



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

Location: Zoom Meeting
Date: October 21st, 2021
Time: 6:00 – 7:57
Call-in: See Zoom Invitation

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Verification of Quorum (Nicole Kwan) – 6:02
 - 3 elected officers and 3 standing committee chairs
 - Elected officers: Matt Young, Eva Bush, Nicole Kwan, Jose Setka, Dave Lentz
 - Standing committee chairs: Gary Sprague, Cynthia Le Doux-Bloom, Jim Hobbs, Kathleen Berridge, Ramona Swenson, Wayne Lifton, Zach Bess
 - Student sub-units: Kim Luke, Hayley Mapes (Cal Poly), Kat Dale
3. Agenda Review (Matt and ExComm)
4. Focused Discussion/New and On-Going Business
 - Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (SLO) Student Sub-Unit
 - Hayley Mapes from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo joined the meeting to learn more about the Chapter and express interest in creating a student sub-unit at the university
 - Matt offered that the ExComm and student sub-units can help provide materials as needed to help get the sub-unit up and running
 - Chapter annual meeting
 - Eva, Kelly, and Dave met for the first planning meeting and came up with 3 potential directions for the annual meeting:
 - 1. All in person, no streaming/recording

- 2. In person and livestream (no Q&A interaction, no posting of recording)
 - 3. In person and livestream & record (no Q&A interaction, posting after meeting is over)
 - 4. All virtual
- Eva would like the Chapter's meeting to follow the 2021 Society annual meetings policy of requiring proof of vaccination and masks
- There is also a question of whether we would want to reduce occupancy to 50 or 75% of capacity
- Other Chapters: Oregon is doing all virtual due to state requirements, Alaska is doing all virtual due to low vaccination rate, Idaho is looking at a hybrid option, Montana is virtual determined by a survey, Utah is in-person with a virtual update after the conference, Arizona/New Mexico is doing in-person but may also have a virtual component
 - Many of these Chapters plan to use CVENT
 - Dave noted that Society was going to work with CVENT to prepare a similar contract to what was available during 2021 (including similar services and \$5,000 price tag)
- Nicole is interested in seeing how many presenters would not want to be in person and suggested, if we do choose to go with a virtual platform, having a virtual day of presentations
 - Cynthia mentioned that it would be hard to moderate a session with live and virtual talks, likes the idea of a virtual day to get around this
- ExComm also workshopped and liked the idea of giving the presenters the option to record and submit their presentation as well as giving it live. Those and talks by presenters who didn't wish to come in person could be posted.
 - These could be posted on the website and YouTube
 - If we had a lot of presenters not comfortable coming in person those talks could be grouped for a virtual day with a 1 hour Zoom Q&A, or something of the sort

- Think live speakers recording their talks in advanced should be encouraged but not mandatory
- After discussion, ExComm is leaning towards an in-person meeting, no livestream, hosting of prerecorded talks
- Theme: Eva would like to highlight diversity, equity, and inclusion (should not just be a one-year issue) and climate change
- Plenary speakers not yet discussed but we would need to determine if they would need to come in person or could present virtually
- Next planning meeting will be November 9th at 6:30pm
 - **Action:** Eva will send out an invitation and draft ideas for who can lead what aspects

5. Officer Updates

- Secretary (Nicole Kwan)
 - Again did not receive any membership updates, will reach out to Society for update
 - Dave did get a membership email from Society and will pass this along to Nicole so she can figure out who to contact
 - ExComm voted to approve the meeting minutes from August and September
- Treasurer (Jose Setka)
 - Accounts
 - Bank of America Checking Balance as of 10/19/2021: \$113,231.60
 - Bank of America Savings Balance as of 10/19/2021: \$38,783.81
 - Merrill Lynch Balance as of 10/19/2021: \$140,462.83
 - Total: \$292,478.24 (decrease of \$2,107.99 over September 2021)
 - Expenditures include monthly expenses, student subunit funds (\$1000 per Santa Cruz and HSU; Sac-Davis is still figuring out how to cash), and Baltimore meeting travel
 - Received completed 2020 tax forms for review prior to 11/15

- Working on getting Society routing information to aid in their transition to electronic transactions
- President (Matt Young)
 - Society Annual Meeting update
 - Rob Titus will be Chapter representative for Cal-Neva at Society's annual meeting
 - Matt and Dave will be attending virtually
 - Annual Retreat
 - Due to ExComm date restrictions December 4th was settled on
 - Goal is to make it a 1 day in-person meeting with call in option
 - Space requirements: outdoor covered space, ability to call in, capacity for at least 15 people
 - **Action**: think about venue options that could work and let Matt know
 - **Action**: Reserve Saturday, December 4th for our annual retreat.
 - Cynthia suggested seeing if Lake Natoma Inn would be able to offer something
 - Matt will share the Work Plan next month
- Past President (Dave Lentz)
 - Dave will be contacting committee chairs for a very brief report on what happened in their committees over the past year
 - Working with the Strategic Plan committee on updates to the plan
- President-Elect (Eva Bush)
 - Western Division meeting updates
 - WDAFS is undertaking a review of procedures manual for their officer roles and committees. They are also looking at restructure the membership levels and make changes to undergrad/grad student instead of just student membership as well as the lifetime membership.

- WDAFS sent out a logo for the Spokane meeting, hoping that chapters will promote/advertise the upcoming meeting in their newsletters and social media. Call for symposia will go out Dec 1.
- CVENT – if the Chapter wants to use this platform we will need to let Shaun Johnson know
- Discussed different Chapter’s annual meetings (detailed above)
- Letters of support for Recovering America’s Wildlife and the Simpson Letter were discussed, though few Chapters submitted ones
- Alaska Chapter would like advice on social media outreach

6. Committee Updates

- Time and Place (Kelly Souza) – not present
 - Matt shared that he, Kelly, and Jose have been going back and forth with IEP on language for their agreement
- Continuing Education (Cynthia LeDoux Bloom)
 - Cynthia has explored the contact list for continuing education chairs at other Chapters and has been reaching out to see what they are working on
 - Shared that the field tours were always a big draw for SRF and was hoping to implement a field tour for Cal-Neva in the future (probably future years, not this one)
 - Put in a plug for a Chapter meeting in Monterey in the future so she can utilize her contacts there for great field trips
 - Ramona suggested putting a poll out to membership
 - Ideas for the future: large woody debris projects, gravel augmentation projects, tour of Sentinel, tour of Yolo Bypass, hatchery/disease lab tours
 - Discussed including local tribes to share perspectives and/or present
- Conservation (Gary Sprague)
 - Gary got a request from Dru Winters to have members contact members in the US House to push for the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act

- Currently no California co-sponsors in the House, do have sponsors in the Senate
 - Society sent out a request earlier this month; Gary wonders if the Chapter should share this message as well, Dave believe this would be a good idea. Kathleen suggested using Constant Contact for this message
 - **Action:** Gary will provide Kathleen text to use in a Constant Contact message
- Western Division Resource Policy and Environmental Concerns Committee (RPECC)
 - Paper is coming together in response to the Simpson proposal
- These items are summarized in an email Gary sent to ExComm
- Communications (Kathleen Berridge)
 - Kathleen has been keeping up with job postings that she sees via social media or UCD job postings; feel free to also email her directly with opportunities
 - Has a draft for an annual meeting save-the-date, just waiting on a little more content before sending out
- Bylaws and Nominations (Ramona Swenson)
 - Ramona working with UCI group to help review bylaws and invites Cal Poly SLO prospective sub-unit to contact her for help, if needed
 - Time to put together list of candidates for Secretary and President-Elect election
 - **Action:** Provide Ramona with a name!
 - Eva offered that she could share via Twitter as well
- Grants (Shawn Acuña) – not present
 - Dave mentioned that we haven't spent much of the budget for grants this year and suggests boosting student travel grants for the meeting in Folsom; this would require working with Shawn soon to prepare this
 - Cynthia highlighted the challenges for HSU students who were limited by lack of transportation; also mentioned that there are several tribal members who would be interested in coming with the help of funding

- Merchandise (Chris Parker) – not present
- Exhibits/Fundraising (Andrew Hampton) – not present
- Finance (Wayne Lifton)
 - Wayne has talked to a couple folks regarding investment and is getting mixed recommendations – one suggested stocks and the other suggested stocks and bonds
 - Will discuss this further with Jose, but believes a chat with the Merrill Lynch representative would be useful and will work towards scheduling that meeting
 - Jose agrees some money should be moved out of the bank account into small growth investments
 - Jose also pointed out that the Chapter has a lot in its account for a non-profit organization and is not sure if there is a limit – will check with tax specialist if they have advice; should not continue to grow
 - Jim pointed out that we have been spending less due to COVID
 - Ramona suggested using some of the funds for speaker honorariums and supporting presenters
- Policy and Resolutions (Sheena Holley) – not present
- Chapter Historian (Jim Hobbs)
 - Creation of 150th Anniversary table was let go due to lack of time
- Awards (Zach Bess)
 - Working on Special Contribution awards with Stephanie and Lisa and will chat with Dave about an appropriate way of honoring them
- Outreach and Diversity (Esther Tracy) – not present
- Native Fishes (Damon Goodman) – not present

7. Student Sub-Unit Updates

- Santa Cruz Monterey Bay Area (Kat Dale)
 - The sub-unit had a happy hour social with raffle a week ago; good turnout with ~30 people including those interested in running for positions
 - 4 of the raffle items was a comped registration for AFS and Cal-Neva

- Elections will be held and announced soon
- Student Angle was submitted to Fisheries
- Hearing from members about what they are looking for, responses include:
networking, fish trivia
 - Matt suggested including fish trivia at the annual meeting
- SCMBAs will host a student networking social for SRF at a local restaurant as part of the upcoming annual meeting
- Davis/Sacramento (Kim Luke)
 - Had first meeting in the park and got signups for the listserv
 - Will be hosting Carpe Carpio event soon
 - Using UCD fish course to try and promote AFS
 - Group will attend Winter's Salmon festival if it occurs
- Humboldt (Taylor Zenobia) – not present
 - Nicole shared an update from Taylor that they are still waiting approval from the student association for full status as a registered student organization
- Irvine (Matea Djokic)
 - Matt shared an update from Matea that they are well on their way to becoming an official sub-unit but need their advisor to renew their membership
 - Jose suggested having Cal-Neva comp the membership if that is what is limiting renewal

8. Next meeting: November 18th, 2021

ADJOURN 7:57