

Oregon Chapter American Fisheries Society
ExCom meeting, 22 September 2005, ODFW South Willamette Watershed District Office
Minutes approved by ExCom on 17 November 2005

Meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. Present were: President Barry McPherson, ex-Past-President David Ward, Student Sub-unit Representative Aaron Chappel, Secretary-Treasurer Ian Reid, ex- Secretary-Treasurer Mike Matylewich, Internal Director Neil Ward, 2006 Raffle and Auction Chair Martyne Reesman, Past-President Doug Olson. Administrative Assistant Loretta Brenner and President-Elect Mike Reed arrived at 10:25. Education and Outreach Committee Chair Lucy Heron arrived at 2:00. Vice-President Laura Tesler was on speaker phone for about 30 minutes at about 1:00.

Review & approval of past minutes—All

- June 22, July 19, and August 23 minutes
 - Several corrections need to be made to June and July minutes, Edits were approved by ExCom and Mike M. will make those updates and send a final copy to Loretta and External Director. August minutes will be reviewed by ExCom and edits sent to Ian to be approved at next ExCom meeting.
 - Several corrections need to be made to July minutes, Edits were approved by ExCom and Mike M. will make those updates and send a final copy to Loretta and External Director.
 - May minutes (retreat) have been approved and will be posted on the Web shortly.

Treasurer's Report – Mike M./Ian

Balances as of end of August were: primary checking account \$30,520, Coastal Cutthroat account \$5,839.60, Money Market account. (end of June quarterly balance) \$63,453.92. Check-signing authority will be transferred today from Mike to Ian and from Doug to Barry at the Corvallis Wells Fargo bank. Barry and Ian will be receiving debit cards. Doug needs to return checks and his credit card. Mike M. needs to handle tax arrangements with the CPA for 2005 taxes.

Ad-hoc Investment Committee Report – Dave, Doug, & Mike M.

The committee is exploring a proposal to take 1 year's annual operating expenses budget and keep it into the checking account, keep another year's operating expenses in CDs, and taking the remainder and putting it in mutual funds (sustainable, environmentally sensitive companies). However, there is disagreement among the ad-hoc committee and a recommendation to ExCom has not been finalized due to risk associated with mutual funds. Reasons for taking the risk include continuing to provide member services such as low-cost meetings and workshops. The proposal is to invest about \$20,000 of the FY06 budget, with quarterly reviews, and potential reinvestment at the end of the year.

Mike M. volunteered to chair the investment committee if one is created. Barry created an Oregon Chapter Investment Committee and appointed Mike M. as the chair. The committee will consist of Secretary-Treasurer, President, Past-President, and Mike M.

The revised proposal on the floor is have an Oregon Chapter investment strategy to take 1 year's annual operating expenses budget plus 10% and keep it in the checking account, keep another year's operating expenses in CDs (starting out at 3-month, 6-month, and 9-month, and then rolling them into 1-year investments), and taking the remainder and putting it in mutual funds (sustainable, environmental and socially responsible companies recommended by the investment committee and approved by ExCom).

Discussion: Formation of this committee will require updates to the Administrative Handbook. The value of this committee can be reevaluated at the beginning of the fiscal year after the annual meeting. There will be other activities associated with this committee and these investments and Mike M. will take the lead. Motion was approved unanimously.

2006 Workplan and Budget – Barry & Doug

The workplan will go on the website. The templates for the budget and workplan are working well. ORAFS members are entitled to receive copies of the budget if requested. Some members had concerns that ORAFS is losing money when it actually is making money with over \$90,000 in its various accounts.

Administrative Assistant report – Laura & Loretta

Upcoming Coastal Cutthroat Symposium Update – Loretta

There are about 100 people currently signed up (the meeting 10 years ago had about 180). Scholarship information will be available at the conference for fisheries students and ORAFS can help outreach these scholarships and may be interested in having a representative on the scholarship committee. Doug Young (USFWS) is the contact for the symposium.

Report on National and Western Division AFS Meeting & Conference in Anchorage – Barry & Dave

Barry's travel was supported by the Chapter for the Parent Society meeting this year because it was held concurrently with the Western Division meeting. Dave Ward and Bob Hughes also attended as Western Division officers (travel was supported by the Western Division)

Barry: The national meeting was a great success and great information exchange with 16 concurrent sessions. It was very professional and well-organized. The Ray Troll plenary session was excellent. Dave: A drawback was the meeting was too spread out. Registration costs varied between \$150 and \$350. Total travel costs reimbursed to Barry were \$1,586.00.

WDAFS ExCom meeting (Dave): WDAFS passed a motion concerning registration fees: registration for non-members will be equal to registration for members, plus at least 1.5x the cost of AFS membership. For example, if member registration for a meeting is \$100, and a basic AFS membership is \$78, then non-member registration will be at least \$100 plus 1.5 times \$78, or \$217. This is for Western Division meetings only; the division has no control over chapter meetings. All the paperwork will be provided to attendees to become an AFS member, but the meeting attendees will have to turn it in at the meeting

ORAFS ExCom Minutes for 9/22/2005

A major discussion occurred at the WDAFS ExCom meeting about scientists being manipulated and pressured by management to change or manipulate findings to support policy decisions. The AFS parent society will be producing a “best science” white paper in the upcoming months that has been in development for some time and that they think may be useful to the society and individual chapters in addressing this problem. Barry suggested also including in the paper how science should be used in management decisions. A suggestion was made by Executive Director “Gus” Rassam to have a unified letter with other professional organizations (e.g. the Wildlife Society). The AFS parent society will do further work on this issue and keep Western and other divisions informed.

WDAFS also approved all-electronic newsletters emailed as .pdf attachments while continuing to post them on their website. Discussion occurred over the cost-sharing with the parent society and the lack of financial incentive for states and divisions to host annual national meetings. The Western Division has currently formed a Mexico Chapter that was approved at the national meeting, so WDAFS may have its annual meeting in Mexico in some future year.

Barry gave an update on ORAFS activities to WDAFS at their business lunch meeting and said ORAFS will be hosting the Western Division meeting in Portland during May 2008.

At the National AFS business meeting many scholarship awards were given and the Mexico Chapter was welcomed.

ORAFS Annual Meeting Plans for Sunriver

Registration procedure and form – Loretta

There is the potential for electronic web-based registration for the 2006 meeting using a company (AuctionPay). We need to know if someone registers electronically when their credit card gets billed. AFS 2005 Anchorage had electronic registration. Loretta will provide a cost-benefit analysis of money saved from her not handling the registration versus the costs of the company. A decision needs to be made in the next two weeks if we are going to use electronic registration or not. The hosting fee is \$395 per year unless a 5-year commitment is made plus a percentage of the money charged to meeting attendee credit cards.

Arrangements – Neil

Food has been set up, he is going to check on whether the salmon served for dinner is wild caught or farmed. The karaoke organizer is coming out of Sunriver. A Texas hold-em poker tournament will be conducted this year with a \$20 buy-in (donation) to go to student scholarship funds. Nice prizes (raffle or auction quality) will be given to the top winners.

Program – Mike R.

Workshops: On Wednesday ½ day there will be a statistics workshop on Sample Size and Statistical Power organized by Mary Buckman). Carl Schreck and two USGS researchers have agreed to do a full-day Telemetry Workshop (Wednesday p.m. and Thursday a.m.). Hiram Li will do a ½ day Legislative Workshop on Thursday a.m.

Plenary sessions: For Wednesday, Gov. Kulongoski was invited but can't commit until January, Jane Lubchenko agreed to speak on Thursday a.m., and Eric Sten (City of Portland) agreed to speak on Friday a.m. Mike is thinking of back-up speakers and is considering how to

ORAFS ExCom Minutes for 9/22/2005

approach asking these speakers. ORAFS is willing to waive registration for the plenary speakers and provide a room plus provide honoraria approved in the budget.

Convened sessions: Eight session conveners have been lined up so far (2 conveners want full day sessions). On Thursday and Friday, paper sessions will not be able to start until 9:30 because of the morning plenary speakers. There will be 16 sessions, which will include 4 contributed sessions with one potentially convened by OSU graduate students. Mike R. needs to try to have speakers only present one talk if they are signing up for multiple presentations.

Marine Reserves session – Barry: There is a potential to do a 2-hr workshop on Tuesday night at ORAFS annual mtg on the creation of marine reserves. Mike R. will look at the DVD Barry gave him. There will probably not be a marine session this year at the annual meeting because of conflicts with other professional meetings on marine fish.

Poster session: Chair is Danielle Warner. If paper sessions fill up, Mike R. should advise them to submit to the poster session.

Student volunteer coordination – Laura

Laura relies on contacts in Corvallis for volunteer coordination. Karen Wegner did this in 2005, and is willing to do again but she is currently ORAFS External Director and Barry would like to discuss it with her first. Laura has another option if Karen doesn't work out.

Student mentor social revisions – Laura

Laura is working on it with Mary Buckman who could have some new ideas from the AFS student social in Anchorage and Laura and Mary thought a Mardis Gras theme might work well. A room and appetizers have been confirmed for the mentor social in Sunriver. Laura would like ExCom to provide door prizes for students who attend the mentor social. Barry would like student outreach and a proposal for the mentor social before the November OSU Fish and Wildlife Club meeting. Aaron Chappell will email Laura the final date of the OSU F&W Club meeting (8 or 15 November).

Fund raising, sponsors, trade show – Barry

No progress except Barry has reviewed the info Doug gave him. Thank-you letters have been set out to vendors who participated last year. Dave advised to look into a National Fish and Wildlife grant (in his email) for putting on a workshop.

Piscatorial Press, fall newsletter progress and deadline – Loretta

Loretta will finalize parts of the newsletter and send to External Director for posting by mid-October.

Future Annual Meetings—Neil

The 2007 ORAFS Annual Meeting arrangements were confirmed for Eugene. It will be held 27 February through 2 March.

The 2008 Joint Western Division/ORAFS Annual Meeting will be held in Portland at either the Marriot or Doubletree. The Doubletree at Lloyd Center was recommended from 3 May (Tuesday) to 6 May with social at OMSI. ExCom approved Neil to enter into an agreement with Doubletree.

Barry: It was confirmed at the WDAFS ExCom meeting in Anchorage that there is a 50-50 profit-sharing split with WDAFS for chapters that host the annual WDAFS meeting.

Dave: If registration costs were about doubled and if ~700 people showed up ORAFS would make as much profit as it does in a “normal” year.

Barry: There is the potential for a special Ray Troll T-shirt possibility for the 2008 meeting if we pursue it.

Student Sub-Unit Report – Aaron

Progress was reported on use of last year’s ORAFS grant and development of a proposal for a new grant. Their first F & W Club meeting is tomorrow, 23 September where he will get ideas for activities needing funds for the coming year. Aaron is working with past ORAFS Student-Representative Peter Ober to put together a summary of last year’s activities. Barry: other student sub-units may be forming in Oregon in the future; however, there will still be only one student representative to ORAFS. Loretta inquired how to get info about scholarships and ORAFS to OSU students and was advised to contact Rebecca Goggans or Dan Edge to post on the graduate or undergraduate listserves.

Education & Outreach report & plans – Lucy

The E&O committee is designing a handbook and curriculum for Corvallis teachers with different sections (some stations on salmon anatomy and riparian zones). All Corvallis 6th grade students will attend this upcoming daylong workshop. Oregon AFS is listed in the curriculum as a sponsor and some ORAFS members are helping out with the fieldtrip. Lucy is also working on a teacher’s overnight fieldtrip at the Oregon Coast Aquarium with Selina Heppell and a speaker from the Hatfield Marine Science Center.

Nominating Committee report – Doug

There currently is no nominating committee and therefore nothing to report.

Request from ODFW Corvallis Lab to borrow our poster boards – Barry

Barry received a request for loan of poster boards for the Headwaters Research Cooperative symposium to be held November 17 – 18 on the OSU campus (contact Kim Jones, Corvallis ODFW). Motion passed unanimously. Ian will draft a poster loaning policy for October ExCom meeting.

Administrative Handbook revisions

Barry (annual meeting volunteers), Doug (investment committee, paper and poster awards), Loretta (awards and scholarships) need to edit and discuss at October ExCom conference call.

Miscellaneous

Barry showed ExCom a plaque from OSU Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife for past and continuing collaboration that he received on behalf of ORAFS at the Department’s 70-year anniversary celebration.

ORAFS ExCom Minutes for 9/22/2005

Bill Bakke is asking to put piece in *Piscatorial Press* about recruiting for Native Fish Society members. ExCom recommended that if Bakke is an ORAFS member he can submit written pieces to the newsletter about upcoming NFS events, meetings, and conferences, not about its general recruiting. If he is not an AFS member he should not be allowed to post in the newsletter.

Barry will attend a Hatchery Research Center advisory meeting on Oct 13 and its grand opening on Oct 14.

Barry: The ORAFS Natural Production committee is planning to provide comments to ODFW's Draft Native Fish Status Report (Oct 24 deadline). The IMST is looking for a replacement for Stan Gregory on the Oregon Plan IMST. There are no recommendations currently from ORAFS. ORAFS members Bob Hughes and Carl Schreck are currently on the IMST.

Loretta will be going back to school and will be available for ORAFS Administrative Assistant duties in 2006 but will only be available part-time or for 6-months starting Sept. 2006.

Doug followed up on proposal to give \$250 to Wolfree for purchase of supplies for stream monitoring (dip-nets, water quality instruments, etc.). Approved by ExCom unanimously

The next meeting is a conference call scheduled for 1 to 3 pm on 17 October. Conference calls will also be held on 17 November and 13 December at 1 to 3 pm. Doug will send out conference call info to ExCom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian S. Reid
Secretary-Treasurer