



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

Location: Lake Natoma Inn, Folsom

Date: May 27, 2022

Time: 12:20 – 1:42pm

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions – Matt Young
2. Verification of Quorum (Nicole Kwan) – 12:29
 - Need 20 members in good standing
 - Elected officers: Matt Young, Eva Bush, Dave Lentz, Jose Setka, Nicole Kwan
 - Standing committee chairs: Chris Parker, James Hobbs, Shawn Acuna, Ramona Swenson, Andrew Hampton, Zach Bess, Gary Sprague, Cynthia Le Doux-Bloom, Wayne Lifton, Kathleen Berridge
 - Members at large: 20+ members present and confirmed
 - Student sub-units: Kim Luke, Z Zenobia, Hayley Mapes
3. Update on annual meetings
 - 2021
 - i. Meeting was virtual with 112 registrants
 - ii. 2 virtual continuing education courses offered
 - iii. Net revenue of \$3,349
 - 2022
 - i. Field tour
 - ii. 85 presentations
 - iii. ~150 participants
4. Officer updates
 - President's report (Matthew Young)

- i. Plan of Work
 - 1. Execute successful annual meeting
 - 2. Support student membership
 - 3. Support professional growth of membership
 - 4. Work to implement select recommendations of the Western Division Diversity & Inclusion committee
 - President-elect report (Eva Bush)
 - i. Tuesday morning a conference survey will come out for feedback on the event
 - Secretary report (Nicole Kwan)
 - i. Membership 325 as of 5/10
 - 1. Usually a dip around the end of the year since the membership cycle is based on calendar year - reminder to renew membership not only for AFS but also the Cal-Neva Chapter, this ensures you will be on the Chapter's email list
 - ii. Monthly ExComm minutes are posted to the Chapter website
 - Treasurer report (Jose Setka)
 - i. Budget objectives:
 - 1. Maintain equivalent of two annual meetings worth of funds in a stable checking/savings at \$75k per meeting
 - 2. Growth in less-predictable Merrill Lynch account with eye on the long term (approximately 8% loss over 12 months)
 - ii. Budgets for 2022 and 2023 approved by the ExComm at Dec 2021 mid-year retreats
 - Past-president report (Dave Lentz)
 - i. Working with a committee of volunteers to review the Cal-Neva 2018 Strategic Plan to align with the Society's Strategic Plan
5. Elections update (Nicole Kwan)
- Incoming President-Elect: Miranda Bell-Tilcock

- Incoming Secretary: Mollie Ogaz

6. Committee Chair updates

- Continuing education: Cynthia Le Doux-Bloom
 - i. Developed member survey to guide current and future continuing education activities and would like everyone to take the survey
 - ii. Developing: new and enhancing existing education opportunities for students and young professional, hands-on learning opportunities associated with annual conference locations, educational webinars around emerging issues in fishes, habitat, and policies
 1. Member suggested workshops for mentoring those with mental health issues
- Conservation: Gary Sprague
 - i. Assisting Society with promoting the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) bill
 1. Would provide funds to states, including California and Nevada for species support and recovery efforts
 - ii. Snake River Dam Removal
 1. Western Division Resources Policy and Environmental Concerns Committee developed a response to U.S. Representative Simpson's proposal of the four lower dams, effort resulted in a publication
- Communications: Kathleen Berridge
 - i. Thank you to Lisa Thompson for 5 years of services as this chair prior to Kathleen
 - ii. Priority to increase social media presence, started by creating the Cal-Neva Instagram account (@calneva.afs) and looking for support if folks are interested
- Bylaws & Nominations: Ramona Swenson
 - i. Supported new student subunits as they develop bylaws (UC Irvine and SLO)
 - ii. Recruited candidates for 2022 officer elections for President and Secretary

- iii. Seeking nominations for 2023 elections for President and Treasurer
- iv. Cal-Neva AFS ExComm provides many opportunities for personal growth, connection with fun and passionate fisheries folks, and meaningful service
- Grants: Shawn Acuna
 - i. 2021 semi-annual travel grants would have covered registration costs but did not receive any applicants
 - ii. 2022 travel grants were awarded to 2 members: Mahammad Khan and Hayley Mapes
 - iii. Small grant for 2020 was awarded to Ann Holmes and in 2021 to Kat Dale and Rachel Finchman for their respective research projects
- Merchandise: Chris Parker
 - i. During 2021 conference pivoted to put swag money (\$2,500 + a bit extra) into 3 chosen nonprofits that promote diversity and the outdoors: Cast Hope, Captain Rollo's Kids at Sea, LandPaths
 - ii. Merchandise sales took place at the 2022 meeting
- Finance: Wayne Lifton
 - i. Provided support for financial matters: expenditures, budget, investments
 - 1. Tracking stock markets and inflation
- Awards: Zach Bess
 - i. Delivered 1 Distinguished Professional Achievement award and 5 Special Contributions awards at 2022 meeting
 - ii. Working on revisions to the award descriptions to be voted on by the ExComm in their June meeting
 - iii. Mentioned that award nominations can be short (5-7) sentences and sent in anytime during the year to be held for discussion during the call for awards period
- Historian: Jim Hobbs
 - i. Manages Cal-Neva data archive in Google and storage unit for gear
 - ii. Manages ExComm membership database

iii. Provides the chapter with resilience and historical knowledge

7. Student sub-units:

- Santa Cruz-Monterey Bay: update provided by Matt Young and Kat Dale
 - i. Diverse Voices in Fisheries Science seminar series has been a great success and a manuscript detailing the event was recently accepted for publication in *Fisheries* magazine (talks also recorded and on their website)
- San Luis Obispo: Hayley Mapes
 - i. New student sub-unit as of this year
 - ii. Diving into tabling events, happy hours, outreach events
 - iii. Working on expanding to Cuesta college, which is a funnel for many transfer students to Cal-Poly SLO
- UC Irvine: update provided by Matt Young
 - i. New student sub-unit
 - ii. Grew membership to 11 students
- Cal Poly Humboldt: Z Zenobia
 - i. Submitted updated club paperwork now that Humboldt is a Cal Poly university
 - ii. Had 4 meetings with attendance of about 12 students
 - iii. Worked hard to make travel to this meeting affordable and possible for student members
 - iv. Have set officers for next year, hoping to help promote AFS events to students
- Sac-Davis: Kim Luke
 - i. Working on increasing student attendance
 - ii. Hosted Carpe Carpio (on campus fishing event)
 - iii. Working on finding new ExComm
 - iv. Treasurer looking into a small grant to help outreach into underserved communities
 - v. Hosted fish display at UC Davis Picnic Day

1. Included a sturgeon touch tank which was a hit
8. Re-engaging Nevada membership
 - Has been challenging to engage Nevada fisheries folks
 - Zach suggested a Colorado River issues session at a Cal-Neva AFS meeting
 9. 2023 meeting will take place March 1st – 3rd in Long Beach, CA
 - Suggestion made to engage local universities; Cynthia shared that she is actively working on this as part of planning continuing education
 10. Western Division updates: Kat Dale
 - Member benefits for Western Division include travel grants, small project grants, and more
 - Annual meeting happening in Spokane, WA in August; will include:
 - i. Talks, continuing education, film and photo festival, student volunteer opportunities for funding
 - ii. Early Career Professional panel and resume/CV workshop
 - iii. Student-professional mixer
 - iv. Student Quiz Bowl
 - v. Student challenge
 - Communication: website, Tributary newsletter
 - If interested in becoming more involved can: join a committee, apply to mentor high school students through the Hutton Program, become a journal reviewer or editor
 - Being a AFS member gives access to all AFS online journals, educational webinars, and more
 - May 30th will be a call-in week for the Recovering America's Wildlife Act so consider calling your representative

ADJOURN 1:42