



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

MONTANA CHAPTER

TO: MCAFS ExCom and Committee Chairs
FROM: Matt Jaeger, MCAFS Secretary/Treasurer
RE: Minutes from MCAFS ExCom Meeting

DATE/LOCATION: 15 May 2006, Bozeman

Attendees: Kiza Gates, McLain Johnson, Lindsey Camphouse, Kate Walker, Leanne Roulson, and Matt Jaeger

-----AGENDA-----

Opening

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Additions/Changes to Agenda

New and Old Business

- 3) Wally McClure scholarship committee recommendations
- 4) Bylaw approval and changes
- 5) RAF voting and approvals
- 6) MCAFS comment letter against teaching of intelligent design
- 7) Approval of last EXCOM Meeting Minutes
- 8) Treasurers Report
- 9) Western Division meeting planning and preparation.

Minutes

Opening

- 1) Introductions: Attendees from the University of Montana and Montana State University subunits introduced themselves.
- 2) Additions/Changes to Agenda: No agenda was provided prior to the meeting so an agenda was made based on outstanding topics that required formal vote.

New and Old Business



- 3) Wally McClure Scholarship Committee recommendations: The recommendations of the Wally McClure Scholarship Committee to present Windy Davis with the 2006 award were discussed and unanimously approved.
- 4) Bylaw approval and changes: Bylaws were amended last year primarily to facilitate the change and creation of committees. Clint Muhlfeld took the lead on this issue. The amended bylaws were accepted by the Parent Society. Some discussion of whether all committees were still active and which committee changes should be voted on at the business meeting followed. Kate made the necessary additions to the business meeting agenda.
- 5) RAF voting and approvals: The Yaak Valley Forest Council RAF request for \$2000 was discussed. There was concern about the nature of this funding (i.e. multiple years) and what the money was being used for (monitoring versus on-the-ground project cost). If a proposal was funded for multiple years it may be at the expense of future proposals seeking funding for the first time. Specific use of RAF funds was ambiguous; previous funds went to on-the-ground expense of road decommissioning (road recontouring, culvert removal, revegetation, rebuilding of stream channels, etc.) but this proposal also described implementing long-term watershed monitoring work. Although official guidelines for RAF funding are vague, the general preference of EXCOM was to fund on-the-ground project costs and not grant funding to monitoring or surveying projects with the thought that this work should be the responsibility of an agency. Changing the RAF application guidelines to confine application times (twice a year) and request a more direct and specific description of what funds would be used for was discussed. It was decided that requests were infrequent enough that the current system was ok at this time. Funding for \$2000 was unanimously approved with the stipulation that funds are spent only on expenses related to on-the-ground project costs and not monitoring. Two additional RAF requests were approved since the last EXCOM meeting; \$1975 was granted to the Species of Special Concern Committee to produce Species of Special Concern posters and \$2000 was granted to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Adam Peterson) for a grayling passage structure at an irrigation diversion. The only other outstanding RAF request was for \$5000 (National Parks Conservation Association) and will be voted on at business meeting.
- 6) MCAFS comment letter against teaching of intelligent design. Chris Clancy prepared a statement against teaching of intelligent design. Kate sent this letter to the Western Division EXCOM with the intent that it will be forwarded on and eventually issued by the Parent Society; however, Western Division has not responded. Kate will pursue this issue with Western Division.
- 7) Excom reviewed the minutes from the 7 November 2005 meeting. Outstanding action items were reviewed. Kate moved to accept the minutes, Leanne seconded the motion, no further discussion took place, and the motion was passed unanimously. Matt sent a copy of the minutes to Lee to be posted on the web page.
- 8) Matt reviewed the 15 May 2006 treasurer's report. Kate moved to accept the report, Leanne seconded the motion, no further discussion took place, and the motion was passed unanimously. Matt sent a copy of the treasurer's report to Lee to be posted on the web page.
- 9) Western Division meeting planning and preparation. The burden and time commitment of planning and hosting a Western Division meeting was discussed. Because of the extra effort required, small increase in profit, and reduced attendance by MCAFS members, presumably because of the timing and registration cost of the meeting, it was recommended that we not host another Western Division meeting. However, as MCAFS meetings increase in size (300+ attendees and concurrent sessions

can be expected each year) the burden of meeting planning is increasing to the point that it is unfair for one person to be responsible for all planning. The establishment of a Meeting Planning committee will be brought up at the business meeting and the pros and cons of hosting the Western Division meeting will be presented.