



American Fisheries Society
Combined Winter 2019 Governing Board Call
and
December Management Committee Meeting
Monday, December 16, 2019

Participants:

Governing Board Members

Scott Bonar – AFS President

Brian Murphy – President-Elect 1st Vice President

Leanne Roulson – 1st Vice President

Jesse Trushenski – Immediate Past President

Daniel Dauwalter –Western Division President

Todd Pearsons –Western Division President-Elect

Jeffrey Kopaska –North Central Division President

Joe Conroy –North Central Division President-Elect

Tom Kwak –Southern Division President

Cindy Williams –Southern Division President-Elect

Jud Kratzer –Northeastern Division President

Ed Hale –Northeastern Division President-Elect

Dana Postlewait –Bioengineering Section President

Trent Sutton –Education Section President

Heather Stewart –Student Subsection of the Education Section President

Shivonne Nesbit –Equal Opportunities Section President

Catherine Johnston – Estuaries Section President

Ben Lafrentz –Fish Health Section President

Kimberly Dibble –Fish Habitat Section President

Jim Fredericks –Fisheries Administration Section President

Paul Venturelli –Fisheries Information and Technology Section President

Andrew Whitely –Genetics Section President

Patrick Cooney –International Fisheries Section President

Kevin Irons –Invasive and Introduced Species Section President

Richard Methot –Marine Fisheries Section President

Julie Claussen –Science Communications Section President

Henrietta Jager – Water Quality Section President

Guests

Tim Copeland – Chair, Audit Committee

Troy Brandt – Chair, Investment Committee

Tony Siniscal - Investment Committee

Non-Voting

Randy Schultz – Constitutional Consultant

Doug Austen – Executive Director

Emerging Leaders

Brooke Penaluna

Nick Kramer

Heather Stewart

AFS Staff

Beth Beard, Dan Cassidy, Lauren Maza, Drue Winters, Shawn Johnston

Minutes of Meeting:

1. **Quorum established by Schultz.** Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – approved with no changes
3. **Review and approval of minutes** from the November 18, 2019, Management Committee meeting. Accepted with unanimous consent.
4. **Constitutional Consultant’s report** (Schultz) – No agenda items to report.
5. **Update on Climate Change Activities** (reported by Scott Bonar)
 - a. Reno Unit Leader meeting – This discussion resulted in a series of recommendations for actions on climate and related topics.
 - b. Working Group update – Three working groups have been established to support AFS climate change efforts: (1) Science Review (Craig Paukert, chair), (2) Communications (Erin Spencer, chair), and (3) Climate Policy (currently led by Julian Olden and Pete Jacobsen). The Science Review committee is working on a statement characterizing latest information on climate impacts on fisheries. The other two working groups are still in the organizational phase.
 - c. Climate statement for fisheries and aquatic societies – Bonar has circulated a draft statement for review with the intent that other fisheries societies will review and determine if they can support as co-signators.

Recommendation for process (Scott Bonar): AFS to develop a full draft statement that is reviewed and approved by the Governing Board. The statement is then distributed to partner societies for their review. Final revisions would be made and then submitted to all societies for their endorsement.

This was not a formal vote but the consensus of the Governing Board was to acknowledge support for pursuing this pathway

6. President/Officers activities report

- A. Scott Bonar – Reviewed planned visits to Division and Chapter meetings. Scott will also attend the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research (CCFFR) in Halifax, Nova Scotia in early January 2020.
- B. Brian Murphy – continues to work on development of the High School Membership and has worked with President Bonar to establish a Special Committee on High School Membership. This will result in a full strategic plan and implementation process for the high school program. It was noted that this should have a linkage to the Membership Committee
- C. Leanne Roulson – Continues work on Meetings Oversight Committee with recent efforts on survey of AFS members on meeting inclusivity actions that will reduce barriers and enhance meeting openness for all members
- D. Jesse Trushenski – Standards Committee has neared full membership and will soon start work on efforts to process to review and adopt AFS standards.

7. Joint MC/GB Discussion Topics

- a. Mid-year GB meeting – Little Rock – Review of potential topics and logistics (see Attachment A for initial discussion topics list)
- b. AFS 150th update on activities
 - i. 150 fishes – need more nominees – many state fishes haven't been nominated!
 - ii. Meeting of the Generations – Nominees still needed.

8. Executive Director and AFS staff reports (Austen et al.)

- a. Policy Updates (Drue Winters)
 - i. Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) – passed out of House Committee and has over 160 co-sponsors.
 - ii. National Fish Habitat Act – This bill enshrines NFHP into law. Has passed House and moved to Senate where Committee on Environment and Public Works will first address the bill.
 - iii. Climate issues – Drue Winters needs additional AFS volunteers on the Climate Change Policy Working Group (currently only two members)
 - iv. TRCP Policy Council retreat in late February will focus on climate change.
- b. AFS Financial Review (Cassidy)
 - i. Financial position of AFS has continued to improve with the success of the Reno meeting. Investments continue to perform well and cash position will improve as the membership renewal process continues.
 - ii. Unit tax filing update – Cassidy continues to work with units to resolve federal tax reporting issues.
- c. MSCG status – 2019 and 2020 projects – Austen provided brief review on the status of the 2020 grants. They are currently in Department of Interior review process and no date has been provided for final approval

- d. Reno Meeting Debriefing and Results – registration results were provided below. This does not include trade show and other non-regular registrations.

Attendees - Reno, NV 2019	Number of registrants
AFS Staff Registration	15
Complementary Registration	42
Full Conference Registration	1759
Guest	16
Monday Registration	45
Plenary Speaker	5
Registration Sponsor	20
Thursday Only	10
Tuesday Registration	25
Wednesday Registration	9
Grand Total	1946

9. Additional Topics - none

10. Adjourn – At approximately 4:30 p.m. ET

Attachment A

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Mid-Year Governing Board Meeting – Little Rock, Arkansas

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Potential Agenda Topics

Workshop Issues – 2-4 hour focal topics for expanded discussion (select 2-3)

1. Climate change – Report on activities of membership and units. Update on statement to fisheries and aquatic societies, report on status of Special Committee on Climate Change. Focused discussion on how to get AFS more effectively engaged. What tools and resources are needed? Is there a need for additional organizational units within AFS to focus on climate issues?
 - a. Updates from Craig Paukert and Erin Spencer on their working groups
 - b. Potential policy update (Drue Winters)
2. Visioning for AFS – Where does the Strategic Plan take us? What does AFS look like in 5 years? 10 years? 25 years?
 - a. Explore the challenges and opportunities for AFS and identify areas of potential emphasis.
 - b. Discuss strategic plan implementation needs, tracking and opportunities.
 - c. Brainstorming and creative thinking about business opportunities, growth potential, and strategic partnering to advance AFS core issues.

Reporting, Discussion and Business Topics: (each topic should be <1 hour of time allocation)

1. Books Special Committee Report and Recommendations – Aaron Lerner and committee should have preliminary recommendations for the GB to provide feedback and final directions.
2. High School Membership – Update from special committee and ideas for development of AFS programs, content and other materials for HS students
3. Investment Committee Report – review of draft recommendations from the Investment/Audit Committee for enhancing our understanding and guidance on financial management of the Society.
4. Membership challenges – Do we need to redefine the issue of “affiliate membership” and, if so, how do we move the society forward? Can we move forward with the Strategic Partners Program? How do we manage discussions at the Chapter level with the affiliate membership could be a very challenging issue?

Attachment B – Financial Update

AFS Financial Reports
October 2019

JOINT MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE & GOVERNING
BOARD CALL
DECEMBER 16, 2019



Reporting Contents

1. Financial Narrative
2. Financial Position Statement
3. Program Income Statement



American Fisheries Society

Organized in 1870 to Promote the Conservation, Development and Wise Utilization of Fisheries

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Scott Bonar, PhD
President 2019-2020

Douglas J. Austen, PhD
Executive Director

October 2019 Financial Narrative -- 12/12/19

Summary. The October 2019 financial reports show strong operating results with higher income and lower expenses in comparison to this time last year. Investment income, membership, annual meeting and journals are the primary income drivers while lower overall expenses also contribute to a much higher net change from operations. Assets exceed the last years balance and reflect both the strong operating performance and investment results this year.

Financial Position. Assets total \$5,437,000 and stand 2% higher than this time last year mainly from a higher cash (bank account) and investment balances. The investment account appreciation, which has been so strong this year it has more than offset the \$400,000 account withdrawal over the summer to pay off the bank credit line. With the timing of the annual meeting, pushing back vendor and contractor payments to later in the year and, with lower comparable expenses (most notably not filling two open staff positions), the cash balance is much higher this year than last.

Operating Results. October revenue is \$775,000 (28%) higher than this time last year, most notably from investment and annual meeting performance, while expenses are \$382,000 (11%) lower than in 2018, most notably from the annual meeting. One key point to remember -- about 70% of the investment income is attributable to the restricted award and chapter account funds. This allocation is based on the relative percentage of unrestricted (operating) funds to restricted award funds, which has declined over the past few years due to accumulated operating losses.

Estimated Reno Meeting

Financial Results

Revenue	\$1,175,000
Expense	<u>\$500,000</u>
Net Change	\$675,000

Reno Attendees: 1,871 / 2,054 (paid/total)
 Atlantic City Attendees: 1,615 (paid)
 Tampa Attendees: 1,625 (paid)

Investments: The next performance report will be available in January 2020. Third quarter performance results are as follows: 2019 composite account returns of 11.65%. This return captures about 57% of the YTD S+P 500 return of 20.55%. Recall AFS separated its investments into two investment accounts, one primary account and the other to secure the bank credit line. Both are under the same investment strategy. The credit line is currently \$0 and staff do not anticipate needing additional cash, from the credit line or the investments account, through the end of this year.

American Fisheries
Statement of Financial Position
As of 10/31/2019

	2019	2018	Variance
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Petty Cash		\$694	(\$694)
Checking	501,851	323,504	178,347
Accounts Receivable	32,366	75,357	(42,991)
Allowance of doubtful accounts	(14,170)	(14,170)	
Inventory	298,995	262,163	36,832
Prepaid Expenses & Deposits	13,951	36,328	(22,377)
Current Assets	<u>832,993</u>	<u>683,876</u>	<u>149,117</u>
Property and Equipment	1,202,149	1,138,457	63,692
Accumulated Depreciation	(776,969)	(730,667)	(46,302)
Net Property and Equipment	<u>425,180</u>	<u>407,790</u>	<u>17,390</u>
Long Term Assets			
Long-Term Investments	4,179,283	4,237,316	(58,033)
Total Long Term Assets	<u>4,179,283</u>	<u>4,237,316</u>	<u>(58,033)</u>
Total Assets	<u>5,437,456</u>	<u>5,328,982</u>	<u>108,474</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	130,580	107,556	23,024
Accrued Expenses	250,794	245,762	5,032
Subunits Dues Payable	89,258	83,514	5,744
Subunits Books Payable	(4,014)	2,659	(6,673)
Deferred Income	737,443	882,125	(144,682)
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,204,061</u>	<u>1,321,616</u>	<u>(117,555)</u>
Net Assets			
Net Assets - Unrestricted	3,478,325	4,408,463	(930,138)
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets - Curr Year	755,070	(401,097)	1,156,167
Total Net Assets - End. Balance	<u>4,233,395</u>	<u>4,007,366</u>	<u>226,029</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>5,437,456</u>	<u>5,328,982</u>	<u>108,474</u>

AMERICAN FISHERIES
Summary of All Units
For the Ten Months Ending 10/31/2019

	Year to Date - Actual			Budget	2018 Annual	
	2019	2018	Var \$	2019 BUDGET	vs YTD Actual	Actual
Revenue						
Administration	\$539,169	(\$31,492)	\$570,660	\$160,000	\$379,169	(\$195,565)
Web	2,370	24,439	(22,069)	9,000	(6,630)	27,199
Continuing Education	32,990	13,095	19,895	15,000	17,990	13,095
Certification	5,200	4,471	729	6,000	(800)	4,471
Other Education				12,000	(12,000)	
Hutton	5,000	5,000		150,000	(145,000)	5,000
DJV Nat Park		18,449	(18,449)			18,449
Cornell		111,311	(111,311)			45,072
Other Grants & Contracts				142,000	(142,000)	
Annual Meeting	1,111,243	835,220	276,023	1,653,000	(541,757)	891,282
Other Meetings				25,000	(25,000)	
Membership	550,343	533,641	16,702	514,000	36,343	533,641
Awards	4,477	4,797	(320)	4,000	477	4,957
Mem Other	23,039	14,700	8,338	8,000	15,039	20,366
Jobs	41,450	35,650	5,800	30,000	11,450	43,650
Advocacy	14,641	13,310	1,331	15,000	(359)	13,310
Books	125,048	143,387	(18,339)	124,000	1,048	154,683
Journals	1,082,472	1,035,873	46,600	1,244,000	(161,528)	1,193,311
Fisheries	155	335	(180)		155	335
Other Publications		79	(79)			79
Total Revenue	3,537,597	2,762,265	775,332	4,111,000	(573,403)	2,773,335
Expenses						
Administration	332,269	355,313	23,044	287,000	(45,269)	389,842
Staff Costs	1,750,710	1,740,385	(10,325)	2,197,000	446,290	2,120,351
Technology	37,581	63,340	25,758	39,000	1,419	45,207
Communication	2,605	3,072	467	11,000	8,395	3,072
Web	27,306	12,310	(14,996)	19,000	(8,306)	54,250
Development	3,221	1,412	(1,809)	12,000	8,779	1,412
Continuing Education	15,979	8,149	(7,831)	10,000	(5,979)	9,269
Certification	85	130	44	1,000	915	165
Other Education	109		(109)	1,000	891	
Board	33,053	45,178	12,125	54,000	20,947	59,282
Committees				2,000	2,000	
Hutton	115,140	104,691	(10,449)	123,000	7,861	104,865
Cornell	7,605	42,027	34,422		(7,605)	58,715
Other Grants & Contracts	12,603	6,551	(6,051)	108,000	95,397	11,121
Annual Meeting	335,187	577,921	242,734	1,007,000	671,813	704,787
Other Meetings	1,699	621	(1,079)	1,000	(699)	621
Membership	117,533	178,280	60,746	114,000	(3,533)	110,330
Awards	15,412	16,318	907	15,000	(412)	15,988
Mem Other	778	1,435	656	1,000	222	1,764
Units				1,000	1,000	
Advocacy	6,005	7,607	1,602	14,000	7,995	8,800
Books	27,678	49,059	21,381	33,000	5,322	60,649
Journals	83,135	75,948	(7,187)	162,000	78,865	105,902
Fisheries	5,950	23,416	17,466	3,000	(2,950)	26,001
Total Expenses	2,931,643	3,313,163	381,518	4,215,000	1,283,357	3,892,393
Net Change from Operations	605,954	(550,898)	1,156,849	(104,000)	709,953	(1,119,058)
Non Operating (shown on a net basis)						
Restricted contributions	141,982	149,798	(7,816)		141,982	186,646
Total Non Operating	141,982	149,798	(7,816)		141,982	186,646
TOTAL NET CHANGE	747,936	(401,100)	1,149,033	(104,000)	851,935	(932,412)