

AFS – Fisheries Administration Section Virtual Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2022 2:00-3:30 PM EDT

Attendees

1. President – Gary Whelan (MI DNR)
2. President-Elect – Lynn Quattro (SC DNR)
3. Secretary-Treasurer – George Scholten (IA DNR)
4. Stan Allen (Pacific States MFC)
5. Gene Gilliland (BASS)
6. Carl Kittel (TX PWD)
7. Dirk Miller (WY GFD)
8. Jason Olive (AK GF)
9. Julie Carter (AZ GFD)
10. Justine Hasz (WI DNR)
11. Ken Kurzawski (TX-retired)
12. Kenneth Cunningham (OK DWC)
13. Lance Hebdon (ID DFG)
14. Leanne Roulson (AFS President)
15. John Lott (SD GFP)
16. Clint Peacock (GA DNR)
17. Christian Waters (NC WRC)

Meeting started at 2:07 pm EST

- Gary Whelan started the meeting at 2:07 pm EST
 - Ken Kurzawski made a motion to approve the agenda and Justine Hasz seconded it. All agreed.
- Treasurers and Membership Report – George Scholten
 - See Treasurer’s report. Current balance is \$4,398.58.
 - Account has been moved from Arkansas to Community Choice Credit Union in Des Moines, Iowa
 - 89 members as of this month
 - Currently 110 people on email list. George Scholten will review list and contact people that are not currently members before removing.
 - Fish Chief list needs to be updated– Devin DeMario may have an updated list
 - Jason Olive believes list is likely up to date
 - Gene Gilliland will provide his list, which is likely the most recent
- Governing Board Meeting Summary – Lynn Quattro
 - Constitutional consultant – one member - one vote
 - AFS rule changes
 - Changes require Governing Board and membership approval
 - Name change for Continuing Education Committee
 - Management Committee – Governing Board working on procedures, committee language updated over next couple of meetings, name changes, nominating committee finalize, election ongoing – two state agency members
 - April Croxton’s presentation noted her ideas for her presidency
 - Promote communication
 - Education
 - 2023 AFS Meeting
 - Executive Director succession planning
 - RAWA update – moving forward, may be on floor soon

- Strategic Visioning – Strategic planning
 - Needs more time instead of 1 hour
- Which Sections have guidance documents
 - Lynn Quattro and Julie Carter would like to work on this for FAS and FMS if they do not currently exist.
 - Doug Austen will have a Google Drive with existing documents
- AFS Meetings
 - 2026 – Columbus
 - Looking at options for 2025 and 2027 - NE, Canada, and SE.
 - Costs in Canada an issue
 - TX and LA
- Annual Report – Annual report development for 2022. AFS looking for ideas on helpful content and format.
- Spokane Annual Meeting update provided.
- AFS-President – Leanne Roulson
 - Doug Austen – contract extended to 2025 and succession planning needs to start at least a couple years ahead.
 - New Exec. Director - Headhunter group used in past
 - Procedures Manual Revision – Unplanned and planned transitions
 - Cecil Jennings and April Croxton taking a lead, to begin when Cecil is president.
 - Reporting Tool
 - Issues noted with Governing Board members
 - Trying to come up with a way that works
 - Asking for input
- 2022 FAS SFR Awards – Lynn Quattro
 - Announcement and criteria have been reviewed and updated. Need new letterhead, ready to go out in next few days.
 - June 24 deadline. Looking for more judges if anyone is willing.
 - Lance Hebdon – volunteered to serve as SFR judge
 - Judges from last year – 4 yes from last year
 - Gary Whelan to add his name to reviewers
 - Will go to all SFR coordinators across the country
 - ASA will help promote the awards
 - Leanne Roulson – new logo and letterhead for AFS on AFS Google drive. Don't have section letterheads.
 - Lynn Quattro – do we want to change letterhead now? Using 2017 files now that includes aquatic education but not R3.
 - Gary Whelan – will send Lynn more recent version.
- FAS Website – Gary Whelan and Ken Kurzawski
 - What content do members want on the site?
 - Doug Nygren started website update years ago. With help of AFS, we have migrated over – site is functioning and updated. Looking for feedback on what you want on site. Website is functioning – format is workable. Email any suggestions to Ken (kaapski@austin.rr.com).
 - SFR Award Recipient history is updated. Website is mainly used by members and people looking for award details.
 - Jason Olive – George has the digitized files, but they are not very well organized. If we want to share them more widely, they will need to be organized and reviewed.
 - Ken Kurzawski – old files can be useful – have to dig through to find things. It is there and available. Focus on making winning SFR Award applications available.
 - Gary Whelan – Winning applications could be useful on our website.

- Jason Olive – not sure if Jim or Gary’s nomination applications are in file.
- Gary Whelan – Add section photos over time. Past meetings.
- Lynn Quattro - add current officers and their contact information to Officers section.
- WordPress format and some modification
- 2022 Workplan Discussion – Gary Whelan and Lynn Quattro
 - Assist AFS with encouraging membership from all fisheries entities, in particular state agencies
 - AFS membership important to all fisheries workers. Put out a note to all Directors to encourage Fisheries professionals to become members of AFS.
 - Julie Carter – should this letter be a joint letter with FMS?
 - FAS-FMS partnership enhancement
 - Interested in ideas on how to further this partnership.
 - Ken Kurzawski - partnered on symposia at annual meetings and joint meetings. These are useful.
 - Gary Whelan – special speaker at joint meetings.
 - Gary Whelan will reach out to current IFM leadership. Also talking to FMS (Jeff) about getting one of our members over there.
 - Ken Kurzawski – is FMS still sending a Young Professional over?
 - Jason Olive was last over there in Fall 2019 – rotating with FMS. Pandemic halted rotation.
 - Possibly request more time at AFS for annual meeting – always seems rushed.
 - Ken Kurzawski – IFM changing their management structure. Hiring executive director – that was previously a volunteer role.
 - Eamon Cusack can be a contact for updates.
 - Policy engagement at all levels
 - Focus on the Infrastructure Act (US)
 - Make our section available to Drue Winters (AFS Policy Director) for ground truthing papers for her policy efforts. Assist with policy and move information. Invite new programs and opportunities.
 - Ken Kurzawski – does FAS still have a member on AFS Resource Policy Committee?
 - Jason Olive - The Resource Policy Committee is intermittently active. The current Chair is Jodi Whittier from the University of Missouri.
 - Dirk Miller – challenge with policy reviews is the short turnaround that is required.
 - Gary Whelan will contact Drue on needs
 - Support refocusing Fisheries to more thoughtful papers
 - Gary Whelan - don’t need a Transactions “Light” and move back to a focus on more thoughtful type papers.
 - What is published is a function of what is getting submitted at this time.
 - Gary Whelan will provide support to AFS leadership for this

Justine made motion to adjourn, Ken seconded

Meeting adjourned at 3:17 EST

Appendix 1 - NAWNRC Working Session March 14, 2022 – 2022 FAS Workplan Development Meeting Notes (GEW)

- AFS value to agency employees- Encourage membership, particularly with state/provincial agencies
 - Key reasons
 - Need to know what others are doing to make fisheries better
 - Training opportunities across the Society
 - Develop professional staff and low risk leadership training
 - Staff recruitment, engagement and retention opportunities
 - Building key information and tools to make fisheries better
 - Example is standard methods book
 - Quarterly calls from AFS
 - Letter to Administrators to get agency interest in AFS
- FAS-FMS partnership enhancement
 - British fisheries agencies exchange
- Policy engagement at all levels
 - Assist Drue with determining and developing positions on key policy needs
 - Across all geographic parts of the Society
 - Facilitate AFS leadership meeting with AFWA leadership
 - Fisheries science home and build connections to support policy issues at large scales
 - Funding for fisheries across the landscape
 - Assist AFS leadership with key policy issues
 - AIS
 - Infrastructure Act (US)
 - Provide training on how to engage in federal infrastructure opportunities
 - Develop needs and engage partners
 - Develop plenary and workshop at Spokane Annual AFS Meeting
 - Speakers
 - Session Development
- Support refocusing Fisheries to more thought papers
 - Need to refocus away from being mini-TAFS
 - Jan issue on Non-game
 - Applied articles on issues

Stan Allen
Gene Gilland