Time: 6:00 – 8:17  
Call-in: See Zoom Invitation

### Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Verification of Quorum (Nicole Kwan) – 6:08
  - 3 elected officers and 3 standing committee chairs
    - Elected officers: Dave Lentz, Jose Setka, Rob Titus, Nicole Kwan, Matt Young
    - Standing committee chairs: Gary Sprague, Zach Bess, Wayne Lifton, Stephanie Durkacz, Lisa Thompson, Andrew Hampton, Kelly Souza
    - Student sub-units: Taylor Zenobia, Laura Goetz
    - Future officer: Eva Bush
3. Agenda Review (Dave and ExComm)
4. Focused Discussion/New and On-Going Business
  - Alameda Creek Alliance request
    - Dave let Ted Frink know via a call about the Chapter's decision about the request and shared his response
    - The ExComm agreed that the decision was made as a group and since it was mainly a process issue rather than a fisheries issue it was not the role of the Chapter to weigh in
  - Coastal Monitoring Workshop event on Cal-Neva Spatial Chat
    - NOAA and CDFW incorporated Spatial Chat into their workshop as a breakout room

- Dave upgraded the Chapter's membership with Spatial Chat and Nicole updated the virtual space for their needs
- 30-40 people attended the breakout in Spatial Chat and the members appreciated the use of the space
- **Action:** Nicole will take down the CMW information from the rooms

## 5. Officer Updates

- Secretary (Nicole Kwan)
  - Recent membership update as of 5/10: 339 member up from 332 in April
  - ExComm voted to approve the meeting minutes from April
- Treasurer (Jose Setka)
  - Bank of America Checking Balance as of 5/20/2021: \$123,697.19
  - Bank of America Savings Balance as of 5/20/2021: \$38,782.18
  - Merrill Lynch Balance as of 5/20/2021: \$135,290.72
  - Total: \$297,770.09 (decrease of \$2,666.51 over April 2021)
  - Notes:
    - All of the conference awards and charity donations have gone out and most are cleared
    - Jose is waiting on response for the small grant award grantee so he can get that check out
    - Tax filing extended; should be done in the Aug/Sep time period
- President (Dave Lentz)
  - WDAFS Update
    - The Division held their 2021 virtual online meeting last week
      - Some Chapter members attended and gave presentations
      - Excellent talks on climate change and plenary session on advocacy (as it relates to scientists taking positions on policy decisions, arguing for a cause)
        - ExComm discussed the challenge of separating science, personal beliefs, and policy from each other

- Mixture of live and recorded sessions
  - Had social events through Gather.town (similar to Spatial Chat); included a gathering of past-presidents of the division
- Held their business meeting online
  - Society president gave a report about AFS logo rebrand; it will be about 6 more months until it is revealed
  - New fellowship (MOAT) that just came online
  - Division elected new officers – Kat Dale will be the new student representative!
    - Officer turnover will take place in August
  - Society election will begin next week
- New officers/turnover
  - Dave believes the Procedure Manual states that the Chapter turns over officers at the same time as the Society
  - ExComm agreed on having the officer change occur in August/September along with the Society
- President's 2021 Work Plan
  - Dave is continuing to work on this and solicited any feedback from committee chairs on needs
- Past President (Rob Titus)
  - Working with Lisa on website updates
- President-Elect (Matt Young)
  - Annual Meeting material will remain up until June 6<sup>th</sup>
  - The Chapter has not received any payment dispersals yet from CVENT
    - This is related to challenges with the previous link to the Idaho Chapter's merchant account
    - For an unknown reason, the new merchant account for our Chapter did not get recorded properly and seems to have gone to Idaho; even though an initial test deposit on March 3<sup>rd</sup> worked

- First step is for Idaho Chapter to look over their numbers and make sure what they have is accurate, because they may have also not received all of their funds. Matt and Jose are working with them to figure this situation out
- CVENT has been responsive but could be more helpful in the process
- Matt and Dave may need to follow up in the future with Sean Johnson to share the situation and see if this may have been a more systemic issue across other chapters
  - Current agreement with CVENT is only for this year

## 6. Committee Updates

- Time and Place (Kelly Souza)
  - 2022 Meeting
    - Lake Natoma has the dates the Chapter wants in February 2022 and are happy to have us back
    - Hosting at Lake Natoma (\$32k) would be half the price of Tenaya (\$64k)
    - Kelly has already picked out the food and coffee
    - We need a \$9,000 deposit to secure the dates
    - ExComm reiterated the good reasons for Lake Natoma: sticking on the cycle of rotating around the state by having it in Sacramento, student participation would be improved, lower food costs, more accessible for folks from around both states, room in the budget for option of hybrid event
      - ExComm voted to move forward with Lake Natoma and make the deposit
  - IEP Relationship
    - IEP wants to know if we can help them for 2022 while they look into alternatives; also had suggested joining a meeting to brainstorm options
    - Dave reached out to Dan Cassidy with the Society to see if there are any unforeseen risks to the Chapter by being a part of this partnership

- Jose shared that the Chapter currently has ~\$5,800 of IEP proceeds.
  - Continuing Education (Stephanie Durkacz)
    - Two surveys about continuing education
      - 1) To follow up with those who took continuing education classes at the annual meeting
        - 3 respondents; all rated the experience highly
      - 2) To membership about what they are interested in seeing in the future
        - 42 respondents
        - 90% interested in attending virtual workshops
        - Varied interest in subject areas including statistics, fish passage, restoration, and science communication
        - Most people voted for 1-2 hours or half days with another smaller group interested in multi-half day
        - More lukewarm response on virtual networking events
          - Most popular was a film screening and discussion
        - Moderate interest for seminars
    - Stephanie suggests moving forward with creating a short workshop
      - For a short course, a topic like fish passage or restoration may be more appropriate than a topic like statistics
- Conservation (Gary Sprague)
  - WDAFS is working on a new letter responding to the Snake River dam removal proposal
  - Recovery America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) Support letter to CA and NV congressional delegation
    - Drue Winters requested the Chapter write letters to 16 CA and NV delegates who have not taken a side on the RAWA
    - RAWA would provide significant funds to CA and NV to help implement fish and wildlife conservation in the states
    - RAWA is one of the Society's top policy priorities this year

- **Action:** If interested, see Gary's letter distributed to the ExComm mailing list and provide any relevant feedback by Monday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm
- Communications (Lisa Thompson)
  - Posted job opportunities and sent out a newsblast for SCMBAS advertising their Diverse Voices in Fisheries speaker series
  - Next quarterly newsblast should come out in July
- Bylaws and Nominations (Ramona Swenson) – not present
- Grants (Shawn Acuña) – not present
- Merchandise (Chris Parker) – not present
- Fundraising (Andrew Hampton) – no longer present
- Finance (Wayne Lifton)
  - Will work with Jose to think about moving some of the Merrill Lynch funds to areas less influenced by inflation
- Policy and Resolutions (Sheena Holley) – not present
- Chapter Historian (Jim Hobbs) – not present
- Awards (Zach Bess)
  - Zach offered his assistance to other committee chairs that need help
- Outreach and Diversity (Esther Tracy) – not present
- Native Fishes (Damon Goodman) – not present

## 7. Student Sub-Unit Updates

- Santa Cruz Monterey Bay Area (Laura Goetz)
  - Sub-unit accepted WDAFS Outstanding Student Sub-Unit award
  - Great attendance at Diverse Voices in Fisheries speaker series
- UC Davis/Sacramento (Kim Luke and John Liu) – not present
- Humboldt (Taylor Zenobia)
  - HSU school year has ended
  - Bought merchandise for the sub-unit
  - Several graduate students in the sub-unit are planning to go to the Baltimore conference

- Want to promote the Folsom conference and foster undergraduate attendance
- Funding from the state will support HSU transitioning into a California Polytechnic university

8. Next meeting: June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**ADJOURN 8:17**